

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN
TOWARDS MATURITY :
Ephesians 4:11-16

Vol. 83 No. 17
SEPTEMBER 24, 1980

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COLLEGE EXITS 1980

CHURCHES OF CHRIST (N.S.W.) THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

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God's World. This is alienated from Him and needs to be reconciled to Him through Christ.

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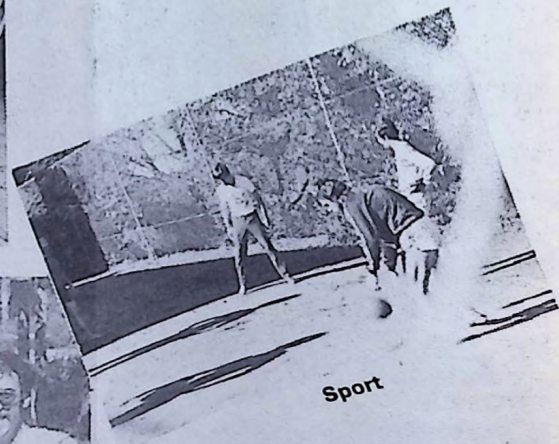
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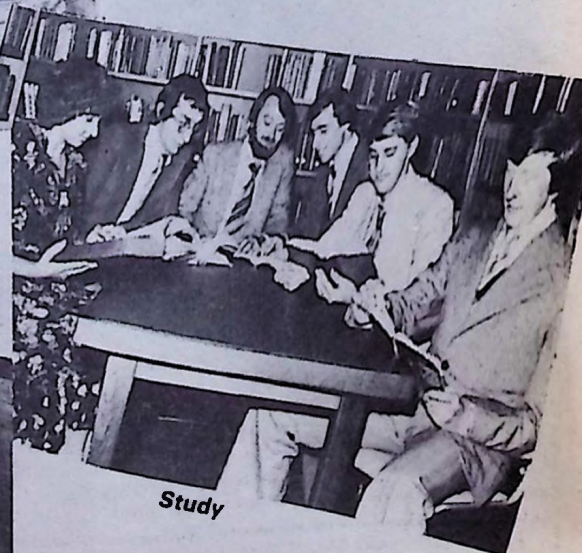
Fun and Fellowship



Deputation teams



Christian Education and Child Evangelism



Study

COLLEGE STUDENTS FACULTY AND STAFF



Seated:

(L-R): Mrs. E. Reiher (office secretary), G. Walker, P. Aylott, G.R.F. Ellis, D. Feeney, T. Butler, Mrs. D. Gilbey (cook).

Front Row:

(L-R): D. Goldup, M. Goldup, G. Hills, J. Stuart, R. Lascelles, T. Davies, D. Jones, R. Kennedy, I. Bradford, J. Newton, R. Traine.

Middle Row:

(L-R): J. Kenway, A. Lines, A. Jeisman, C. Hutton, T. Leask, A. Wilson, P. Grullemans, J. Spencer, P. Wakeley, T. Aylott, T. Schenk, A. Visser, G. Long, P. Wallis, G. Traine, I. Alves, E. Stynes, G. Cooper, C. Gardiner.

Back Row:

(L-R): V. Gibbs, G. Stringer, K. Laffer, R. Lewis, A. Bradford, E. Volker, R. Pelling, J. Hawkins, E. Chandler.

NEW LOCATION FOR COLLEGE

In July, the N.S.W. Bible College moved from the site at The Point Road, Woolwich, where it was established in 1942. The College is now located at 216 Pennant Hills Road, Carlingford, in the north-western suburbs of Sydney. In conjunction with the relocation, the College's name has been changed to the Churches of Christ (N.S.W.) Theological College.

FEATURES OF THE NEW PROPERTY

The Woolwich Building, houses the dining room with room for about 150 diners, the ultra modern kitchen, administration area and five lecturers' studies. Upstairs is the real treat.

The A. G. Elliott Library is larger than our old library at Woolwich and in addition has attached to it a study room, an archives and a museum for anthropological and archaeological items. Four lecture rooms include the A. R. Main room, the H. J. Patterson room, and smaller seminar rooms.

The new E. C. Hinrichsen Memorial Chapel seating 130 people is housed in the Chapel Building. Corlett Hall has accommodation for 12 students, a large student amenities area, a children's room and playground and a small flat for faculty.

Not yet finished is Stephenson House which will have accommodation for married and more single students and two flats for faculty and staff. Also envisaged is further accommodation for students with families. The Principal's residence, together with a faculty house to be built later, complete our facilities.

FACULTY



G. Walker, former lecturer in Old Testament and Languages, now studying at Cincinnati Bible Seminary.

Mrs. P. Aylott, part time lecturer in Music.

G. R. F. Ellis, Principal.

Miss D. Feeney, Registrar and Lecturer in Social Sciences.

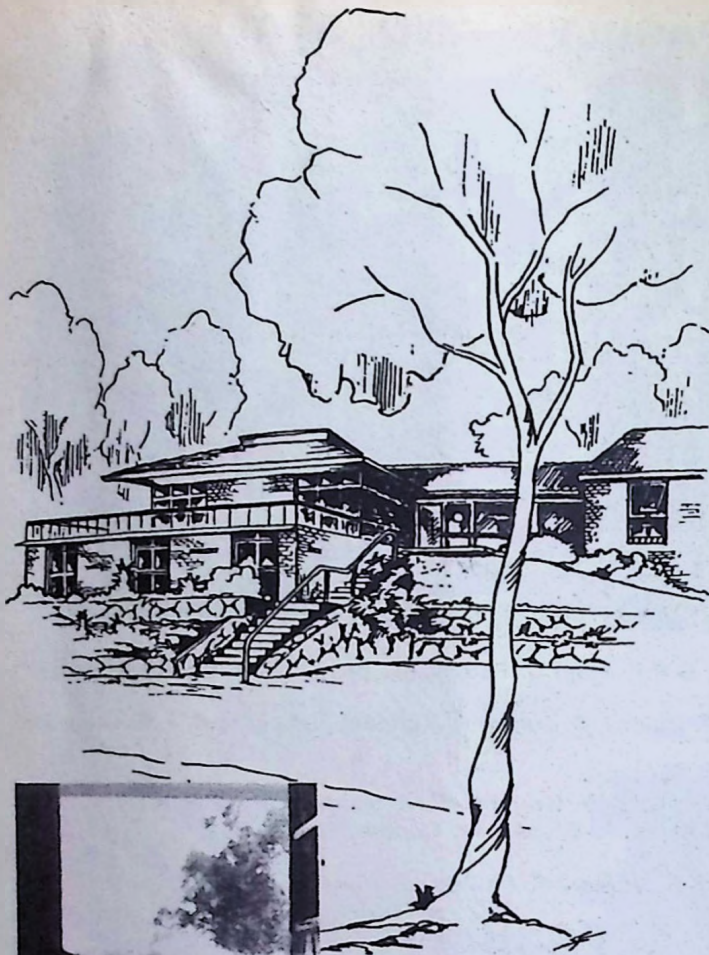
T. Butler, Lecturer in New Testament and Counselling.

NEW FACULTY APPOINTMENT 1981

Dennis Nutt, B.A., Dip. Ed. M.A. (Hons.), has been appointed to lecture in New Testament studies and Church History. He graduated from Woolwich Bible College with Honours in 1966, and has since served in ministries in the Sydney area. He is currently teaching at Sydney Boys' High and is involved in an associate ministry at Greenacre. Mr. Nutt is also an experienced lecturer in tertiary institutions, having tutored part time at Macquarie University and has been an honorary lecturer at the College since 1969. He is now studying for his B.D. and Ph.D. degrees.

This College looks forward to the expertise Mr. Nutt brings as an accomplished historian, having specialised in Ancient History and classical languages.

For information about the Diploma in Ministry, Certificates in Christian Service and Church Leadership, contact the Registrar, P.O. Box 140, Carlingford, 2118, N.S.W.



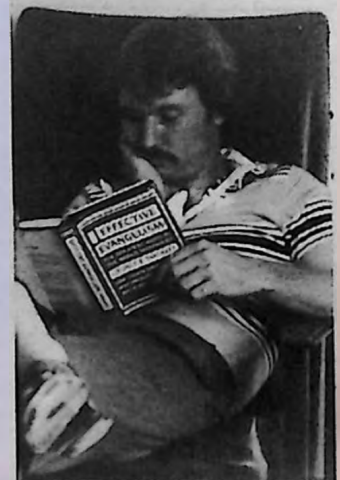
KENMORE CHRISTIAN
COLLEGE OFFERING
OCTOBER 19

