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GROWING IN
THE '80's



ABORIGINES
QUESTION



FAMILIES
MINISTRY



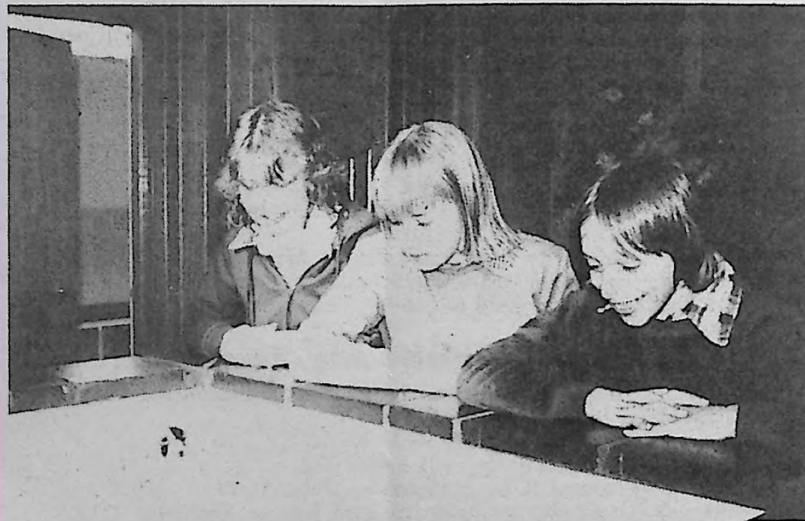
THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

Vol. 83 No. 18, October 4, 1980

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NATIONAL JOURNAL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA

NEW BAPTISTRY COMMISSIONED



Left to right, Carol Petherbridge, Robyn Ackerman and Nicky Hutton.

Sunday 10 August 1980 was a memorable day for the members of the Keilor East church. Three young people, Carol Petherbridge, Robyn Ackerman and Nicky Hutton were the first people to be baptised in the newly erected baptistry. The minister Mrs Cheryl Johnson, commented that there could be no finer dedication of the baptistry than for three young people to follow their Lord through the waters of baptism.

The church at Keilor East has never had a baptistry and in the past baptisms have been conducted in a river, a home swimming pool and in the baptistry of either the Footscray or North Essendon churches. Mrs Johnson motivated the board and the church to think and pray about the need for a baptistry. Now in a matter of months the baptistry became a reality.

The baptistry has been funded from interest free loans and fund raising activities by members of the church.

The morning service on August 10 was also the celebration which climaxed the second series of Growth Groups for 1980. More than 35 people met in small groups over six weeks to grapple with their faith, to share and to grow as individuals.

The Youth Group of the Church held a "Live in Camp" at the church over the

same weekend and 30 campers and leaders spent a challenging weekend. The campers took part in studies, sport, creative workshops and a cleanup of the church ready for the Sunday morning service.

38th FEDERAL CONFERENCE ISSUE

Because of the very vital part played by V. G. Boettcher in the purchase he has been honoured to conduct the official opening and dedication on Saturday and Sunday, September 27 and 28 and to conduct a week of special Thanksgiving services.

Greetings and messages will be appreciated from any one interested. Robert Eaton, 6 Topaz St., Mt Isa, 4825. Phone (077) 43 2642.

(Mt Isa is Queensland's most distant church, as far from Brisbane as the City of Melbourne!)

A NEW ERA!

For many years the church at Mt Isa, far North Qld., have met in rented premises. As from Sept. 27 a new era will commence when the new chapel complex will be officially opened.

It was during V. G. Boettcher's visit last year as Conference President that the property was purchased. Being informed on the Wednesday evening of his arrival that a very fine corner building, some 63' x 33' with an adjoining three-bedroomed dwelling fully furnished (with double garage linking both), all built in solid brick, was for sale he immediately made enquiries. The property, with off-street parking, was owned by Mr and Mrs Allan Loudon. Having close friends in the church these good folk made it very plain that the Church of Christ would be given first option of purchase.

After much serious discussion and prayerful consideration Vic. Boettcher's firm belief was that God would lead the way to finalise the transaction. Various prices were mentioned for the property; its true value to build at today's prices would be in the vicinity of \$75,000 to \$80,000. Figures quoted for the church were "perhaps \$40,000, \$37,500 or even \$35,000." At the end of the interview during which it was mentioned that the church was not large nor affluent and that such a complex would be ideal, Mr Loudon was asked: "What is your final figure?" He replied: "My wife and I have decided that the Church of Christ should be given the opportunity; we recently refused a request for rental; WOULD YOU BE PREPARED TO BUY IT FOR \$30,000?" (This was the figure that Mr. Boettcher had in mind had he been asked "How much?")

The members were informed immediately. On the Saturday an inspection was made of the premises. After the service on Sunday morning the church unanimously agreed to purchase the property, provided the Property Committee's approval was given and that funds could be obtained from the I.C.A. The church had \$8000 in credit, loans of another \$8000 were made leaving only another \$14,000. All business matters were decided and finalised within three days!

The building has now been transformed into a beautiful house of worship.

THE AUSTRALIAN
CHRISTIAN

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ON MY MIND

GROWING IN THE '80's

Kevin E. Crawford

As this issue coincides with the 38th Federal Conference we have given the Federal Conference President the opportunity to share his thoughts with us in this column.

Growing the '80's has been on my mind for the past two years. When you read this the 38th Federal Conference will be in progress. Together we will be praying, thinking and talking about "Growing in the '80's".

I was delighted to note that statistically we are growing. In the two years between Federal Conferences our active membership has increased by 7.75% to 31,729.

Growth at a National level will always be a reflection of growth at a local level. If your church is to grow you will need to —

1. Believe it is God's will for His Church to grow.

For me Jesus' words in Matthew 16:18 settle this "I will build my church". I am encouraged to see more and more of our members believing this and making themselves available for God to use in building his church.

During Conference the State Home Mission Directors will share with us ideas and suggestions for growing in the '80's which they, with the help of others, have been putting together during the last year.

2. Be Growing Spiritually Yourself.

The following summary has helped me to remember the factors involved in my spiritual growth.

Go to God in prayer daily — John 15:7.

Read God's Word daily — 1 Peter 2:2.

Obey God, moment by moment — John 14:21.

Witness for Christ by your life and lips — Matthew 4:19.

Trust God for every detail of your life — 1 Peter 5:7.

Holy Spirit — allow Him to control and empower your daily life and witness — Galatians 5:16, 17.

As individual members experience spiritual growth our churches will become noted for their warm, loving, caring fellowship. This is what many Australians need today.

3. Be Involved in the ministry of your Church.

Ephesians 4:11-16, Romans 12:3-8 and 1 Corinthians 12 make it clear that God has given each of us abilities to be used in his service. One of the keys to personal and church growth is for each member to be involved in ministry in line with these abilities.

Only as this happens does the church really become the body of Christ ministering in your community.

The calling of the church is to declare in word and demonstrate in attitude and action the character of Jesus Christ who lives within each member. We are to declare the reality of a life-changing encounter with the living Christ and to demonstrate that change by an unselfish, love-filled life. Until we have done this nothing else we can do will be of any avail. This involves each member.

4. Exercise the ministry of encouragement.

Paul lists encouragement among the gifts in Romans 12 "If it (a man's gift) is encouraging, let him encourage" — Romans 12:8 N.I.V.

• Continued on Page 3

CHURCH ELDER AWARDED "CITIZEN OF THE YEAR"

"Ella Liebezeit is an elder of the Lower Hutt (N.Z.) Church of Christ. The following news item appeared in the Hutt News".

Mrs Ella Liebezeit has been presented with the Citizen of the Year Award made annually by the Hutt Rotary Club.

The award was presented to Mrs Liebezeit last week.

In presenting the award to her, the president of the club, the Rev John Mabon, said through her association with both the League of Mothers and the Girls Brigade, the name of Mrs Liebezeit was well-known and respected.

Mrs Liebezeit has been president and secretary of the Lower Hutt branch of the League of Mothers on numerous occasions.

She has also been choir leader for the last 25 years.

As provincial organiser for the last 10 years, she has been responsible for establishing new branches and reactivating those in decline.

On a national level, she has been the supply secretary for most of the 1970s.

Mrs Liebezeit has also been involved with the Girls Brigade.