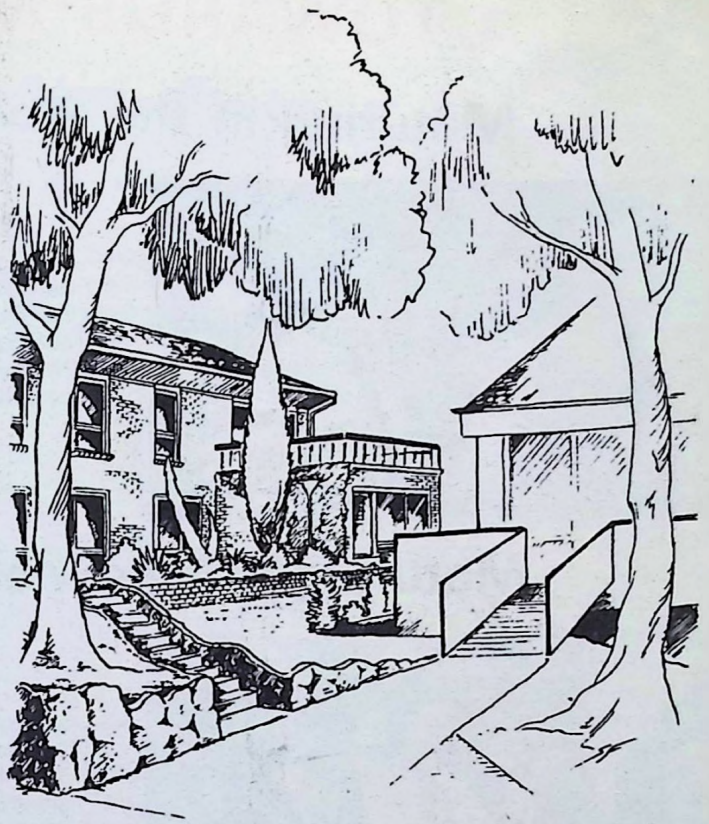
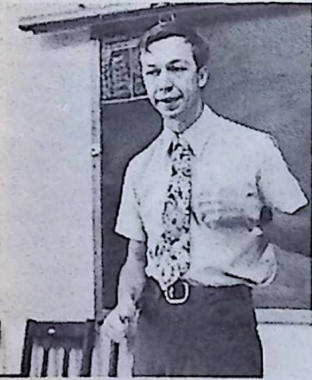


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TO DEVELOP
LEADERS OF
WARMTH AND
POWER



CHURCH GROWTH
DEPENDS ON
LEADERS OF
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THE CHURCH'S PURPOSE:
TILL WE ALL ATTAIN...
TO THE MEASURE OF THE
STATURE OF THE FULLNESS
OF CHRIST

OUR CHURCH LEADERS ARE
"TO EQUIP THE SAINTS
FOR THE WORK OF THE
MINISTRY"



KENMORE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE OFFERING
OCTOBER 19

TOWARDS MATURITY

Maturing in the Knowledge of God



Through study, through faith encounters and through personal devotional life we seek to follow the path of obedience for it leads to the throne of God. To obey His will is to bring our own desires into oneness with His will. To "taste and see that the Lord is good" reveals His love to us in all our circumstances. This is the way that C.O.B. encourages us towards maturity in the knowledge of God.

Peter Wing Tang

Maturing in Knowledge of the Word



At College we are encouraged to bring acceptable methods of interpretation to bear upon the Biblical material, with the aim of allowing it to speak its truths regardless of our preconceived ideas. This approach, together with our own 'devotional' reading, is proving extremely exciting and challenging as we continue to discover its implications for our lives and ministry today.

Steve Ashley

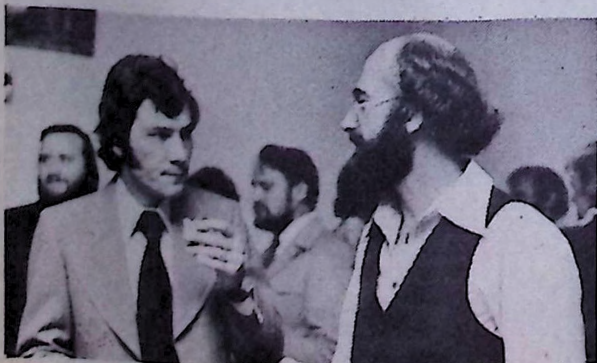
Maturing in Relationships



Maturing inwardly is important for developing mature relationships with others. My experience of College worship, of the challenge of study and church work, of friendships with fellow students and the support of faculty and church members has encouraged my inward growth, and so helped my growth towards mature relationships.

Eira Clapp

Maturing as a Preacher



As I continue to mature as a preacher, one thing is being brought home to me continuously. Every time I preach it is not in my own strength. God becomes my words, thoughts and actions. It is an exciting experience. An experience that strengthens and broadens my faith.

Jim Keatch

AT THE COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

Maturing as a Pastor

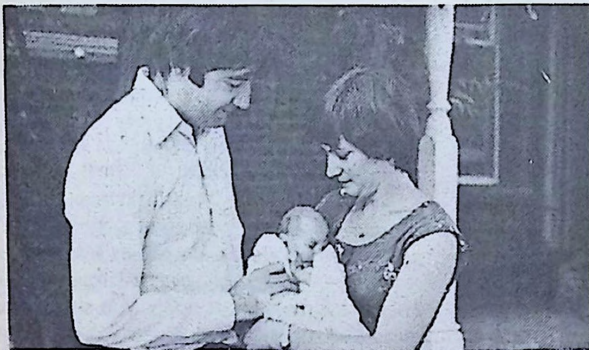


"If a church becomes more caring and loving, both within itself and to the community, during my ministry with that church, then I have fulfilled my task as pastor, remembering that I, too, am part of the Body of Christ."

This is my goal as I mature as a pastor.

Tom Fraser

Maturing as an Evangelist



I have matured as an evangelist while at College, through the experience of challenging another with the Gospel message, on a one to one level. When I have done this in a non-threatening and open way, others have been quite willing to share in conversation. Such evangelism does take a step of courage, and I have been as nervous as anyone, but I have found that God uses us when we step out for Him.

Phil Weber

Maturing as a Leader



Leadership can be from in front or behind. I feel the most significant development of my leadership potential has been through the encouragement, advice, respect and trust of other students. This, plus the lectures and experiences of life at C.O.B. have helped me to become confident and relaxed up front, and gently persuasive from behind.

Grant Simpson

Maturing as a Whole Person



Every area of my life has been challenged. I have discovered gifts, abilities, and roles. My knowledge and faith is sufficient to live by and to share. By putting God first in my life, I am loving others more. I feel I am developing to my full potential and offering God my best.

Iris Lawson

OPEN FORUM

Correspondents are requested to say only what is true, kind, necessary and Christian, and to say it in no more than 150 words.

DISGUSTED WITH MUSTARD SEEDS

To the Editor,

In 27 years of reading our own church paper never have I been so disgusted, so boiling mad and so sick at heart at the full page cartoon by Alan Austin on the Australian Aborigines. What an obnoxious slur on all our dedicated field workers, missionaries and men and women at home who care and work for our beloved dark people. Obviously A.A. has never visited any of our mission stations if all he sees are second-hand clothes, pedal organs and hymn books. How absolutely insulting to the hundreds of women, just ordinary wives and mothers who have given and sewed and put love into the production of new beautiful clothing. How insulting to those who have given up long service holidays to build and work, to those who love and care for 10 or more children and treat them exactly as if they were their own!

Never have I felt such repugnance to a page in any magazine. "The Christian" must be in a very strong financial position to be able to dedicate a full page to such an insult.

I wonder will you be so generous with giving the Women's Fellowship a full page to advertise their work with missions (Any time — Ed.).

A.A. this time you have gone too far with your destructive negative, one sided, socialistic page. I call on all women to cut this page out and send it back to the editor in the form of a protest at such waste of print.

Once our paper was informative and a refreshing encouragement and spiritual blessing. There is never enough room to print the full news of the positive things that our churches are doing and there is a vast difference between a constructive challenge and useless, destructive, negative, untrue tripe such as this page. No — I do not intend cancelling my subscription but The "A.C." will have a hard time convincing me of the need to raise that subscription next time! I would suggest they just cut it down a page.

Hundreds of our Aboriginal people have been rescued from sin and darkness by dedicated people never by writings and libellous, untrue rubbish such as this. — Shirley Mansell (Thorncleigh, N.S.W.)

Normally the editorial blue pencil would have taken some of the colour out of Shirley's language and it would have reduced the letter to 150 words. But Alan Austin is controversial and in all fairness it seemed that extra space should be given to her eloquent protests to both Alan and to the Editor who incidentally appreciates colorful rhetoric.

We are taking a little space to discuss with our readers the nature of cartoon art. Cartoons deliberately exaggerate certain features in order to get a picture message across. e.g. Malcolm Fraser's long profile and Gough Whitlam's "kiss curl". We may be so upset at the cartoonist's treatment of our favourite politician that we miss the point of the cartoon.

We think that some of our readers may have missed the point of the cartoon in question and that is that little Aboriginal communities do not have much of a chance against the power structures of modern commerce and politics. Alan

Austin would be as appreciative as any of us of the outstanding work of evangelism and social service by our churches amongst Aborigines. (He is not really evil). However he is also aware that some Christians feel that enough has been done for the Aborigines when we have evangelised and fed and clothed them. What Aborigines want is what we whites assume as our right . . . that is the opportunity to become again self respecting, self determining and self supporting people, living with dignity and no longer needing even the highest quality handouts. It would appear that both the gospel and political and social action are needed for this to happen.

This is the point of the cartoon in question with its exaggeration of the more limited vision of Christian service to Aborigines which some very sincere people have. And the "Mustard Seeds" articles are in a sense "written cartoons", and the hyperboles and the apparent blowing up of one facet of truth to the apparent neglect of others need to be understood as such. The technical term for this is satire, a prose form that when graciously used may well stimulate thinking. And Alan is gracious most of the time! (Editor)

CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

To the Editor,

Few things age me quite as fast as finding myself quoted in your column "twenty-five years ago" (one of the hazards of having been Editor then)! But I sat up with a jerk on reading two recent quotes from editorials of those days attributed to me. "I didn't write that," I thought — not that there was anything wrong with the thoughts expressed, but the style was different. Then I remembered that 25 years

ago I was in the U.S.A. and Canada on a preaching tour for four months prior to addressing the Toronto World Convention, and that Wilkie J. Thomson was doing an excellent job as Acting Editor in my absence. So the credit for those quotes goes to that faithful minister so recently lost to us. I was back in the editorial choir in mid-September, so that from now on for the next 8 years anything editorial "twenty-five year ago" can safely be accredited (?) to me.

— C. G. Taylor (Vic.)

ALAN AUSTIN AND THE MINING INDUSTRY

To the Editor,

I have worked in the mining industry for the past 22 years and object to Alan Austin's biased anti-mining cartoon of "A.C." Aug. 23.

He depicts mining companies as being rapacious, greedy and thoroughly evil. He then lampoons evangelical missionaries for not siding with Aborigines on highly controversial issues such as land rights and nuclear energy.

Alan Austin needs to realise that the full spectrum of social service recipients, Aborigines included, get their money from industries such as mining via taxes from the companies and employees. Perhaps he thinks we should print money to pay these recipients rather than earn by hard sweat.

My view is that all people, Aborigines included, need that change that only Christ can bring and then work. God has not exempted anyone from "eating bread by the sweat of their brow."

This is further substantiated by 1 Thess. 4:10-12.

— T. Rendell (Kalgoorlie, W.A.)

We are at a loss to know which cartoon our correspondent is referring to. The one we published did not criticise mining or mining companies or evangelical missionaries. It simply drew attention to the fact that powerful financial interests sometimes use their muscle to over-ride Aborigines' welfare. It also drew attention to the fact that some Christians think that sufficient has been done for the Aborigines when we have preached to them, fed them and clothed them. — Editor.)

• Continued on Page 17

BOOMING BAPTISTS

To the Editor,

Our church seems to be on a plateau at the moment. But the Baptists down the street are booming and the Pentecostals round the corner are packing them in. So our church leaders are asking what the Baptists and the Pentecostals have that we do not have. I think that they are aiming to find out so that we can get some of it too.

Personally I don't think that is the right tactic. No doubt the Baptists and Pentecostals are getting all of the people in our suburb who want what they've got. There are another 40,000 people who are not active in any church and obviously they don't want what the Baptists and Pentecostals have to offer.

Perhaps we should be asking what are the real needs of a significant number of this 40,000, and how we can communicate with them to let them see that we can meet these needs. I'm not a theologian or church strategist, but from the little business experience I have had, it would seem to be more business-like to find needs that are not being met by anybody else and to go into the market to meet those.

So it's not so much a matter of finding out what the Baptists and Pentecostals have, but rather what a lot of other people need and haven't got . . . and then asking ourselves if that's what we've got to offer.

Yours hopefully

TERTIUS

SELECTION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH

Our three theological colleges exist for the purpose of training men and women for a variety of ministries such as overseas missionary service, chaplaincy, Brotherhood service, lay leadership, general Christian service in a local congregation, and what we have been pleased to call the "full time ministry". They are given no authority by the State and Federal Conferences that control them to do any more than that.

However, circumstances and an unwary Brotherhood have created an intolerable situation whereby, in effect, our colleges determine who should and who should not be accepted into full time ministry.

AN UNCONSTITUTIONAL AND AN UNWISE PROCEDURE

Would-be students make application to our colleges for admission. Local churches and referees usually give optimistic reports about their potential, anticipating of course the growth process that the college will stimulate. Even referees who are not too sure about a candidate will frequently state an anticipation that the college will perform the necessary miracle that creates a minister.

If and when the student is accepted by the college board, after some vetting by the faculty, he (or she) begins to assume that he is a candidate for the ministry. If it becomes evident during the course that a student does not have potential for the ministry it is a reluctant faculty that has to try to tell him so. But faculty and students are so close to each other that it is only in fairly extreme cases that they are likely to take such action. And inevitably students concerned are likely to feel that they are victims of faculty prejudice.

IT GETS WORSE INSTEAD OF BETTER

At the end of the third year, those students considered by the various faculties and boards to have potential for ministry are recommended to state advisory boards. It is obvious that boards and faculties are going to be very generous in their recommendations, not desiring to deny opportunity for ministry to a student, in case he may just have the potential about which they have doubts. They are well aware that some highly recommended students have failed in ministry and

others about whom they have had doubts have been quite successful.

Advisory boards and churches in most cases can only rely on college recommendations. Even if the churches do have the opportunity to meet with prospective ministers, all will be on their best behaviour for the occasion, and for the hour or two will present well. We have even heard of "spies" from a calling church going to hear a prospective minister preach, as though his total ministry can be judged by a solitary sermon.

COLLEGES FORCED INTO AN INTOLERABLE SITUATION

So our colleges are forced into the intolerable situation of virtually choosing who should be ministers with Australian Churches of Christ and who should not. The fact that many in the Brotherhood accept the situation is seen in the questions often asked of college staff: "Why did you let him into college?" "How could you recommend him?" "Can't you tighten up your selection procedures?"

Yet it is the job of the colleges to teach and to equip people for a wide variety of ministries, and not to select those who will be full-time ministers in our churches. Surely the job of selection of candidates for the ministry and of graduate ministers belongs to the Brotherhood. If our ministers are to continue to serve all over Australia the properly constituted representatives of the churches should do the selecting.

A POSSIBLE SOLUTION

It would appear that a solution to the problem would be the appointment by each State Conference of a Ministry Committee for the selection of candidates for the ministry, irrespective of which college they propose to enter. Colleges could then accept for training any who desired it or were likely to profit by it. This would include the selected ministry candidates. Others would then pursue their course without misunderstanding, although any of them could apply at any time to one of the Ministry Committees for candidature.

Towards the end of the course, ministry candidates would apply to the appropriate Ministry Committees for recommendation for their names to go to various advisory boards. In Queensland and New South Wales the State Ministry Committees would act

with the graduates from the respective colleges in these states. Candidates from the College of the Bible could be interviewed by the Victorian Ministry Committee or a Ministry Committee of the Federal Conference.

NOT JUST A PERFUNCTORY MEETING

In suggesting the setting up of Ministry Committees we are not thinking of a quick meeting on the way home from work with the applicants. We are suggesting at least a weekend away with Ministry Committee and applicants. Before the weekend there would be a detailed study of the documentation of the applicants. During the weekend, in worship, study, fellowship, counselling, discussion, interviews and living together, the selections would be made.

Towards the end of the third year of the college course, the same sort of thing would take place. The documentation in this case would come from college records and reports, together with assessments from student churches, and possibly evaluations from fellow students.

ACTION NOW

Our suggestions may not be the best ones, but they may stimulate some thinking amongst our leaders and our people, hopefully followed by action. At least the matter should be on the agendas of State and Federal Conference Executives. The matter is urgent. We must free our Colleges to teach, and lift from them the responsibility of selecting our future ministers.

NEW GUINEA LITERACY PROJECT

Thousands of young people throughout Papua New Guinea cannot read or write. They may never read of God's love and plan for their lives.

To overcome this problem, Compassion child-care has undertaken a project to educate these young people. Children will be educated with a view to giving them Bible training. Food, medicine and vocational training will also be given where necessary.

By making monthly sponsorship contributions, sponsors will be assigned a specific project area, and will receive regular reports on that project.

Compassion Child-care is an international interdenominational child-care organisation which has been helping children for over 25 years.

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MANAGER: C. R. AMBROSE

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ON MY MIND PROGRAMS

Ross Burton

Ross Burton, originally from Western Australia, is in his first ministry at the church at Hervey Bay, Qld, following his graduation from Woolwich College in 1975. Ross is married with three children (one daughter and two sons). Ross is very interested in printing and photography which he uses in the printing that the church does with their own offset printer. Ross also has an interest in home computers and their possible use in church work.

Walter A. Hendrichsen in his book, "Disciples are made — not Born." makes it abundantly clear that much of the feverish activity and frustration which ministers have experienced is because, in competition with the mass media, we have introduced many programs which have entertained, rather than educated! "Entertainment has become our program," he says.

WHAT DO THEY ACHIEVE?

Undoubtedly the recent upsurge in interest in Business management has created a very fertile climate for the germination of many programs designed to stimulate Church fellowship and growth, and this impetus combined with the endeavour to keep up with the glamour of television, has I believe encouraged new and exciting ideas. But do they achieve the desired result?

We must realise these programs are dated very quickly by the ever-changing currents of thought and activity in our consumer society. As C. S. Lewis says, "All that is not Eternal is out of date."

THE BASIC MANDATE

That there are many of us who enjoy and profit from these innovative ideas is not surprising in such a specialist age. However, it may be that we have specialised a little too diversely and strayed away from the basic commission or mandate of the Lord, "Go and make disciples." Making disciples is a long task and the pressures to create a good impression and produce statistics are so strongly imprinted on our minds that this has become the fulcrum which supports many decisions. We do have statistics and they are encouraging; but are we neglecting Christ's commission because the enormous time and effort needed to train and equip disciples is too intangible to show on these records?

There seems to be a strong principle coming through the Method of the Master who took 12 men with Him every day for 3 years and trained them into the best team this world has seen. They took the Gospel to the then known world in just over 3 years.

SPIRITUAL PARENT HOOD

Christians today also need this solidarity of teaching. In 2 Timothy 2:2 Paul emphasises the need for Spiritual parenthood where nurture is the main part of the growth process.

On whom does the responsibility of this nurture fall?

The illustration of the 22 over worked athletes in the arena, so much in need of a rest, and the crowds in the grandstands so much in need of exercise is still very relevant for us. Discipleship of new Christians is the responsibility of all those who are more mature in their spiritual growth. While much benefit may be derived from these highly acclaimed programmes, the challenge to us is to examine them carefully and use them as they enable us to fulfill Christ's Commission in its entirety.

KOORINGAL HOMESTEAD

A new resource in South Australia for the enrichment of family, marriage and personal life was opened by the Conference President, R. Clymer, on Sunday September 21.