In 1939 she was captain of the company associated with the Church of Christ in Lower Hutt and only relinquished that position in the last year.

After becoming regional Commissioner she was elected to the New Zealand National executive and became national vice-president.

She was active in setting up Te Karaka — a Girls Brigade campsite at Waikanae.

Ella was unhappy that the paper omitted reference to her work in the church. She has been a member of the Lower Hutt church of over 50 years and has been organist for most of that time. She was a foundation member of the Dominion Conference Youth Department and its secretary for many years. She and her husband Noel were respected Christian business people in the city and were examples of what church loyalty is really on about. She has been a talented gospel



Ella Liebezeit

singer. She came from Scotland as a child and one of her ancestors had the distinction of being baptized by Alexander Campbell. Another of her distinctions is that she played at the wedding of the present Editor of the "A. C."

REX ELLIS ILL

We have just learnt that Rex Ellis, Principal of the Churches of Christ (N.S.W.) Theological College underwent a serious operation last Saturday (September 20). At the time of going to print Rex was still in a serious condition however he has been improving.

The "Australian Christian" calls the Australian Brotherhood to prayer for Rex and Verlie Ellis and their family at this time.

GROWING IN THE '80's

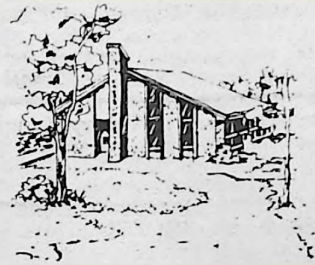
● From page 2

Turning to Hebrews 10:23-25 we find the following admonition and instruction for the church: "Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another — and all the more as you see the day approaching."

When surveying the commands for mutual ministry among the body there can be no doubt that to admonish one another (Romans 15:14), care for one another (1 Cor. 12:25) bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2), comfort one another (1 Thess. 4:18), and confess your faults to one another (James 5:16) cause our enthusiasm for the Christian life to grow. All of these spiritual endeavours assist us in stimulating each other to love and good deeds.

As a Brotherhood we have much to thank God for. Let's express our thanks as we grow in the '80's and serve the Lord enthusiastically together.

REVIVAL AT SPRINGWOOD (QUEENSLAND)



Springwood is one of the newer churches, and we have had a crusade with John Timms from August 10-24 with a meeting every night. Most of the items were provided by the locals or people from adjacent churches and the song leading was in the hands of one of our own men Neville Carr. The results were astounding with 26 first time decisions, and 34 reconsecrations, and many have declared that they will never be the same again.

We believe that the day of crusades will never be finished, and it is one of God's ways of adding to the church, especially when the preacher has the gift of evangelism. We recommend to churches that they plan crusades and train their own counsellors, and the God of miracles will send the fire.

—A. A. Clarke

THE BIG EVENT

A gospel concert sponsored by Melbourne Christian Radio is to be held. The concert will be staged at the Methodist Ladies College Assembly Hall, Barkers Road, Kew on October 18 1980 at 8.00 p.m.

The big event has an outstanding program in which over 100 people will be involved. It includes Francis Butler who was, until a number of years ago, Australia's top punk rock singer.

The concert includes a number of groups. Icthus is Victoria's number one group of contemporary gospel music. Ross Noble and his Sydney band are rated tops in N.S.W.

The evening also includes Skylight, featuring five male voices plus their supporting musicians. Faithland Singers include a choir of over 45 members that have currently been conducting gospel concerts in all the major shopping centres throughout Melbourne.

The Sunshine Singers are brought together from various churches throughout Melbourne.

This concert will be an event for every member of the family. A great opportunity for youth leaders to bring their youth groups and an opportunity for mum and dad to bring the kids for a family night out. The auditorium ONLY accommodates 11,000 people so it is important to make your bookings early.

WVQ

ROCKINGHAM. Church continues to meet in St. George's C. of E., Safety Bay. Numbers increasing at a.m. service and p.m. Gospel Service has now commenced two evenings each month . . . Intermediate Youth Group meet on Friday evening, and S.A.M. Group meet monthly. Mid-week B.S. has now commenced . . . Baptism recently . . . C.W.F. held a Sewing day for Missions . . . Members saddened at death of Mrs. Elsie Boase.

NORTHAM (M. Randell). Five attended Christian Men's Convention . . . Two S.S. girls baptized . . . George Wedlock died . . . Choir assisted in Midland Mission . . . Mrs Boothman in hospital.

WARWICK (G.B. Carslake). Minister returned following 4½ months in U.S.A. on A.C.F. scholarship at Fuller Theological Seminary . . . Keith and Mavis Robinson thanked for interim ministry . . . 20 attended an 8-week pastoral care course with Roger Ryall . . . Over 200 present when C.E. Choir led evening service in local hall . . . A.B.C. recorded morning service to be broadcast on 6 WN on October 26 at 5.30 p.m. . . . Several more baptisms . . . 30 now involved in special 6-week training study course on the inductive Bible study method to develop future leadership for home groups . . . Y.P. guest of Northam church for a weekend . . . A-grade junior basketball team won premiership and a player in the B grade won the fairest and best in the C.C.B.A.

NOLLAMARA (A.J. Anderson, J. Hicks). Target for faith missionary promise for coming year set at \$18,612. This year's offering \$13,581 . . . Food thanksgiving day . . . Friendship centre serving community . . . Three couples joined working party at Carnarvon in August . . . All depts. contributed to church family concert — over 300 attended . . . For the past month ½-night of prayer held on Thursday for mission with J.K. Bond . . . C.W.F. held coffee mornings each day of mission in various areas of the district . . . Denise and David Greatbanks now safely settled back in Ghana and continuing with language study.

NSW

WARRAWONG (Ian Richer). Church saddened with death of Chris Verdi, elder . . . Hospital Chaplaincy Dept now established at Port Kembla and most local Ministers completed CPE introductory course as minimum requirement . . . Emphasis on worship bringing variety of presentation and content with evangelism central . . . Present ministry continuing till end '81.

DARETON (B.K. Spencer). Singing team to India held reunion at Dareton so minister could attend . . . New car stickers for church in use . . . Bible studies for young adults and adult groups

OFFERING SOME MEASURE OF COMFORT

(Dr. Trevor Taylor is a member of the Elizabeth church and Chairman of the South Australian Overseas Missions Committee. In July he went to Somalia with a World Vision team to provide medical care for refugees.)

"Greetings from the Duney Refugee Camp in North Somalia. I have been here for a month and during that time in spite of many uncertainties and hardships, have been aware of the supporting and comforting strength of God, and I am sure that he has been faithful to his promise to honour the prayers of the faithful men and women who have been remembering me during these past weeks.

It has been a truly humbling experience to be an 'instrument in God's hand', so to speak, in offering some measure of comfort and medical aid to the 46,000 refugees in our camp. I would remind praying folk in Australia that the work is hard, the elements fierce and we strive and wrestle, as scripture says, against 'unseen powers of darkness' which hinder us in almost every aspect of our work.

As a team, we are not discouraged,

going well . . . Hall being used for craft workshop for local people . . . Recent speakers Don Smith, Leigh Melberg, C.O.B. . . . College of the Bible students visited . . . Brent Emmanuelli and Christopher Spencer both been in hospital . . . Morning coffee proceeds to Bible Society . . . Anabranche held special service . . . Barry Rowe recent at women's group.

CASTLEMAINE (Peter Haylock). Evening service led by youth group . . . For C.W.F. Country Council eight ladies travelled to Dawson Street, Ballarat, to be part of fellowship between city and country members . . . New Tribes Missionary, P. Ahearn, presented message at evening service . . . Singalong and supper tendered to Y.P. by deaconesses after evening service.

MILDURA (B. Brown). Trash and Treasure sale raised over \$1,000 for support of Barry and Maureen Jenkins in India . . . Hawthorn Singers involved in recent morning services . . . Bob McAllister retired from board (temporarily) after 30 years continuous service as a deacon . . . New members on board are Peg Furze and Ian Beasy . . . Church deeply felt deaths of Don Beruldsen and Mrs Isaacs . . . Helen Banks, C.W.F. President, spoke to ladies meeting . . . Several home from World Convention.