Kooringal (home by the waters) is situated off Yette Road, 3 km from Williamstown, overlooking the unique Whispering Wall reservoir. The homestead has eight bedrooms available for small groups to use in short-term residential programs. It has been built and financed by Kevin and Ross Harvey in response to a vision held for many years. Kevin and his wife Gwyn will live in the Homestead to cater and direct programs to deepen and enrich family, marriage and personal life.

Kevin has just concluded a 12 year ministry with the Brighton church. He has also recently completed a post graduate diploma in applied psychology. He is keen to develop programs for churches in South Australia, and also for the wider community, in an endeavour to bond together the dynamic of faith; the skills and learning of the human relations movement, and the inspiration of a small vibrant, searching, affirming community. The 'enrichment' model will be used as against the counselling model. Programs will enable participants to share and discover God given resources; to have a quality of time to enrich the lives of others whilst enriching their own; to renew faith in God, faith in others and faith in themselves.

PROGRAMS PLANNED

A number of short term/small group residential programs are planned at Kooringal Homestead:

CHANGE AT C.O.B.

The Chairman of the Board of Management, Frank Chipperfield, reports that Dr Keith Bowes, for family reasons, has submitted his resignation as Principal of the College of the Bible. The Board of Management has accepted the resignation with understanding but also with deep regret. Keith Bowes has given 17 years of dedicated service to the College, the last seven as Principal. Through his contribution to the College and the Brotherhood he has earned the respect and gratitude of students, faculty and church members throughout Australia. The date of his termination is being decided in consultation with the Board of Management.

A Working Group of the Board has been established to bring recommendations to the Board concerning the appointment of a new Principal and any alterations to faculty arrangements that may be needed. It is confident that suitable arrangements can be made and that under the continued guidance of God, the important task of educating men and women for ministry will be maintained at the present high level.



Kevin and Gwyn Harvey

A. Marriage Enrichment. This is an opportunity for couples to affirm strengths as they retreat with other couples in their desire to work at their relationship.

B. Marriage Preparation. This area has already been developed by Kevin and Gwyn in their invitations over five years to young couples to live with them for weekends to prepare for marriage. A feature of these weekends has been the co-leadership of a couple married 40 years.

C. Holi(y)-days for the Elderly. Periods of one week's duration will be offered for elderly people desiring a holiday with a difference. Through re-living the meanings of past to find new meanings for the present.

D. Counselling with a Difference! One week periods will be set aside in 1981 for those who need counselling, or who need a break to rediscover direction or strength for living. Participants will become part of Kevin and Gwyn's family for that week.

E. The Homestead will also be available for other groups desiring to conduct their own programs with or without catering provided.

F. Devonshire Teas will be served each Sunday between 2 and 5 for people wishing to inspect the premises for possible future participation in programs.

ETHIOPIAN WAR

Five million people are being seriously affected by drought and war in Ethiopia reports World Vision. The conditions are critical in nine of the nation's 14 provinces. This is a separate situation to the refugee problem near the Somali border.

Tens of thousands of lives will be endangered unless immediate relief assistance of food, medicine, shelter and water is rushed in. Rain hasn't fallen in this area for 18 months. Distribution of aid is being made almost impossible in some towns because of fighting.

LEND 'N' SEND FUND

Do you want to be a partner with Christ and His church overseas? Here's a way to be involved.

The Lend 'n' Send Fund accepts money on an interest free basis for the support of the work of the Australian Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board Inc. The interest is credited to the Gospel Outreach Fund.

Fill in the following form and post it to the

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P.O. Box 320 UNLEY, SOUTH AUST. 5081

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Address

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE

want to share the gospel overseas by contributing to the Lend 'n' Send Fund. I/We enclose a cheque/money order for the amount of \$.....

as an interest free loan for

(a) the period of years

(number)

(b) repayment at one month's call.

(Please delete one of the options)

Signature (s)

Thanks for your partnership with Christ in mission

Sponsored by the Australian Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board Inc.

HAPPENINGS

Ishmael Bangar the Secretary of the Churches of Christ Conference in Vanuatu and also Secretary of the Vanuatu Council of Churches, will be the guest of the W. A. Council of Churches for One World Week. He will be in W. A. from September 14 - October 31 as a resource person on the attitude of Christians in the developing countries to issues that concern the local church and the development of these countries.

If churches wish to use Ishmael especially in small groups contact Mrs Ann Fox at the W.A. Council of Churches on (09) 321 7059.

A Canadian newspaper reported: "At the Lincoln county picnic in Vineland, Ontario, the rolling-pin contest was won by Mrs W. H. Upsall, the vicar's wife, who threw it 87 feet. Mr Upsall won the hundred yards dash for men."

Australia will take 19,500 refugees and a further 2,000 displaced persons during 1980-81, the Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Mr McPhee, said recently. This means an increase over the last year but is still 10,000 below the intake recommended by the Indo-China Refugee Association — and 80,000 below that recommended by Community Aid Abroad.

Evangelist Billy Graham is likely to be invited by East German Baptists to conduct a mission in the German Democratic Republic and East Berlin in 1982. The move to invite him is supported by the other established Protestant Churches. Dr Graham is believed to have agreed in principle to accept the invitation.

American Christians are being urged to spread the Gospel every time they write a cheque. A leading publishing house is

marketing cheques overprinted with Bible texts. They claim that an average 16 people see a cheque on its way through the banking system.

Two more leaders of the Anglican Church in Iran have been detained. They are Dimitri Bellos, Administrator of the Diocese, and the Rev. Iraj Mottahadeh, senior priest in charge of the congregation of Isfahan.

The rise in the price of oil on the world market has raised the cost of generating power for the F.E.B.C. transmitters from \$12,000 per month to \$22,000 per month.

● At the first synod for 18 years of the Roman Catholic Church in China, the clergy declared their total allegiance to the communist regime, and their independence from the Vatican. The Roman authorities have not accepted the consecration of Chinese Catholic bishops.

November
1 Gold Coast Youth Rally
21 Kenmore College Graduation
22 Camp Leaders Get-together
VICTORIA
September
26-28 C.M.F., C.W.F. Wildflower Camp
October
4 Youth Rally
12 Boys' Sunday
12 Gippsland Gathering
17 Explorer Leaders' Annual Meeting
17-19 C.W.F. Camp
19 Girls' Sunday
November
14 C.O.B. Graduation
15 Homes for the Aged Garden Party
18 C.M.F. Dinner
25 C.F.A. Annual Meeting

Arguments against Christianity are pre-recorded on a Dial-an-Athiest telephone service available in Illinois, Michigan and Kentucky, America.

diary

NATIONAL
October
1-3 Federal Ministers' Seminar
3-9 Federal Conference
5 Colleges Annual Offering
5 World Communion Sunday
November
30 Home Missions Annual Offering
NEW SOUTH WALES
September
28 College Function
November
8 C.F.A. Cruise
14-16 Prayer and Planning Conf.
21 College Graduation
QUEENSLAND
October
4 Rosevale Country Carnival
20-22 Minister's Seminar
24-26 State Conference
31 Dedication of Conference Officers

INNER SPRINGS

NO DIFFERENCE?

Upon hearing me confess to being nervous at a certain task facing me, my young friend remarked "There, you see, you are no different from the rest of us!" How right she was! Because I am a Christian it does not follow that I shall be less nervous, less afraid, less beset by trouble than a non-Christian. It was asked of me on one occasion "Do you suffer?" I knew what my questioner meant. Like so many he had the mistaken idea that being a Christian was to have a wall of protection built about oneself. Committing our life to God has never meant that one walks untouched by suffering and pain.

Take up thy cross and follow me
If thou wouldst My Disciple be.

are not just idle words. They were spoken by the Master of life and they are as relevant today as when He first uttered them. Nevertheless there is a difference between the Christian and the non-Christian's reactions to life. The Christian has a source of strength that enables him to face what must be faced and do what must be done and to do it with grace and dignity and gladness. "I can do all things", wrote Paul, "through Christ who strengtheneth me". Yes, there is a difference. It lies in knowing where the source of all our strength is to be found.

He is a path if any be misled;
He is a robe if any naked be;
If any chance to hunger He is bread;
If any be a bondman He is free;
If any be but weak, how strong is He!

To dead men life He is, to sick men health;
To blind men sight, and to the needy wealth—
A treasure without loss, a treasure without stealth.

Our Father, save us from the mistaken belief that we can manage without you. Grant us the humility to acknowledge that you are the source of all our strength, and adequate for all our needs. Amen.

Psalms 18: 30-36

Florence Rosier

DEAN HAMILTON TO BROOKLYN PARK (S.A.)



Dean Hamilton

The members of the Brooklyn Park church are pleased to announce the appointment of Dean Hamilton as their next minister, to commence in February 1982. He is currently Senior Minister at the Launceston church in Tasmania.

Dean is a graduate of the College of the Bible and has served the Brotherhood effectively over the years with ministries at Geelong, Mildura, Edwardstown (S.A.) and for the past 9 years at Launceston. Both he and his wife Glenys are originally from South Australia.

Dean will move to the Brooklyn Park scene at a most exciting stage of its history. The new Community Care and Friendship Centre in the house next door will have been fully operational for just over 12 months and it is anticipated that this project will further consolidate the local image of the church as "The Community Church".

The present Minister, Graham Agnew, will conclude a 4½ year ministry with the church in June 1981.

TOWARDS MATURITY

Page 13

"What is the most exciting thing about your work?" people have said to me, referring to the 12 years that I have been on the faculty of one of our colleges. For me the answer is easy. It is seeing students grow, many of them rapidly. Then follows the inevitable question, "What is there about life in a theological college that matures students so rapidly?"

GRASPED BY A SERIOUS PURPOSE

When a man and his wife and family leave the security of home and job for the risky business of student life, not knowing for sure whether they really have what it takes, and only knowing that somehow God is calling them this way, they mean business. They have had to think and pray it through, and that is maturing. They have gone through the crisis of removal from home and relatives, and that is maturing. They have moved from a 40 hour week into a 60 hour week program of study and field work, and that is maturing. Similarly women and single men go through what is called in modern terminology "the hassles of upheaval".

FINDING A REALLY PERSONAL FAITH

Most students coming to college have a faith absorbed from their parents, the Sunday School, local study groups and their own personal experience. This is a good faith, but probably it has never had to reckon with any major assaults upon it. The student comes with his Bible which to him or her is mainly composed of some fascinating stories and some very helpful texts. Suddenly he finds that it is a set of documents written blazing hot into living situations by a diversity of writers over about 1500 years. He finds himself wrestling with the questions of inspiration and authority and the problems of exegesis, and of working out what God was saying through these writings. And if he is to minister in a hostile, secular world he has to face all of the questions that are being asked about belief and unbelief, and to examine all of the alternative philosophies and religions. Often his faith is at risk until through the process he hammers out a faith that is really his own. This is maturing.

LIVING IN COMMUNITY

A student coming to a Bible College often comes with unrealistic expectations. He or she tends to dream of it possibly as some sort of continuous Keswick Convention, or at least a place where everything is sweetness and light and where all walk about in some sort of aura of sanctity. The first rude shock comes when the discovery is made that students for the ministry are human beings, no better and no worse than the folk back at the old home church. They are capable in their less guarded moments of anger and jealousy and pride and gossip and unholiness. They are people upon whom God is working, but he has not finished the job yet by a long way. The discovery that the College is not a "holy hot box" and coming to terms with that is maturing.

Living in community is maturing. Sharing rooms, the common use of facilities, mealing and chore-ing together, flattening almost in each other's pockets, and sharing through a student committee and other committees to run it all, brings people into closer relationships than most people ever experience. This is maturing.

FIELD WORK

Students finance their way through college and get field experience by being assigned to student churches. Some may work in large churches with experienced ministers. Others are assigned to smaller churches unable to attract full time ministers. Some of these are very supporting and encouraging. Some are small because of problem histories of discord, division or despair. All of these situations are maturing for students.

Some students are called upon to minister in death before the class work on death and dying has commenced. Others are called upon to counsel troubled people before pastoral counselling lectures are underway. They are expected to give leadership but are often only accepted as amateurs. They are expected to make the church "move", but the brakes will be on because the church has had long experience of trying students' bright ideas that did not work. Handling life in the field is a maturing experience.

THE SIMPLE LIFE STYLE

The affluent students are the ones whose wives (or husbands) work, both living on the one pay. Most students are dependant on remuneration from a two-day appointment netting about \$50 to \$60 per week. Those not in manses pay board (singles) or flat rent (marrieds) out of that, and most of them tithe. Of necessity they adopt a simple life style. Studies and field work preclude them going out anyway. They help each other to keep "beat-up" cars on the road. Simple life style living helps them to appreciate more the non-material values of life and to put material values into perspective. This is all a maturing experience.

MATURING FROM WITHIN

When material security goes, and one is totally committed to the call of God and the service of people, one is more than usually open to the action of the indwelling Spirit of God. The fastest growth is growth from within as we are grown by the Spirit into the likeness of Christ. Students are just as human and prone to sin as the rest of us, but their circumstances are more likely to make them open to the maturing power of the Holy Spirit.

THE WAY MATURITY HAPPENS

What we say by way of rapid growth in students is of course the way that maturity happens in all growing Christians. As we are grasped by a purpose beyond our own little selves, as we think and work our way towards a personal faith, as we enter into accepting friendships with more and more people, as we use our gifts in the body life of the church, as we get material things into perspective, and as we are open to the work of the Holy Spirit, we are all growing into the fullness of the stature of Christ. That is maturing (Editor)

OBITUARY

BOXHALL Veronica Irene (20.8.80) Suddenly and peacefully Vera Boxhall died in her unit at the Cheltenham Christian Retirement Centre. She was born in Melbourne living her childhood years at North Melbourne. Her confession of faith and baptism were made under the ministry of Arthur Hurren at North Melbourne. In her late teenage years she transferred to the Newmarket church and took an active role in church life. She served in Good Companions leadership and was Chaplain in the Phi Beta Pi fraternity. During the war years she served as a V.A.D. with the Red Cross and was one of the first 200 Blood Donors in Melbourne. She was a member of the Melbourne Womens Bush Walking Club until into her late 50's and maintained that faith and fitness were synonymous. She was generous with her time and talent. Vera was well loved by young and old alike. Being the founder of the Dromana Senior Citizens Club (it started in her home) and a District Commissioner in the Girl Guides, showed her versatility in communicating across the generation gap. She was one of the most highly respected women in Dromana. Since late 1976 she was a resident at the Cheltenham Christian Retirement Centre giving leadership on committees, bowling, craft, cards and other activities. She was a strong and faithful supporter of the "Open Door" program of the church, the church choir, Care Group and encouraged the young people of the church. Vera was survived by her brother Bill Feaver of Ballarat. At age 78 she underwent open heart surgery which was successful and enabled her to enjoy the last 14 months without undue worry. Doctors were amazed at her four week recovery which she used as a witness for her Lord. Her final act of giving was in the bequeathing of her body to the Melbourne University. A service of Thanksgiving for her life was held on Sunday, August 24 and a packed church sang three of her favourite hymns. The service was conducted jointly by Alf White and Malcolm Humphries. Gordon Moyes, a longtime friend of Vera shared in the service.

— M. R. Humphries.

WRAY. Thomas Murray.

(6.8.1980) Murray Wray was born at Harrogate in April, 1898. At the age of 12 he moved with his parents to Peake and there became associated with the Baptists. In October, 1930 he married Olive Helps of Owen and in 1935 they came to Owen to live with their three young children. Three more children were born and then began a close and continuing association with Churches of Christ. Mr Wray was baptised in Owen in 1939 and during the following 11 years his wife and their six children were all added to the church. He was doorman for 28 years where his cheerful manner was appreciated by all. He also served as a deacon and Sunday school teacher. Up to his death on August 6 in the Balaklava Hospital where he had been a patient for 16 months, his one great love was to have the Scriptures read to him — a practice he had observed daily for most of his life. His eyesight failed a few years ago but his faith had not dimmed. The

JESUS AND THE POOR

A Bible Study

1. Jesus regarded the fact that He preached to the poor as an important evidence of his messiahship (Luke 4:16-21, 7:20-23, Matt. 11:2-6).
2. In his teaching Jesus constantly warns of the danger of riches and the importance of helping the poor. We must be careful not to spiritualise what is essentially practical teaching on the Christian attitude to material possessions and to those in need (e.g. Matt. 25:31-46). On the other hand, it is important not to adopt an overly literal view of this teaching (e.g. the advice to the rich young ruler, Luke 18:22, was not intended to be taken as a command to all Christians).

The main points of Jesus' teaching on this subject seem to be:

- (i) Being rich is not in itself evil. Nevertheless riches do tend to cloud our perspective and make it difficult to see things through Jesus' eyes. Riches therefore make it more difficult to serve Jesus with our whole heart. (Matt. 6:19-21, 24, 19:16-26, Mark 10:17-27, Luke 18:18-27). Why then do we pursue wealth so ardently and so deliberately make our Christian life more difficult?
- (ii) Christians should share their wealth with those less fortunate. (Luke 6:30-36, 12:33-34, 14:12-14, Matt. 25:31-46). Jesus was not joking when he said these things. Do we take them as seriously as he meant them? Jesus commanded us to love our neighbour as ourselves. This was one of the most important commandments (Matt. 22:37-40). Who is the neighbour we must love? Read the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37).

two places he could confidently negotiate despite his disability were his own home and the Chapel at Owen where he had faithfully worshipped with his wife and family for 40 years and where all praised and thanked God for his life and witness at the funeral service conducted by Rev D. Cornish of the Adelaide Plains U.C.A. Parish.

METHODIST MINISTER TO BE C. OF E. BISHOP

A British Methodist minister who is also a Bishop in the Church of South India has been named as the Assistant Bishop of Newcastle, U.K.

Bishop Kenneth Gill spent 22 years with the Methodist Missionary Society and was consecrated a Bishop in 1972. He is the first Methodist minister to become an Assistant Bishop in the Church of England in Britain and the first C.S.I. Bishop to have returned to the UK to a C. of E. appointment. — E.P.S

ALAN HERMANN

- (iii) We will be held responsible for our treatment of the poor when Christ returns. Matt. 25:31-46: it means what it says. Mark 12:38-40: This could never refer to us, could it? Luke 6:20-21, 24-25: Not because they are rich, but because they ignored the poor. Luke 12:16-21: What could the rich man have done with his riches? Luke 16:19-26: The rich man did not oppress Lazarus, he just ignored him. Those who ignore the poor are as guilty as those who oppress them. Read Luke 16:19-26 before your next meal.
3. Christians say they are followers of Jesus. This means we follow his example. What was that example. How did Jesus react to the poor and weak?
 - (i) He was one of them. Following his birth his parents were too poor to make the normal offering of a lamb, but had to substitute two pigeons. (Luke 2:24 compare Leviticus 12:8).
 - (ii) He spent much of his time with the poor and many of his friends were poor.
 - (iii) He had very little in the way of material possessions. (Matt. 8:19-20).
 - (iv) He went about doing good. (Matt. 9:35, Acts 10:38).
 - (v) He showed compassion — a three stage process:
 - (a) He recognised a need
 - (b) He felt for those in need
 - (c) He acted to alleviate the need. (Matt. 14:14, Mark 1:40-41, Mark 8:2-3, Luke 7:11-17).For Jesus, evangelism and practical concern for the poor and weak could not be separated.