Dr. Trevor Taylor — Somalia.

however, but count it a privilege to show and share the love of God in a practical way, and each of us are very conscious of his leading, his support and his peace as we go about our allotted tasks. I would assure you, one and all, that we truly appreciate your prayerful concern and interest, and trust that together we can fulfil the call of Christ to render aid — in just a simple way — to these people whom many would consider to be amongst the least of his children, yet everyone is an individual person with needs in this world and the next, just the same as ours.

I would also thank those who have offered love and support to Glenys and my children during my absence."

WORLD VISION OF AUSTRALIA requires

MEDICAL PERSONNEL

(doctors, nurses, lab. technicians, nutritionists) to be available for work overseas. Applicants should have at least five years' experience after completion of training and preferably have some overseas experience. Fluency in the French language is required in some areas.

Enquiries to Roger Walker, Director of Research and Development, World Vision of Australia, Box 399C GPO, Melbourne 3001, or phone 699 8522.

GIPPSLAND GATHERING

26th October
Morwell Church
of Christ

Speaker Ron Elbourne

11 a.m. Worship

Followed by lunch

Afternoon session 2 p.m.

BENDIGO CHURCH OF CHRIST

114th Church Anniversary

Sunday November 16th, 1980

11 a.m. Communion Service

Speaker — Mr. Malcolm Humphreys

7.00 p.m. Evening Service

Speaker — Mr. Malcolm Humphreys

All former members and friends warmly invited.

Fellowship Luncheon

Wanted COACH

for Under 18 A Boys' Basketball team from the Nunawading Church of Christ for the summer season

M.E.B.A.

Season starts October 4

Training on Thursday at 8.15 p.m. at Donvale High School

Matches on Saturday evenings

Contact Mrs Margaret Gayther
Secretary on

878 0800

Frankston Inter-Church Council
and

Lay Institute for Evangelism

PRAYER and RENEWAL
seminar

31st Oct. (evening) and 1st Nov. (all day)

St Paul's Church, Frankston

\$15

783 7910

RE-UNION

PAST GOOD COMPANIONS EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

SOUTH YARRA CHURCH,
(Cnr. Cliff & Phoenix Sts.)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2 P.M.

Recognition will be made of the services of Miss Rita Roberts and Miss Dot Reynolds on their retirement from Good Companions leadership

For further information contact:

DEPT. OF MISSION, EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

52 La Trobe Street, Melbourne, 3000

Phone: 662 2377

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:

Helen Banks, 13 Eton Rd., Belmont,
3216

Phone (052) 43 3713

ANNUAL CONFERENCE CHURCHES OF CHRIST WESTERN INDIA

Hariba Waghmode — Secretary of the Conference of Churches of Christ in Western India, reports that the Annual Meetings which concluded on September 7, proved to be a time of blessing, although some controversial issues were debated during the first three days of Conference.

The Committee of Management, with the exception of one member, were voted back for the year. The new member is **Dr. S.S. Jadhav**, a young man who has taken the place of his father **S.W. Jadhav**. Members of the C.O.M. (Conference Executive) are **B.C. Bhonsle** (Chairman) **K.P. Ransingh** (Vice Chairman) **S. Mantode** (Treasurer) **H. Waghmode** (Secretary) **B. Tiwari** (Assistant Secretary) **S.S. Jadhav**, **R.I. Rathod**, **S.S. Patil**, **V.P. Sansari**, **N.T. Ransingh**.

The Conference meetings were well attended and the guest speaker **Bishop Andrew**, encouraged all in attendance by his inspiring messages. Unfortunately the Bishop arrived late and **John Main** and **Pastor Ransingh** gave three of the messages. (A guest speaker at the Annual Meetings of our Conference in India usually gives about nine addresses over the period of five days.)

The Conference Chairman, **Pastor B.C. Bhonsle** in his address to Conference stressed that the doors of opportunity were open to the churches in India. One of the highlights of Conference was the baptism of two Bible Correspondence students who as a result of their studies, had come to Conference and requested baptism.

On behalf of Conference, **Mr Waghmode** sends warm greetings to the Australian Brotherhood and pleads for continued prayer support for the Lord's work in India. It was with regret that **Mr. Waghmode** advised that his youngest sister who was severely burnt five months ago when her sari caught fire, died on September 6 after this long period of suffering.

R.S. McLean

BUILDING COMMENCEMENT AT "TARRALLA" CHRISTIAN RETIREMENT VILLAGE CROYDON

Against a background of building equipment and excavations, **Croydon church** conducted a ceremony on Sunday afternoon, September 21 to mark commencement of work on their retirement village project.

Those attending were given an outline of the project from several spokesmen from the church. The Mayor and Mayoress of Croydon, **Cr Mike Freeman** and **Mrs Freeman** attended. **Cr Freeman** delivered greetings and encouragement on behalf of the City of Croydon.

0 Overseas Missions

NEWS OF VANUATU

We are thankful to God that **Jack and Cathy Murphy** and their son **Nathan**, returned to Santo on September 11. A great deal will need to be done to re-establish the work and the business management.

Numbers of people are now in prison in Santo and Vila because of their involvement with the coup on Santo. Some are members of Churches of Christ. Continue to pray that they may be treated with justice and compassion.

As the church in Vanuatu seeks to be involved in a ministry of reconciliation pray that it may know God's wisdom.

BULI'S RETURN TO STUDIES IN P.N.G.

Bill and Janet Buli have flown from Vanuatu to Papua New Guinea to continue their studies at the Christian Leaders Training College at Banz, P.N.G.

ARE YOU A FARMER?

At **Ranwadi** on Pentecost Island, a butter churn and a hand-operated milk separator are needed. If you can help, please write to the Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board, P.O. Box 320, Unley, S.Aust. 5061.

ONE YEAR OLD

Concerned Christians Growth Ministries (CCG Ministries) is now one year old. It was commenced in October 1979 to provide a ministry in the face of a growing concern about the many cults challenging us for our allegiance.

A birthday rally will be held in the **North Perth Church of Christ** on Tuesday October 21, at 7.30 p.m. The program will include items in song, an audio visual, a review and forward look of this ministry, displays of cult materials and items for purchase. An invitation is extended to all interested.

CCG Ministries aims to challenge those within the cults with the true message of life in Christ; provide help and encouragement for those desiring to leave the cults; education of Christians to reveal what the cults are really all about and to provide resources for Christians, churches and church leaders to enable them to better understand and handle cult members.

The Director, **Adrian van Leen**, is minister of the **North Perth church**. Please contact him if you need any help, advice or materials on the cults or know of persons in need of his help. Phone on (09) 444 6183 or write to CCG Ministries, P.O. Box 6, North Perth, W.A. 6006.

P.S. A small monthly bulletin, 'Take A Closer Look', helps to keep you informed of what the cults are saying and doing. Subscription is by donation.

Following the ceremony, interested enquirers had an opportunity to speak to the Village Manager, **Stan Lacey**. Mr Lacey can be contacted on (03) 723 2027 for details regarding the 21-unit village and amenities.

Do you want to be a better
GROUP LEADER?

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- new ways of attracting others?

Come to
**A SMALL GROUP
SEMINAR**

Led by

John Mallison — Blackburn High
School

November 8, 9 am to 5 pm

Phone 662 2377 for registrations
Churches of Christ, Dept. of Mission,
Education & Development

BRUNSWICK

98th Church Anniversary

Sunday October 26th

11 a.m. Speaker — G.R. Stirling B.A.
3 p.m. P.S.A.

Music by

Brunswick Salvation Army

A WELCOME AWAITS ALL

Lunch provided for all visitors

Phone by October 18th

A. Marsh

(03) 380 4551

30th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

Warrawong NSW.

Nov 1 ... Family Rally at
7.30 pm.

2 ... 10am Anniversary
Communion Service.

7pm Anniversary
Gospel Service.

*Hospitality available to all
visitors.*

GUESTS

George and Rita Galieh

Further information

**(042) 74 6405 or
74 6308**

The GARDINER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Cordially Invites All To Share In a

PLEASANT SUNDAY AFTERNOON

On **OCTOBER 28th**

Commencing At 3 p.m. To Mark

The RETIREMENT of

Mr C.G. TAYLOR

From The **GARDINER CHURCH**

And

FULL TIME MINISTRY

Also to Farewell Both

Mr and Mrs Taylor From Victoria.