LEADING ADVENTIST ARRESTED

Rostislav Galetsky, who at the age of 32 is one of the youngest leaders of the persecuted All-Union Church of True and Free Seventh-Day Adventists, was arrested in Leningrad at the beginning of July. For some time Galetsky has been living in hiding, rarely able to visit his wife and children in Voronezh. The KGB have been searching for him for over five years. He has been an active evangelist since his school days and in recent years has written or signed a number of appeals on behalf of imprisoned human rights activists.

Rostislav Galetsky was a close associate of the long-time leader of the True and Free Adventist Church, Vladimir Shelkov, who died in a Soviet labour camp at the age of 84 on January 27, 1980. Galetsky might well have been in the running to succeed Shelkov as leader. While it is not known what the charges against him are to be, his association with Shelkov will almost certainly figure in the case. — Keston College

COVENANT PLAYERS TOUR

Covenant Players began in Australia four years ago when Don and Sandy MacLeod came to Australia to do a tour, but the demand for their services grew so large that they decided to stay. Four years later, they have seven teams on the road.

One group is touring Victoria during September-December this year.

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... Ethics, Morality, Prejudice, Human Relationships, Social Concern, Involvement, Affluence and Poverty, Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and many more. Using humour as a mainstay, the repertoire leaves no facet of drama untouched in its attempt to provide a diversified program

PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS:

A half day program in schools may consist of as many sessions in classrooms, or with larger groups as the time allows. An effective length of time with any one group would be an hour to an hour and a half. During this time two 20 minute plays can be presented along with several shorter vignettes, and discussion about the plays. The students can also be involved in some of the plays and in improvisations. For discussion purposes groups of 200 or less are preferable

Workshops may also be presented to groups of 35-40. These aim at developing stage poise, body and voice control and character insights. Students will also gain personal self confidence and a deeper understanding of human behaviour. The time given for such a group should be no less than an hour and can last for as long as three hours a session for a week.

WORKSHOPS

The workshop is designed to reveal new insights in how we as human beings can and do communicate with each other, and to increase each one's ability to use these insights. In this way, not only stage drama, but the drama of daily living, comes alive, vibrant, filled with an awareness of the individual's potential to reach another human being!

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP:

To stimulate creative abilities. To develop qualities that promote maturity, teamwork, co-operation and dependability. To help students gain confidence and poise. To improve body co-ordination and flexibility. To improve and develop communication skills.

Concentration of study on these objectives necessarily depends on the length of the workshop. Workshops may range in length from one day to ten weeks.

Financial needs on tour are met in one of two ways, either a free-will offering taken following the presentation of the plays, with a minimum guarantee, or a flat rate decided upon according to the size of the user/church.

VICTORIAN TOUR:

September 22-28, Bendigo; September 29-October 5, Echuca, Phone (054) 82 3184; October 6-12, Seymour, Phone

(057) 92 2339; October 13-19, Wagga Wagga, Phone 25 1707; October 20-26, Albury, Phone (060) 25 1560; October 27-November 9, Melbourne, Phone 870 8169; November 10-23, Gippsland, Phone 49 8240 or 49 8287; November 24-30,

Geelong; December 1-7, Wangaratta/Benalla; December 8-14, Shepparton, Phone 21 9836; December 14-21, Mildura. Bookings: K. Ludgater, 13 Bedford Road, Ringwood, 3134, Phone (03) 870 8169.

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OPEN FORUM

WORLD DEAFNESS AWARENESS WEEK

To the Editor,

It is not the difference between people that causes difficulties — it is the indifference. Did you know that September 28 is World Deafness Awareness Day and September 28-October 4 is Deafness Awareness Week?

The blind lose touch with things but the deaf lose touch with people so let us each try to be a little more understanding and caring to the many hard of hearing folk in our church families.

Remember even if they are too deaf to hear all the preacher says, the church is still a good place to come to listen to God. Make them welcome.

— L. Quarterman

(Lip reading teacher for Aust. Ass. for Better Hearing).

BERWICK (D. McLeod, N. Bunch).
Missionary month held. Ian and Marie Borham involved in three Sunday services and fellowship tea. A.E.F. speaker Neville Lillie shared as well as Fred Lovett on recent trip to Thailand . . . Vacation Bible School involved 110 children each day with 40 adult teachers and helpers. Parent's night attracted 100 children and adults . . . Sugar and Salt to present Hebrew musical "Everyone Rejoice" . . . Good News Singers and Le Mesurier Quartet share in evening services . . . Teenage-Parent seminar run for four Tuesdays in Sept. . . . Group runs concert for elderlies . . . Youth club had a retreat at Ross Lyn Park . . . Cyril Minns returned from World Convention.

WATTLE PARK

Church Anniversary and
Homecoming

Sunday 19th October
11.00 a.m.

Guest speaker—Lyll Williams
Followed by luncheon

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BIRTHS

WEGNER Margaret and Glen are happy to announce the safe arrival of their third daughter, Adrea May, born at Lismore 26.8.80. A sister for Heidi and Leesi.

WEDDINGS

BURT-RAYMOND. Brian and Gwenda Burt of Southport, Qld., have much pleasure in announcing the marriage of their daughter Sharon to Bruce Raymond, son of Les and June Raymond, late of Goondiwindi, at the Southport Church of Christ on the 27th September, 1980, at 4.30 p.m.

GOLDEN WEDDING

WYSS-SMITH Elsie and Martin, 69A Rickman Street, Balcatta, 6021, W.A. Marriage celebrated 27th September, 1930 by Pastor W. Wakefield, at Maylands Church of Christ. Congratulations and love to our wonderful parents from your children Lloyd, Val, Glen, Lyle, Meryll, Mal and Raelene, their husbands and wives and 24 grandchildren.

DEATHS

CAVE Horace on 25th Aug. 1980 at G.E.H. Adelaide of 25 Paqualin St., Hendon, aged 78 years. Loved husband of Ada (Chiswell). Father of Murray and Brian. Father-in-law of Jacqueline and Jan. Grandfather of Bruce, Jeffrey, Narelle, Claudia, Michelle, Greg and Paul. Treasured memories.

CUNNINGHAM Melissa Anne. On 29th August at RCH the very precious youngest child of Judith and Bill. Loved and loving little sister of David, Andrew, Stephen, Matthew, Susan and Christopher. Treasured little grand-daughter to Jess and Henry Lee-Archer. Loved and remembered by her Aunts, Uncles and cousins. Five happy years. "Safe on His gentle breast."

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GISBORNE REGIONAL

Church of Christ

Service time alteration
As from Sunday, September 7, our worship service will be at 10 a.m. instead of 10.30 a.m.

The service will conclude at 11.30 a.m.

All are welcome to join us and share in worship followed by Christian Education each Sunday morning

HAMPTON CHURCH OF CHRIST

**69th ANNIVERSARY
AND HOME COMING**
Sunday, October 12

11 a.m. Worship Service —
Speaker John Paver
Fellowship Luncheon

IVANHOE CHURCH OF CHRIST

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

Sunday October 12th, 1980

10 a.m. Communion Service
Preacher — C.H.J. Wright B.A.
7 p.m. Evening Worship
Preacher — G.D. Hall

Fellowship luncheon at noon.
(For catering purposes ring (03) 49 4156)

All former members and friends warmly invited.

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BELMONT, GEELONG "GOOD NEWS WEEK"

40th Anniversary



All former members and friends are invited to share our anniversary with us in our new building complex.

NOV. 2-9

Guest Speaker — Dean Hamilton (Launceston)

Sunday, Nov. 2. Theme — "Reflections"
9.15 a.m., 11 a.m., 5 p.m. (Tea), 7 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 9. Theme — "Life begins at 40!"
10.30 a.m., 7 p.m.

For details of other services
Phone Barry Ryall (052) 43 6219

If hospitality required contact:
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Phone (052) 43 3713

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 A special invitation to Former Members and Friends to
 celebrate with us on the occasion of the

117th ANNIVERSARY
DONCASTER CHURCH OF CHRIST

5th October, 1980

9.15 a.m. Speaker C. G. TAYLOR, B.A.
 11.00 a.m.

7.00 p.m. Speaker C. H. J. WRIGHT,
 B.A.

A warm welcome to share with us on this happy
 occasion, as we praise GOD for His many bless-
 ings.

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NEPAL THIS SUMMER

An 8-day trek in the Annapurna Ranges of the
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● Pradhan Krisham, Allen Hargreaves, Meaghan
 Stokie, Cheltenham, Vic. ● Mrs Lana Carter,
 Salisbury East, S.A. ● Leanne Leavold, Neil
 Paterson, Northcote, Vic. ● Tom Shannon, Christel
 Strasdot, Port Lincoln, S.A. ● Sally Booth, Vanessa
 Booth, Red Hill, Vic. ● Lisa Kuchel, David Parfett,
 Royce Crocker, Horsham, Vic.
 ● Malcolm and Lily McKenzie, Noreen Dallinger,
 Pam Stuart, Peter Murray, David Dean, Wagga
 Wagga, N.S.W. ● Carol Petherbridge, Robyn
 Ackerman, Nicky Hutton, East Kellor, Vic. ● Davy
 and Cheryl Sheppard, Belmore, N.S.W.

MARRIAGES

● Elizabeth Booth to Peter Conning, Cheltenham,
 Vic. ● Rosemary Hudson to David Gallus,
 Dandenong, Vic. ● Lorna Holmes to George Wrat-
 tan, Gwenneth Read to Fenton Oldmeadow, Ann
 St., Brisbane, Qld. ● Janna Mackley to Paul
 Pearson, Horsham, Vic.
 ● Jennifer Boland to Ian Schneider, Inverell,
 N.S.W. ● Mrs Lloyd to Mr Green, Bunbury, W.A.
 ● Suzanne Groves to Peter Bendall, Prospect, S.A.

DEATHS

● Vera Boxhall, Florence Langcake, Cheltenham,
 Vic. ● Murray Wray, Owen, S.A. ● Lou Williams,
 Colac, Vic. ● Bob Scott, Northcote, Vic. ● Mrs
 Agnes Wik, Horsham, Vic. ● Mr Bracknell, Mrs
 Molly Hardaker, Kedron, Qld. ● Margaret Boyde,
 Trix Taylor, Subiaco, W.A.
 ● Mrs Pearl S. Barry, Mrs Dot Dulmer, Inverell,
 N.S.W. ● R. Fax, Salisbury East, S.A.

Oakleigh Church of Christ

64th Anniversary,
Sunday Sept. 28th

11 a.m. Worship. Speaker Mr A. B. Withers.

1 p.m. Fellowship Luncheon.

2.45 p.m. P.S.A. featuring the Yukana
 Singers.

5 p.m. Fellowship Tea. Speaker Mr I. Corlett.

For further information please contact

A. Walpole Secretary
(03) 543 1226.

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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, 2840.

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FORMER "A.C." EDITOR RETIRES

Following three further visits to hospital this year for suspected heart trouble, bronchial-pneumonia and a third detached retina operation, C. G. Taylor has decided to retire from the full-time ministry as from Sunday, October 26, 1980. He began his ministry as a Home Missionary in Brookton, W.A., in 1934, prior to entering The College of the Bible in 1936. Apart from serving at Chatswood, N.S.W. for over 14 years (1963-78), he has ministered to the Melbourne churches of South Yarra, Ringwood, Parkdale, Hampton, Lygon St., Brighton and Doncaster, and is currently with the Gardiner church. In addition he was Editor of the weekly "Australian Christian" (1951-63), Vic.-Tas. Conference President (1962-63), N.S.W. Conference President (1972-73) and lectured at both the College of the Bible and the N.S.W. Bible College. He has addressed Conferences in all States, and was also a featured speaker at the World Conventions of 1952 and 1955. As from November, 1980, Cliff and Amelia Taylor will live in retirement at Chatswood, N.S.W.

MAGNETIC ISLAND CAMP

50 high school young people gathered from Maryborough, Rosevale, Mackay, Townsville, Mt Isa and Charters Towers for a camp at "Camp Irwin", Magnetic Island August 18-23. Leaders of the camp were Norm and Barbara Flett (Mackay), Roger Wall and Gary and Lyn Hinspeter (Townsville), Jim and Anne Deutschmann (Maryborough), Mrs Rule (Mt Isa), Lonzo Wagez (Oklahoma, U.S.A.) and Ross Wissmann (Charters Towers).

The studies directed by Norm Flett were titled "Lord, make my life count". Each group of campers presented plays and skits on their studies on the Friday evening. Encouragement was given to learn scripture. Ross Symes (Charters Towers) won the memory competition.

Devotions were led by Lonzo Wagez a student from Ozark Bible College, Missouri, U.S.A. Seven made decisions, three of which were first commitments.

W O

BUNBURY (G. Butler) Church business meeting decided to pay off loan on manse by June 1981. Also decided to look at calling an associate minister by the end of 1981 . . . Two women attended World Convention . . . Two of the older members Mr Lloyd and Mrs Green married . . . Both live at the Elanora Village . . . New hostel being prepared at Elanora . . . Endeavors Club held church parade . . . Many attended South West Conference held at Busselton . . . 78th church anniversary celebrated.

CARNARVON (Barrie Yesberg.) Carnarvon back to normal following June flood . . . W.A. Inter-Mission Fellowship held at Ingada Village. Speakers were Leroy Randall (Scarborough) and John Bolton (Balga.) Miss Edna Lincoln

presented with gift marking 25 years of service with F.A.M.B. . . . S.S. to present a Festival of Song with puppet show and guest speakers . . . Men's Fellowship evenings being held. A games evening and R.T.A. film have been the main attractions.

WO

SUBIACO (Nigel Merrick) Four commitments recently . . . Chapel open each Wednesday from 7 a.m. for prayer . . . 12 involved in discipleship course . . . Margaret Boyde and Trix Taylor died after many years service . . . Minister lecturing at Perth Bible College . . . Film "Peace Child" screened at youth tea . . . Child care centre now independent. They ran holiday program for 60 children . . . Elsie Lake, Jean Brown, Crystal Mitchell and Colin Reid recently in hospital . . . Speaker at men's tea Rev. Don McCaskill on Aboriginal affairs . . . Peanuts club recommenced under leadership of Ron Marshall and helpers. Over 30 children attending.

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| November 15-December 6, 1980 | 871 | 907 | 901 |
| 22-DAY TOURS: (Camping) | | | |
| January 3-January 24, 1981 | 940 | 978 | 978 |
| January 24-February 14, 1981 | 911 | 947 | 941 |
| 25-DAY TOUR: (Camping) | | | |
| December 27-January 20, 1980 | 980 | 1018 | 1018 |

For a detailed itinerary please contact:
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NSW

INVERELL (R.A. Powell.) Terry and Carol Butler and family recent visitors. Terry preached . . . Four monthly congregational meetings held. Church continuing financial support for Sth Tamworth and sister church at Kwangya in Korea . . . Projector fund opened . . . Missionary committee elected . . . Faith Promise Offering to be given to mission as specified by donor . . . Mrs Pearl Barry and Mrs Dot Bulmer both died recently. **WAGGA WAGGA** (E.W. Taylor, T. Grant.) Church agreed to purchase manse for associate minister. This was made possible by the generous attitude of a nearby friend . . . Several new members recently including five married couples. Six baptised on Sept. 7. **PENDLE HILL** (Ron Bassett). 42nd anniversary held. Buffet luncheon held after morning service. Guest speaker was Jim Henderson and guest soloist Elaine Abrahams. John Scotland played guitar at evening service . . . Morning services to remain at 10.30 . . . Seminar on Eldership conducted by Owen Wainwright . . . Temple day offering on Nov. 2 to remove debt on manse . . . Church to hold family camp in Dec.



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SO

SALISBURY EAST (D. Marr). Morning services average 33 communicants ... First baptism held in new building ... Stephen Curknatrick minister for 1981 visited ... Bible study and prayer meeting held weekly in private homes conducted by Mrs Gray of Elizabeth.

TO

LAUNCESTON (M. D. Hamilton, R. J. Allison). 20 attended Church Life Seminar ... Elaine Henderson, on furlough from Japan, speaker at evening service ... Church providing speakers to Caveside and Ulverstone churches ... Mr and Mrs Bob Byard presented segment at evening service on life of Barton Stone, leading to story of pioneers of the Launceston church ... New Gene had weekend camp at Bicheno.

OLD

KEDRON (David Hamilton) Several small groups formed. Variety of subjects including Pastoral Care, Prayer and Bible Study ... Girls' Brigade stall raised \$70 ... C.W.F. and church family tea combined to hear Ken Trudgeon from World Vision ... Donald Brooks accepted position at Mackay TV station ... Laurie and Heather Thomas farewelled with 'This is Your Life' ... C.W.F. held BBQ tea and film night and raised over \$100 for Fuel for N.G. ... Dedication service held.
MARGARET STREET, TOOWOOMBA Recent p.m. service totalled record 330. Joytones and Lightshone groups featured ... Additional a.m. service to be commenced at 9.30 ... Arthur Williamson posted to Townsville in Army ... Open Door

numbers up to 28 ... Allan King and Neville Adermann recovering after surgery.

ACACIA RIDGE (V. G. Boettcher, Z. Muller, Miss J. Smith). Monthly fellowship tea third Sunday in each month — group from the Sunshine Group in July. Slides of ranch shown after tea. Group conducted evening service led by Bernie Coleman. Les Robertson gave testimony of his conversion. Judy Hayden soloist ... Quarterly rally with Kingswood Park held with Barry Rice guest preacher ... Church dinner and film evening raised \$70 for C.W.F. ... New movie projector purchased ... Youth and Brigade's night attended by 90 ... Don Stewart, Director S.S. Dept., visited re formation of Brisbane Regional Committee ... Prospects for retirement village adjacent to chapel.

ANN STREET, BRISBANE. (E. T. Hart). In a special series of services on Christians in service had Les Armstrong — Director I.T.I.M., for Christians in politics Evan Adermann, M.H.R., Minister of Veteran Affairs, also Christians in aprons and overalls ... Ivan Law, youth group leader, represented church at this year's House Party Living In at Kenmore ... Extensions and improvements made to chapel ... 97th anniversary will have Keith Horne, Doncaster, and Kevin Crawford, Fed. Conf. Pres., as guest speakers ... C.W.F. donated \$100 to Overseas Missions.

BIBLE PROMOTION IN CUBA

The Cuban Ecumenical Council of Churches has established a Bible Promotion Commission to deal with Bible imports and distribution.

The last import of Scriptures into Cuba took place in 1979 when the Castro government allowed the Ecumenical Council import of 10,000 Bibles. These were supplied from Mexico City by the United Bible Societies.

The new Bible Promotion commission consists of representatives from different churches with its main function to look after new import permits and the fair distribution of the Scriptures that are received.