The Occasion Will Be Followed With

A Fellowship Tea

CHURCHES OF CHRIST AND THE ABORIGINES QUESTION

Much has been written, broadcast, televised and discussed about the question of justice for aboriginal people in Australia. Our own Federal Aborigines Mission Board has spent long hours researching this very complex question and have come out with some guide-lines for Churches of Christ. These guidelines deserve our careful attention, discussion and action at all levels. We print them below.

GENERAL:

As Christians we believe that

1. The World is the creation of God and all people have a right to an equitable share in it.
2. Each individual human life is of infinite value to God.
3. There is an absolute equality of persons in God.
4. There is a fundamental unity of the human family in God.
5. All individuals should be free to worship God in their own way according to the Scriptures.
6. We should bear in mind that
 - a. basic for us as Christians is the application of the social implications of the Gospel to the aboriginal situation.
 - b. It is necessary for us to realise that a deep sense of injustice, resentment and bitterness pervades much of the rapidly growing aboriginal and part aboriginal people.
 - c. When we search for reasons for this we are convinced that the white race should be called to repentance for the wrongs committed against the aboriginal people.

LEGISLATION:

Government and semi-Government legislation in relation to aboriginal affairs should be framed for the benefit of the aboriginal people and all legislation should be translated into aboriginal languages.

It is suggested that we call on all members of the Commonwealth Government

1. To consult with the aboriginal people at all levels and to provide sufficient funds so that aboriginal groups may meet among themselves.
2. To use the powers conferred on the Commonwealth by the 1967 referendum to provide effective legislative provision for the human rights, duties, responsibilities and privileges of aboriginal people as the indigenous inhabitants of this country.
3. To use those powers to delineate aboriginal tribal areas where they cross State and Territorial boundaries.
4. To ensure that an effective instrumentality for dealing with racial discrimination against Aborigines be established.
5. To implement a process of consultation at all levels to consider preparing such legislation.

LAND:

1. There is a necessity to understand that aboriginal view of the land they live on.
2. Enough acceptable land should be reserved to support the aboriginal population.
3. We believe in aboriginal access to all present reserves and traditional land and repudiate the rights of any to deny such access.

CHURCH:

1. We believe that people should be educated on the evils of race prejudice and paternalism within Churches of Christ as well as outside so as to give realistic expression to such Scripture teaching as Gal 3:28, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

2. We need to understand and recognise that the aboriginal lifestyle and culture calls for a different yet thoroughly viable Christian structure as aboriginal Christians are led by the Holy Spirit to express their faith within their own law and culture.

3. We should be prepared to alter some of our own structures (ways of worship, church business, social habits etc.) if by so doing we could foster the fellowship of aboriginal Christians.

4. If we are to fulfil Christ's great commission as relating to the Aborigines our churches will need to provide a far greater number of people prepared to dedicate themselves to ministry among them and the supporting finance.

5. We suggest that as a symbol of the wealth of the country of which the Aborigines have been deprived our churches should accept the target of 1% of all church income for the support reflecting that of the aboriginal people in the Australian Society.

6. We see a great need for local churches to adequately keep before their members issues relating to the needs of the aboriginal people and especially our missionary work among them.

7. The Federal Aborigines Mission Board has been for some years and still is involved in aboriginal issues on a Governmental level and believes that our whole Brotherhood may need to commit itself to a wider and more far reaching involvement because we see it as inevitable that some situations will call for such involvement.

HUMAN RIGHTS:

1. We need to study all those areas in which aboriginal people are being denied their basic rights and join with all action at restoring them.

2. The Aborigines, especially the tribal ones are an educated people in the true sense of education and possess a sensitive capacity for spiritual discernment. This must be recognised and accepted if we are to treat them with the personal respect which is their due.

3. Where aboriginal or part aboriginal people have chosen of their own free will to adopt the European life style they be expected to obey the law of the country and that we should offer all help needed towards such adjustment.

4. Employers of aboriginal people in industry or business should be encouraged to understand the differences in personality between aboriginal and white people and to be patient with the Aborigines as they adapt.

RED CLIFFS (W.L. Keddie). Week of special meetings with C.O.B. students, Childrens' After-School Sessions, Special Service for the children and parents ... Attendances improving at Saturday morning Prayer Breakfasts ... Bible Study Groups Tuesday nights and Thursday mornings.

MUSTARD SEEDS

BY ALAN AUSTIN

At a medical seminar in Melbourne last month, psychiatrist David Collison described almost miraculous recoveries from mental disorders resulting from treatment by fasting.

Dr Collison treats both physical and psychiatric illnesses by allowing patients to consume nothing but demineralised water. Usually five days is sufficient although one exceptional patient fasted for over six months.

Even quite severe disorders have apparently been cured after the fast had cleansed the body of previously administered drugs and other accumulated wastes.

The good Doctor C's findings would seem to add further weight to the growing opinion among medicos that fasting can be most therapeutic as both prevention and cure of illness.

Which perhaps suggests that when the Operating Instructions were compiled 3½ thousand years ago (with later revisions as recent as two thousand years ago) the Maker knew what he was talking about.

★ ★ ★

"Well, what happened?" a young Baptist minister's wife asked her husband after he had been interviewed by representatives of the Board of a potential new church.

"They offered me a new car, an expense account, a book allowance, a \$2000 stipend increase and they've got a new manse," he replied unemotionally.

"What are you going to do?"

"Well," he replied solemnly, "I'm going to go into my study and close the door and prayerfully consider this call. You can go into the bedroom and start packing."

★ ★ ★

The 'Asia' section of the current Newsweek carries an article about a



country not normally regarded as underprivileged in which "one out of seven people now lives in poverty."

The article, based on a report by one of the nation's Christian churches, claims that poverty is now escalating to the highest level since the great depression. It says that the poor, which includes hundreds of thousands of ethnic minorities, suffer from "seriously inadequate housing, medical services, employment, education and even food and clothing."

Newsweek says that social security spending has been allowed to sink well below that of comparable countries, to just four per cent of the country's gross national product.

The country? Australia.

Newsweek, a conservative international news magazine, quotes an author of the church's report who stated: "There are pockets of deep poverty in Australia and people who are literally trapped in them. The biggest myth here is that anyone who works hard can get ahead. Another myth is that if someone is not getting ahead, it's his own fault."

Entitled "Crippling Poverty in a 'Lucky Land,'" the article describes how many individuals feel increasingly powerless in the face of entrenched interests.

The article concludes with the hope that the next government of this mineral-rich "lucky country", whether Liberal-NCP or Labour, will tackle the problem in earnest.

★ ★ ★

You've gotta hand it to good old American business know-how.

The following advertisement for Silver Dollar Sunday was recently published by a church in Pennsylvania:

"In remembrance of Jesus Christ being sold out to the world for thirty pieces of silver, we at the First Assembly Church in Portageville are sending out keys which are numbered.

"Come worship with us and bring your key. If your number matches ours you will receive ten silver dollars in token of Christ's love for you and me.

"Should you not receive a key and you were thinking of coming, please do, we have keys at the door. Service starts 10 a.m. Sunday. the public is welcome. You have a lot to gain and nothing to lose."

★ ★ ★

Officials of Concrete Pipe Corporation, Menasha, Wisconsin, have elected Jesus Christ their chairman of the board. "He runs this place anyway, so He might as well get credit for it," said Don L. Koepke, president of the firm.

The company, which had sales of about \$2 million last year, had been without a chairman since early this year. Koepke, who became a Christian six years ago, added, "It's a warm, secure feeling having Jesus Christ run things around here. Knowing the way He operates, I'm sure there will be many changes. We'll just let Him decide as we go."

★ ★ ★

As well as collecting graffiti, your correspondent has a marvellous little collection of rejection slips from newspaper and magazine editors.

Sometimes they're curt, but mostly they're polite enough. I've yet to receive, however, a specimen as gracious as this, from the publisher of an Asian economic journal:

"We have read your manuscript with boundless delight. If we were to publish your paper it would be impossible for us to publish any work of a lower standard. And as it is unthinkable that, in the next thousand years, we shall ever see its equal, we are, to our regret, compelled to return your divine composition."

JASON'S HOUSE

THIRTY-EIGHT JOB APPLICATIONS THIS WEEK... I GUESS THAT SETTLES IT..!