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VIC

CHELTHENHAM (A. E. White, S. H. Wilson, D. R. Smith). Church lost two of its elderly members in the deaths of Vera Boxhall and Florence Langcake . . . Three members have suffered heart attacks: Doris Cook, Fred Heber and John Purves. All home from hospital and making progress . . . Boy's Explorers have trebled in numbers this year . . . Mary Hughes appointed Youth Officer for Bible Society . . . Miss Winifred Lee now Sec.-Treas. of C. of C. Hospital Visitation Committee.

DANDENONG (W. J. Edwards). Minister injured when hit by car. Peter Rama Rau preaching . . . Mrs L. McGrath and Marion Jones also on sick list . . . Fred Reveleigh celebrated 80th birthday . . . Rev. Evan Laidlaw, Dandenong H.S. chaplain, spoke . . . 35 attended men's breakfast . . . C.W.E.F. presented concert . . . C.W.F. sent \$1000 to Overseas Missions . . . Minister recorded nine 30-second religious spots for 3MP . . . Scripture Union took Sunday morning services . . . Speaker from M.A.F. . . . Working bee held at church.

GLEN WAVERLEY (R. B. Elbourne). A.B.M. gave priority to development of small group activities. Cafeteria-style meal available for church family prior to meeting . . . Minister led Leadership Camp at Bicheno . . . Fellowship luncheons held at church by two Pastoral Care groups . . . Mavis Elbourne guest speaker at North Central District Conf. . . . Recent guest preachers Geoff Page, Malcolm Humphries (Cheltenham), Graham Ladner, Alan Niven (Werribee) . . . Worship service led by church school . . . Evening service led by Good Companions.

COLAC (Ian Smith). Church saddened by the recent death of Elder Lou Williams . . . Wendy Vickers and Evelyn Allan unable to continue as Junior Youth Club leaders. Sarah and Julie Griffiths to be

new leaders . . . Senior Youth Club went on snow trip to Bulla . . . Joyce Nixon had eye treatment . . . Evening service at end of August combined with Baptists.

NORTHCOTE (G. Crossman, J. Weston). Good Companions had 12 at Church Parade . . . Combined Youth Group (with St. Josephs) under leadership of J. Weston . . . Share Group (young adults) meet in Mr. and Mrs. C. Carbis's home weekly. One made his decision in another church . . . A.B.M. held . . . Two Y.P. baptised . . . Asians attending church . . . Letter box drop of ACTS leaflets . . . Norman Collings has been in hospital . . . Mr. and Mrs. T.V. Weir residing in Dept. of Community Care "Emmaus Court".

RED HILL (A. Pigdon, D. Walladge). N. Hodgekiss and R. McKenzie, Inter-Church Trade and Industry Mission spoke . . . Concert raised \$150 towards repair of manse . . . Leisure club had fellowship at Mr Finger's and Mr Daff's home . . . Two baptised . . . Focus on Youth film screened . . . Annual meeting held . . . F.E.B.C. meeting held with Director F. Magbanua, R. Forsyth and R. Parker (missionary candidate). Church pledged support to the work . . . D. Holmes recovering after surgery . . . D. Walladge shared in student visit to Tasmania . . . B. Thomas hospitalised.

SUNSHINE (F. B. Alcorn, E. M. West) Corner Club held during school holidays in Glengala. 84 children attended with climax family gospel service . . . C.W.A.F. street stall raised \$225 . . . B.S. picnic held at Brimbank Park . . . Men's Fellowship held family social night . . . John Steele collecting newspapers for C.M.F. funds . . . Letterbox drops to 2000 homes in Glengala in May and Sept. . . . \$130 raised by Michelle Brooking and Nancye Aghan for 40 Hour Famine . . . Recent speakers were Geoff Cameron, Les Keatch, Max Carter, Ross Bourdon (Footscray), D. Hughes (Overseas Missions), Helen Nicholas (W.B.T.) and John Letcher (S.I.M.) . . . Youth Group held fancy dress concert . . . C.W.E.F. held lamington drive . . . Services at Glengala

held at 4.30 p.m. during winter . . . B.S. purchased 50 Good News Bibles to sell at reduced rates and then another 50 to meet demand.

PEEL STREET, BALLARAT (Jim Cunningham) Since planned giving introduced church tithing to Brotherhood and other causes. Recently \$2030 dispatched. With attendance increased and giving new commitment to increase this by 12½%. Offerings \$52 average above budget . . . Pledge to support David and Robyn Harmer in N.G. with an additional \$1500 over three years adopted . . . Assistance of Neil and Vida Reed in worship, C.W.F. and B.S. appreciated . . . Weekly playgroup begun under leadership of Leeanne Cunningham.

HORSHAM (W. Gibney) Three baptisms recently . . . O.A.C. sponsored a gospel concert by Jine family . . . Recent speaker at both services George Mathieson, Executive Director, C. of C. Missions. Audio-visual screened and report given on Espirito Santos . . . Senior Boys' Club held final meeting. Boys to be absorbed into "Encounter" group . . . Youth service held . . . \$533 raised for World Vision Famine Relief.

BURWOOD (P. Wing Tang, B. Williams) 80 children attended Bible and Craft Club during vacation . . . Peter Wing Tang went to Tas. on college deputation work . . . Sections of S.S. participated in a.m. family service . . . Geoff Crossman (Dept. of C.C.) recent guest speaker . . . 19 men attended C.M.S. men's breakfast.

ST ARNAUD (P. Mathews) \$500 set aside for Community Care work in St Arnaud . . . Working bee held to wash down outside of church.

NORTH WILLIAMSTOWN (Charles Wilson.) Dave Kellond, Arthur Haskell and Mrs E. Milne welcomed home from World Convention. George and Edna Aldersley back from Queensland . . . 120 attended combined family service. Dedication service for the children of Charles and Robyn Wilson was part of the service.

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Ambrosia

by Chris Ambrose

NOBODIES OF THE BIBLE

BARTHOLOMEW

Mentioned in four lists of the apostles (Matt 10:3, Mark 3:18, Luke 6:14 and Acts 1:13). This is the only mention we have of this person in the New Testament. His name means son of Tolmai. Many have linked the Nathanael of John's lists (John 1: 45-51, 21:2) with Bartholomew mainly because of their respective positionings in the lists but this is doubtful.

Church tradition (not always very reliable) makes Bartholomew a missionary to various countries and also explains his death in a variety of ways. He is said to have been a missionary in India, Armenia (Turkey), Mesopotamia and Persia. There is an apocryphal gospel that is said to have been written by him but we do not have copies of this today.

All we know then about Bartholomew for certain is that he was one of the 12 Disciples. Maybe we can learn that not all Christians need to be in the limelight. Obviously there are many good Christians like Bartholomew of whom we hear very little but who quietly go about their lives growing closer to God and sharing the new found life that they have with other people.

The church needs many people like Bartholomew. People who have a strong faith and quietly share this alongside the work of today's Paul's and Peter's and other well known Christian leaders and motivators.

NATHANAEL

As mentioned in the previous section this name appears in John's lists as a Disciple of Christ. (John 1:45-51, 21:2). It is mentioned by John that he came from Cana in Galilee. Here Jesus

performed his first miracle with the changing of water into wine at the wedding feast. Jesus was also at Cana when he healed the royal official's son at Capernaum.

Nathanael was brought to Jesus by Philip and from that point became a disciple (the account is set out in John 1:45-51). At this time he was astonished at the supernatural power that Jesus exhibited in his knowledge of who Nathanael was. Today we as Christians should be aware of the supernatural power that God has and yet when this is used in some way we are still taken in complete surprise as if God were not able to do the action that we have witnessed.

The name Nathanael means 'gift of God'. Hopefully his life showed the implications of his name. We as followers of Christ have been nicknamed Christians. Sometimes in our actions I wonder whether we live up to the name. Many people today claim that they want no part of the church because of the actions and words of "Christians" in the past. This is a very sorry situation.

Nathanael confessed that Jesus was the "Son of God and the King of Israel" which at the time was a farsighted acknowledgement of Jesus and yet this was a limited insight. Jesus helped him to understand the greater vision of his task with his reply. We too should be aware of the greater vision of all that God has done and is doing and be prepared to acknowledge that fact publically. Too often we Christians limit God to a small portion of our lives or eliminate him from activities that we are engaged in. We need to remember that Jesus not only died but that he will return again in power.

THE LAST WORD

Kindness is the golden chain by which society is bound together.

— Goethe

Here Today and Gone Tomorrow
Can't stand prosperity? I'm one
Who'd like to try it, just for fun.
I use what seems like sharpest guile
To keep it with me for a while;
With luck, I snag it for a day.
Then — whoosh — it always gets away.
Unwelcome though the thought may be,
Prosperity cannot stand me.

IRENE WARSAW

★ ★ ★

Teacher: Jimmie, do you know how matches are made?

Jimmie: No'm, but I don't blame you for asking.

Teacher: Why, Jimmie, what do you mean?

Jimmie: My mother says she thinks you'd be glad to give up this job, if you could make a match.

★ ★ ★

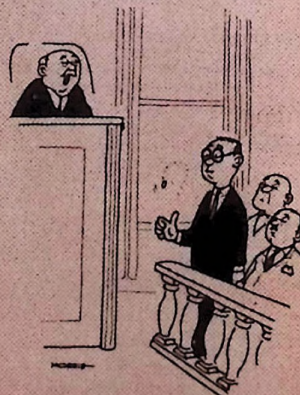
Grouch: "I hear that the football coach gets five times as much salary as the Greek professor. Isn't that quite a discrepancy?"

Student: "Oh, I dunno. Did you ever hear forty thousand people cheering a Greek recitation?"

★ ★ ★

Winter: The season when children leave open the doors they slammed all summer.

★ ★ ★



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