EIGHTY-FIVE WEEKS ON THE DOLE... I GUESS I'M MEANT TO GO AND ENROL..!

HI JASON! WHERE'S LUKE OFF TO?

BIBLE COLLEGE.

GUESS SO..!

SUPPOSE SO..!



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.

MISSIONARY OUTPOSTS

To the Editor,

It was great to see R. Wissmann's report ('A.C.' August 23) on the progress and support the seven North Queensland Missionary Outposts are getting from their State Conference. It was great to see the need for evangelising the north spelled out and to read it in "The Christian" on several occasions.

It was great to receive a cheque for \$2500 from another Missionary Outpost, "the Carnarvon Church of Christ in W.A.", to start our Building Appeal. Praise God for their generosity and their unselfish outlook. It has been great to get letters of encouragement from all over Australia, from churches and individuals, to share in the excitement and progress of our first Church of Christ in the NT.

It is even greater to see people responding to the gospel, like the 83 year old N.S.W. lady, who went home with the assurance of salvation. Praise God for the privilege of being involved in this exciting time of Christian venture.

— Peter DeWildt. (Darwin)

IN APPRECIATION

To the Editor,

We would like to take this opportunity to let the Editor know how much we have appreciated his most interesting and colourful reports of World Convention. Those unable to attend were able to feel a part of this wonderful time of fellowship and inspiration enjoyed by those privileged to join in this gathering together with God's people from all over the world.

— Peer and Ruth (Northam, W.A.)

MORE ON WORLD CONVENTION

To the Editor,

The first world wide breakfast of the "Disciples Amateur Radio Fellowship" (DARF) was held at the World Convention at Honolulu at the Surf Rider Hotel on July 27. The chairman, Jim Platz, introduced the speaker, Miss Itoka Maeda, who is Director of the Department of Overseas Missions, Indianapolis. She spoke on the problems of today's mission field.

Three members attended from Victoria — Cyril Mimms (Berwick) and Jim and Dulcie Pope (East Kew). There were also three from New Zealand but most were from U.S.A. D.A.R.F. supplies radios to isolated missionaries and keeps in touch with them regularly on 75, 40, 20 and 15 metre bands.

— Jim Pope (East Kew, Vic.)

EFFECTIVE PRAYER COURSE

The Frankston Inter-Church Council are sponsoring an Effective Prayer Course called "Prayer and Renewal". This course is to be run by the Lay Institute for Evangelism.

The dates are October 31 (evening) and November 1 (all day). The course will be held at St. Paul's Parish Centre, High Street, Frankston.

For registration contact: L & S Knoop 4 Cornborough Court, Frankston. Phone (03) 783 7910.

EDITOR'S DILEMMA!

"The Australian Christian" is frequently accused of a political bias towards the Australian Labor Party, which of course we deny. The latest "dig" to come to our desk, we hope with tongue in cheek, is from a lady who asks, "Will the 'A.C.' be making its own policy statement for the forthcoming election in favour of the A.L.P.?"

POLITICAL BIAS?

It seems that we are accused of political bias whenever we publish material concerned with social justice, deploring discrimination against the poor and the underprivileged and the defenceless, seeking a fair go for the unemployed and the aboriginal people, upholding the principle of honest citizenship in relation to tax evasion and tax avoidance, calling for equitable sharing of the tax burden on the basis of ability to pay, and in general putting care for people before carefulness about material things.

UNWANTED IMPLICATION

There is only one conclusion that we can draw from all of this. That is that our critics must be implying that the Liberal and National and Democratic Parties do not stand for social justice, a responsible tax system, and all of these other matters of community welfare. Frankly, this sort of implication concerning their parties, Mr Fraser, Mr Anthony and Mr Chipp do not want, especially this close to a Federal Election.

THE DILEMMA

The Editor's dilemma is this. From time to time there appear in the platforms of political parties, policies that are in line with Christian principles. Does this mean then that the "A.C." must refrain from comment concerning these principles lest we be accused of party political bias?

CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES

It appears to us that the church had Christian principles long before they were discovered by contemporary political parties. So perhaps as a Christian journal we have a prior right to comment upon them, and to point out from time to time that their source is in the Bible rather than in some recent political manifesto. (Ed.)

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

EASY WAYS TO AN EASY CONSCIENCE

To the Editor,

With a tender conscience like mine you have to find ways to avoid too much guilt feeling. Every tragedy I see on telly gets me so upset that I have the urge to go straight out and do something about it. But I'd go broke if I helped them all and I'd go mad if I worried about them all. And I'm not up enough in politics to be sure how I can work to change the system that causes these tragedies. So I have a scheme to ease tender consciences like mine.

If the problem that upsets you is unemployment, collect stories from people who can tell you about some one they know who employed a "dole-bludger" who worked hard to get the sack so that he could get back on the dole.

If it is the aboriginal problem, recall stories of out-of-work Aborigines who spent their dole on grog and tore up the floor boards for firewood.

If it is the problem of 2 million Australians below the poverty line, remind yourself that Australia is the sort of country where every one can reach the top if he gets off his bottom and works hard enough and uses his brains.

If you are upset by the distended bellies of starving children in the third world, ask yourself how you can really be sure that any money you give will get to them anyhow. Give yourself the assurance that most of it will go to Australian officials and the rest to corrupt public servants overseas.

And if you feel guilty because you don't know what to do about uranium mining, and hunger, and abortion, and alcoholism, and discrimination, comfort yourself with the thought that one person can't do much anyhow, and leave it to the government or to the church or to God ... or just pray about it!

Yours faithfully,
TERTIUS

EVENING CLASSES FOR B. THEOL.

An unprecedented amount of interest in theological education amongst Baptists and members of Churches of Christ has prompted the Evangelical Theological Association (E.T.A.) to introduce evening classes in 1981.

The constituent Colleges of E.T.A. are the College of the Bible of Churches of Christ in Australia and Whitley College (the Baptist College of Victoria). Subjects are taught jointly for the Bachelor of Theology (B. Theol.) degree awarded by the Melbourne College of Divinity. In keeping with true evangelical tradition, E.T.A. seeks to combine high standards of scholarship with a practical concern for sharing the Christian faith in the church and in the world; within the context of a community where faith is experienced and expressed.

FOR THOSE WHO WORK DURING THE DAY

Both the College of the Bible and Whitley College have a long history of providing some opportunities for the theological education of people other than those intending to enter the full-time ministry. In the past, however, such opportunities have primarily been limited to students able to attend day classes on a part or full time basis. Occasionally some evening courses have been offered but only on a short-term basis.

In 1981 three full-year subjects will be offered at night to enable people who work or who are otherwise engaged during the day to undertake Biblical and related studies.

SUBJECTS FOR 1981

Biblical Studies 1 will be taught by Dr P. E. Broughton and Dr K. R. Bowes on Monday nights from 7.30-10.00 p.m. This subject covers the Old Testament Prophets (Especially Ezekiel) and the Pauline Epistles (especially Romans).

Systematic Theology 1 is an introduction to theological studies dealing with issues such as "Speaking Responsibly about God", "The Task of Interpreting the Bible", "Faith", "Revelation" and "Reason". This subject will be offered on Thursday nights from 7.30 p.m.-10.00 p.m. and is taught by Dr W. Tabbernee, Dr C. J. Garrett and Dr W. A. Gill.

Church History 11A is a study of mediaeval and reformation history looking at mediaeval movements towards reform as well as concentrating on the life and work of reformers such as Luther, Zwingli and Calvin. Principal D. M. Himbury will take this class on Tuesday nights from 7.30-10.00 p.m.

FOR DEGREE AND NON-DEGREE STUDENTS

These subjects are part of the Bachelor of Theology degree program and by teaching them as evening classes, E.T.A. is giving more people the opportunity to gain a recognised qualification in theology whilst deepening their knowledge of the

EDITORIAL

THE MIRACLE OF BROTHERHOOD

Congregational autonomy, not having a definitive written creed, and strong differences of opinion in matters of doctrine and practice between individuals and churches and states, and within states, should all have hastened the fragmentation of what we fondly call "The Brotherhood".

The fact that 38 Federal Conferences have been held, that so much magnificent work has been done through Federal Conference Departments, and that we are still together, is a miracle. This is not surprising because God works such miracles.

Another reason why such a miracle is not surprising is that it is part of our genius to stay together in warm unity with colorful diversity.

PART OF OUR GENIUS

Part of the genius of Churches of Christ is that we believe in the principle of liberty. We may argue with some heat about many issues of doctrine, and life, and organisation, and membership, and morals and politics, but we do not dis-fellowship each other because of it.

Our opposition to creeds is not so much because of what they say or fail to say, but the use of them to divide Christians from each other.

We stand together on those basic biblical essentials that have to do with salvation, such as God, Christ, the Holy

Spirit, the Kingdom of God, the authority of the scriptures, and faith and repentance and baptism. But in all other matters, particularly those concerned with biblical interpretation, we give each other wide liberty of conviction. And we take seriously the injunction, "In all things love."

PRACTISING LIBERTY

Perhaps we do not hear nearly as much as we should about the principle of liberty that our fathers valued so much. Yet it has been and is being practised amongst us. This is probably because as converted people we are IN Christ, and thus are being constantly recreated by God. Thus he is creating within us the grace and the goodwill and the insights to be able to hold our convictions strongly, and at the same time to love and to accept those whose convictions differ from ours, and to give them liberty of conviction.

UNITED IN OUR DIVERSITY

The 38th Federal Conference will again be debating contentious and controversial matters. Strong things will be said on all sides of these issues. But we will leave Conference even more united than when it began, because the Holy Spirit will be there uniting us in our diversity.

The 38th Federal Conference is a miracle, a miracle of brotherhood. The Lord be praised!

Christian faith. The normal entrance requirement for the B. Theol. is H.S.C. or its equivalent, but there is also a probationary entry scheme for mature age students who are 23 years of age or older.

A limited number of places may also be available in these evening classes for non-degree students.

People interested in enrolling in E.T.A. evening classes should direct enquiries to the Principal of one of the constituent Colleges or contact the Dean of E.T.A., Dr W. Tabbernee, c/o College of the Bible, 7 Elm Road, Glen Iris, 3146, 'phone (03) 25 6541.

M.E.C.O. APPOINTMENT

The Australian Council of Middle East Christian Outreach announces with pleasure the appointment of Mr and Mrs Brian Powell as full-time Home-Staff workers.

Mr Powell's official position will be that of Australian Representative. His primary responsibility will be the supervision, coordination, and furtherance of the work of M.E.C.O. in Australia. His wife, Patricia, will assist him in a secretarial capacity.

After 25 years of successful business experience, Mr Powell is at present studying at the Bible College of Victoria for a B.Th. degree. He and his wife, and family of four, live in East Ringwood, Victoria. They look forward with enthusiasm to this area of ministry, in which they will be supported by their home church, North Balwyn Church of Christ.

— Worldwide Photos

A LETTER FROM JESUS

Dear Christians, I have been authorised to give this message. You are to go to all people everywhere and call them to become my disciples. You are to baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. You are to teach them to obey all that I have commanded you.

Don't forget that I will be with you always, to help you, even to the end of the world. I'll never forsake you, because I love you.

Please don't forsake me.
With all my love, Jesus.

Dear Jesus, We acknowledge receipt of your memo. Your prospect is both interesting and challenging. However, due to a shortage of personnel, as well as several other financial and personal obligations we do not feel we can give proper emphasis to your challenge at this time.

A committee has been appointed to study your plan and its feasibility and we should have a report to bring before our congregation some time in the future. You may rest assured that we shall give it our careful consideration, and that all our committees will consider it for future action.

We appreciate your offer to serve as our resource person should we care to undertake this project at some later date.

Cordially,
The Christians From Albury "Focus"

TURNING POINT



Much interest has been shown in the involvement of contemporary gospel music group Turning Point with Radio Australia, the A.B.C.'s overseas services. Tapes from the second series are expected to go to air later this year. Songs from the first series were well received during a half hour interview with members of the band — part of Melbourne Christian Radio's recent test broadcast (F.M.)

Radio is however only one part of a broad evangelical musical enterprise. The group is kept busy with concerts, coffee shops, shopping centre appearances, church youth and family services.

On October 10 and 11, two major concerts will be held, with a drama group as special guests. Koonung High School theatre, Elgar Road, Box Hill North is the venue, at 8 p.m. These will be family concerts with a youth emphasis. Tickets are \$3.00, on (03) 89 6606.

Personnel is as follows: **Railton Hill** is well known through his performances with "Solid Rock" and "Ichthus". A professional musician, Railton writes some of the groups material. He plays keyboards, guitars and (in studio) drums. **Stephen Hill** has a background in both traditional and contemporary Christian music making. Stephen provides much of Turning Point's original song material. He shares lead vocals and is the group's lead guitarist. **Anne Hill's** clear and warm vocals are a feature. She also contributes some synthesizer and percussion. **Ashley Lieutier**, plays finger style guitar, electric guitar and synthesizer — plus singing. **John Paterson** from Balwyn Church of Christ is the wiz of the P.A. console.

Churches of Christ are invited to use the group when planning family, youth and outreach activities for 1981. Contact (03) 89 6606 for details now.

his own with integrity. This often involves the discarding of parental beliefs and values for a time. An honest sharing and acceptance is a more appropriate response to the child at this stage than making him feel rejection and shame.

This struggle and search, if handled right, can lead to the child **owning faith** and being owned by it. This is the point where a person knows what he or she believes and why.

BOOKLET AVAILABLE

A booklet to which ideas, discussion points and helpful hints were contributed by various experts in the Family and Children's ministry field was produced for the seminars. These are still available for \$1.00 a copy from the Dept. of Mission, Education and Development — 662 2377.

— George Warren



Children at Seminar

TAIWANESE SENTENCED

The trial has occurred of C.M. Kao, General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Taiwan, on the charge of hiding an anti-government dissident. It was a one-day trial, conducted by a military court. Its outcome was predictable.

Kao gets a seven-year prison term. Others sentenced along with him — who include the Dean of the Calvin Theological College and a Lutheran preacher — received sentences ranging from two to seven years.

MINISTERING TO FAMILIES — emphasized in seminars

"Has Sunday School Had It?", "How To Run a Club Programme", "Help I'm a Parent!" and "Worship — Childish or Boring?" were just some of the titles of electives presented at recent seminars run by the Vic.-Tas. Family and Children's Ministry Committee.

The three stimulating seminars held at Camberwell-Melbourne, Belmont-Geelong, and York Street, Ballarat were attended by club leaders, Sunday School teachers, ministers and parents. There was something for everyone and a chance to catch the vision of ministering to families as well as children.

STAGES OF FAITH

A special core session led by **George Warren** and **Ian Allsop** focussed upon the task of communicating with children who are at varying levels of development in their faith, as described by John Westerhoff.

Small children receive faith through experience and the more positive and accepting those experiences the more they will see God as one who loves and cares. With such a grounding these children progress to the stage of "Belonging faith". They want to be seen to be part of God's family and are pleased when adults help them to feel that way.

Inevitably there comes a time of questioning and searching where the child looks for a faith that he can hold as

BOOKS TO READ

CHURCHES OF CHRIST — AN INTERPRETATION

by E. L. Williams (Vital) \$3.50

"A Biblical Approach to Unity" is on the shelves of most College of the Bible graduates who studied under E. L. Williams. My copy was in my library most of the time, but many other times it was on loan to thinking people who became interested in the history in or general stance of Churches of Christ. It was a handy tool to lend to enquirers for while we don't believe in definitive statements about faith and dogma in our Church of Christ tradition we found that "A Biblical Approach to Unity" was almost that.

Credit to whoever on our Federal Literature Department of Churches of Christ asked E. L. Williams to rewrite the book. So much has happened since 1957. The Uniting Church has come into being. The general stance of the World Council of Churches has moved to a greater emphasis on socio-political interests and controversies about the World Council are now of a different nature. The Charismatic Movement has emerged as a new factor to either the delight or concern of some members of our Brotherhood.

E. L. Williams' keen mind has absorbed all these issues in "Churches of Christ — an Interpretation." As he deals with the more recent issues you detect a consistency of the convictions that were powerfully argued in 1957. Christ is Lord and that is the centre of our faith. There continues to be a tolerance and acceptance of fellow Christians who reach other conclusions in other areas of Christian belief. There are continued pleas for tolerance and understanding. E. L.'s ecumenicity is all embracing and consistent.

The chapters dealing with the contemporary issues interested me most as I was already aware of and influenced by E. L. Williams' general approach in his earlier book. However, the entire book would be of interest to the majority of our ministers and members. The thinkers in our churches should have a copy in their hands. It should become a resource book for a preaching series or a study series that deals with the stance of our Brotherhood.

This may be (and I hope E. L. forgives me for saying this) the last book that this great leader in our Brotherhood will write. If it is he can be content that he has offered a timely and extremely helpful contribution to our Brotherhood as we seek to rediscover what it is to be a member of Churches of Christ in the 1980's.

— E. C. K.

WAKE UP LUCKY COUNTRY

by John Fleming and Daniel Overduin (Lutheran) \$12.95

Most of us are aware of the recent increase in anti-Christian feeling in Australia. "Wake Up Lucky Country", launched in Melbourne on August 4, throws some light on what is going on. It takes the liberalisation of laws in South Australia relating to homosexuality, abortion, drugs, etc., as a microcosm of what is happening in Australia at large. According to the authors, Father John Fleming, an Anglican priest and a well-known Adelaide broadcaster and newspaper columnist, and Dr Daniel Overduin, an educator with a special knowledge of marriage counselling, the true conflict in the community is between Christian humanism and secular humanism. Secular humanism maintains that "man is on his own", and that there are no moral absolutes. Christian humanism, on the other hand, holds that there are moral absolutes, and also that man is in a vertical relationship with God as well as a horizontal one with his fellows.

They say that the social legislation of the 70s was politically motivated by "pluralism", which is defined as a society which allows a plurality of lifestyles, and which remains morally neutral. However, this neutrality has proved impossible in practice, and society has increasingly exhibited the ideology of

secular humanism, which actually has a de-humanising effect.

Careful research and good writing are both evident. The book is crammed with well-documented facts and figures. It is aimed well and hits hard, as witness, part of the concluding statement: "The stage is set for a further development of the permissive society in the face of the growing impotence of the church and its failure to provide a united alternative of a society based on Christian humanism. It is clearly necessary for the churches . . . to return to their traditional role . . . of speaking out much more clearly and forcefully about the injustices inherent in our abortion and divorce laws and other social legislative measures."

— A. S. Williams

BOOTH'S DRUM

by Barbara Bolton (Hodder and Stoughton) \$3.95

A history of the Salvation Army in Australia which this year celebrates its centenary. This book traces the history of this distinctive church group from its early days in Adelaide right up until the present. At first the Salvationists were not accepted by the rest of the church and their work was conducted under great pressure. Today they are extremely well respected in the community for their social work. This book outlines the developments that occurred which have been the reason why people say "Thank God for the Salvos." Interesting especially for anyone with Salvation Army contacts and also to see their development.

UNCLE CAM

by James & Marti Hefley (Word Books) \$4.25

The story of William Cameron Townsend founder of the Wycliffe Bible translators and the Summer School of Linguistics. It is difficult to review a book about such a wonderful man who is often described in the book as ten years ahead of his time but I believe 40 years would be much more accurate. The faith of this man is almost unbelievable as he had continually gone through life trusting the Lord and having his prayers answered. William Townsend missed Bible College and so he was unaware of the Christian controversies of his day, it also allowed him to be the most accepting Christian I have heard of. (He looks for the best in a man).

In all honesty I am glad that I didn't serve with him in his early days as he determined to follow the Lord's leading with or without funds would be beyond my finance and management training.

— J. Urquhart

Unless otherwise stated books reviewed on this page may be obtained from: **Keewick-Scripture Union Bookshop, 1st floor, Port Phillip Arcade, 232 Flinders St., Melbourne 3000; N.S.W. Churches of Christ Book Shop, 9 Endeavour Arcade, The Kingsway, Caringbah, 2229; Scripture Union Bookshop, 121 Bathurst St., Hobart, 7000.**



"OH, COME ON--WHOSE DO YOU THINK IT IS?"

HAPPENINGS

It is estimated that 25,000 Jews have been won to Christ in America in the past 15 years.

"I was thinking about my sermon while shaving," said the priest from the pulpit, "And I cut my face."

A note came up from the collection plate which said, "Next time, why not think about your face and cut the sermon?"

William J. Murray III, a leading militant atheist in the United States, now believes in God, according to 'Time' magazine. Murray worked with his mother for the American Atheists Association, then broke away to form his own atheist group. But now he has written to the 'American Statesman' apologising to the nation for helping to build up his mother's 'personal empire', and for his efforts which helped to ban compulsory prayers in state schools.

Scientology has been recognised as a religion in France, where it has some 10,000 adherents.

Nearly 40% of American Protestants belong to a denomination different from the one in which they were raised. Theologically conservative churches with strong evangelization programs have benefited most by denominational switching. The trends indicated that persons most often switch for theological reasons in order to meet personal religious need. The fastest growing churches in 1978, were the Presbyterian Church in America (11 %) and Free Methodist Church (6 %), while the United Presbyterian Church suffered the highest rate of loss (1.6 %).

The Catholic Church in China mainland will re-open a college in Peking to train new clergy because many of the present bishops and priests are getting too old. There have been no new priests since 1983 and those in the ministry now range in age from their 40's to their 70's. The estimated number of Catholics in mainland China now is two million, compared with the three million before 1949.

The Rev. Im Ki-yoon, a Methodist minister in Pusan, South Korea, has died in prison.

Im Ki-yoon was arrested on July 19 during the current military activity.

It is reported that soldiers with fixed bayonets are standing guard outside Christian buildings in Seoul.

Estimates from the religious centre on the campus of Nanjing University that there are 100 million Buddhists, 10 million Moslems, 3 million Catholics, and 700,000 Protestants in China.

The Three-Self Committee reports that 26 church buildings have been re-opened for worship services throughout mainland China and they expect to have 50 churches open by the end of this year.

At least four Catholic priests and five Protestant ministers have been arrested in South Korea since the military coup on May 17. The Christian ministers, all native Koreans, were arrested in Seoul as part of the military's move against politicians, dissidents and students.

The infant formula industry has repeatedly violated the recommended marketing practices it agreed to in a U.N.-sponsored conference last October. A recent study by the International Baby Food Action Network cites evidence to show that Nestle and 18 other companies broke the rules on more than 200 occasions in 33 countries since January.

More than 1/2 of all adult Americans say they have had a lasting "born-again" Christian experience, according to pollster George Gallup. Yet Gallup found that nearly one-quarter of these Christians have not been to church in six months.

In another poll Gallup found that 67% of Roman Catholics and 41% of Protestants either read the Bible less than once a month or never.

THE WCC'S Central Committee agreed to the extension of the term of office of the General Secretary, Dr Philip Potter, from November 1, 1982 to October 31, 1985. During the absence of Dr Potter on study and home leave from 10 September 1980 to April 1981, Dr Konrad Raiser, Deputy General Secretary, will act as General Secretary."

diary

NATIONAL
November
30 Annual Offering —
Home Missions
VICTORIA

October
12 Boys' Sunday
17 Explorer Leaders' Annual Meeting
17-19 C.W.F. Camp
19 Girls' Sunday
26 Gippsland Gathering

November
14 C.O.B. Graduation
15 Homes for the Aged Garden Party
18 C.M.F. Dinner
25 C.F.A. Annual Meeting

QUEENSLAND
October
20-22 Minister's Seminar
24-26 State Conference

31 Dedication of Conference Officers
November
1 Gold Coast Youth Rally
21 Kenmore College Graduation

22 Camp Leaders Get-together
NEW SOUTH WALES
November
8 C.F.A. Cruise
14-16 Prayer and Planning Conf.
21 College Graduation

OUR COMPETITION

This series which will appear occasionally in "The Australian Christian" will let you know of other magazines and journals that are available. Many are already swamped by reading material but others will welcome some information that may help them.

Firstly we will look at the various magazines available from Churches of Christ sources in Australia.

New South Wales issue a monthly journal "Christian Messenger" edited by Colin Bowser. This is available at \$5.00 per annum from P.O. Box 90, Roselands, N.S.W. 2195. There are articles relating to our movement and some news of the Brotherhood departments in N.S.W. along with news of the churches in N.S.W.

"The Queensland Echo" is edited by W. Giezandanner for the Queensland brotherhood. This is also published monthly and costs \$3.00 for a year and information is obtainable from Norm Watson, 24 McIntosh St., Auchenflower, Qld. 4066. This journal is primarily a source of news of the Queensland brotherhood department as well as some news of the churches.

R. C. Sack edits "The Western Christian" which is a monthly news digest of Western Australian churches. The address is 142-146 Beaufort St., Perth, W.A. 6000 and costs 12c per issue. This is a short printed paper with equal amounts of news from the Brotherhood and the churches.

Outside of the state papers there are several other publications available. "The Pamphlet Club" is published by the Federal Literature Department. The current editor is Mrs Shirley Ludgater of Ringwood, Vic. For \$3.00 a year 10 pamphlets are issued which deal with various issues that are important. Most of the pamphlets are written by our own people. This publication can be obtained from the Federal Literature Department, 5 Atkins Ave., Glen Iris, Vic. 3148.

Further magazines will be mentioned soon. If you have any suggestions for us please contact us at the office.

AFGHAN REFUGEES CONTINUE TO INCREASE

The weekly arrival rate of new Afghan refugees in Pakistan is now between 15-20,000, up from 10,000 in July. Over one and a half million are expected in the camps by the end of the year.

The Inter-Aid Committee (IAC), an ecumenical agency involved in relief and development work says that the worsened situation has made the most urgent priority the provision of tents for shelter. These are made in Pakistan at \$150 each. The UNHCR has budgeted \$6 million to buy 40,000 tents but this will only partially meet the need.

Using funds already in hand the IAC can buy some 3200 of the 10,000 tents required. They need some \$1 million to cover the remainder.

Church World Service, the international relief and development arm of the National Council of Churches in the USA, has forwarded \$200,000 to their program in Pakistan to be spent on tents, medicine, a mobile medical team and several hospitals that serve the refugees.

EPS

THIRTY EIGHT CONFERENCES LATER

The work of Churches of Christ in Australia commenced in 1846. For the next 40 years Churches of Christ in the colonies were loosely in touch with each other and there were exchanges of evangelists. Two things brought them closer together and eventually into a Federal Conference. The first was the movement of the colonies towards political federation (to take place in 1901). The second was the need for a college to train preachers. Young Australians were going to America for training, and frequently met and married pretty American girls and failed to return. Strong words were being said about this one way traffic, matched by strong determination to do something about it.

AUTONOMY AND CO-OPERATION

In setting up a Federal Conference to establish the College of the Bible and for other forms of co-operation, Australian Churches of Christ were giving expression to two principles that had been hammered out of their early colonial experience. The first was the autonomy (self-rule) of the local congregation. At its best this meant that each congregation accepted responsibility for its life and work and mission under God. At its worst it meant a "Chip - on - the - shoulder" independency that accepted no responsibility for the well being of other churches in the Brotherhood and indeed looked with suspicion on any commitment to co-operation.

The other principle was that while each congregation was autonomous, there were many things that were done best by groups of congregations, such as establishing new churches, evangelistic campaigns, and providing money for buildings.

STATE CONFERENCES

These two principles of autonomy of the local congregation and co-operation for mission had already led to the setting up of state conferences that enabled the churches to work together for common causes, but having no authority over the churches. The conferences were conferences of churches and the churches had power over the conferences rather than the conferences over the churches. That the system has worked as well as it has speaks highly of the sense of loyalty and responsibility of the churches to each other and to the Brotherhood.

FEDERAL CONFERENCE

The inevitable next step was for the states to set up a Federal Conference to do together what states on their own could not do so well. State conferences are conferences of churches. Federal Conference is a conference of conferences, each state conference nominating representatives. The first two or three Federal Conferences were conferences of representatives almost exclusively. But soon the convention aspect of Conference developed. And the fellowship of the great rallies, of tours, of being in members' homes,

Page 13

and latterly of being together in live-in conferences centres, has welded the Brotherhood together as much as the weighty decisions of the business meetings.

THIRTY EIGHT CONFERENCES LATER

So from October 3-9 the 38th Federal Conference has been convened at Stanwell Tops (N.S.W.) under the Presidency of Kevin Crawford the 35th President, and with Lyndsay Smith as the 27th Secretary. From this Conference we can look back towards the first one held 91 years ago and ask ourselves where we are now 38 Conferences later, and where we are likely to be by the Centennial Federal Conference in 1989 (an awkward date for a bi-ennial Conference).

A RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT

We can look back across the years of 38 Conferences and thank God for the record of achievement. The 38th Conference reports the work of Federal Home Missions with its latest project in Darwin. The three thriving Canberra churches are evidences of Federal Home Mission initiatives, together with other causes on the fringe of the states which have been consistently subsidised.

We are active partners with three significant indigenous churches in India, Vanuatu and New Guinea.

In 14 centres in five states we have missions to Aborigines involved in evangelism, child care, trade training, crisis and aged and emergency accommodation, general welfare work and Aboriginal pastor support.

We are involved in book and pamphlet publication. We have developed a ministers' superannuation fund that is quite remarkable for a Brotherhood the size of ours.

We have a long record of involvement in the production of Sunday School literature with the names of Enniss, Pittman, Stephenson and Stafford still in our memories, a work that still continues in co-operation with the Joint Board of Christian Education.

The College of the Bible which provided a major impetus to the setting up of Federal Conferences was commenced in 1907 and reports record enrolments to the 38th Conference. It is interesting to note that while New South Wales and Queensland, having established state colleges, have been freed from financial responsibility for the College of the Bible, the College is still owned by all of the states and the A.C.T. which are still responsible for its life and mission, through the Federal Conference.

AUTONOMY AND CO-OPERATION

At the time of the 38th Federal Conference, Australian Churches of Christ are still working with the principles of autonomy and co-operation for mission.

Autonomy, for which some still try to find biblical precedent, has its problems. The independent church

• Continued on Page 14

OBITUARY

LIVETT, Edna Kathleen

(6.8.80) Edna Livett belonged to the Footscray (Victoria) church from young womanhood until her death at the age of 69, after persistent illness throughout the year. Miss Livett was a good neighbor, and a very loyal member of the church. She was noted for her constant help to neighbors, and not least for the loving care she showed to the paralysed daughter of one of them, frequently visiting her and doing what she could to cheer her in her helpless situation. Edna was active in the Christian Women's Fellowship, and in the general activities of the church. She lovingly nursed her mother in the frailty of her years, and was much appreciated by relatives who knew her devotion and who in Edna's own need sought to repay what she had done. Falling sight hindered Edna's enjoyment of life, but nothing prevented her faithfulness to Christ and her diligence in the church. The church has lost a valued and honored member.

— A.B.W.

WARMBRUNN, Leonard Percival (12.8.80): Leonard Percival Warmbrunn was born at Prahran in 1897, the youngest of a family of four. The older members were Gus, Norman and Ethel (Mrs H.R. Coventry). The family moved to Berwick in 1899 where they were loyal members of the Church of Christ. Len joined the church in 1915. He was married to Dorothy Pritchard at the Brighton church by the late H. E. Knott in 1921. He served a brief term as secretary of the Brighton church before moving to Surrey Hills in 1924, but the Warmbrunns transferred to Balwyn soon after the beginning of the work there. They were active in membership there right up to the time of his death. Len Warmbrunn was always willing to serve the church. He was secretary of Balwyn for 10 years and a faithful elder from the mid-30s right to the end. He was appointed a J.P. in 1943 and in that capacity rendered valuable community service. Len made a great witness in sport. He played football for Oakleigh in the early days, but his great love was cricket in which he excelled until he was almost 60. During the past few years of indifferent health Mr and Mrs Warmbrunn lived at Donvale in a unit built for them in the home of their son Doug. Len Warmbrunn died peacefully in the Box Hill Hospital. It was the wish of the two sons Douglas (Nunawading) and Dr

Cliff (Belmont and member of Dept. of M.E.D.) for a service of Thanksgiving and Praise. The Balwyn chapel was filled with a wide representation on August 14 for the service conducted by the writer and assisted by the Balwyn minister, Greg Shaw. This was followed by a burial service at the Berwick cemetery. We thank God for Len Warmbrunn's life of faithful and loving service; for the witness to his Lord he made in

every area of his life; for the continuation of that witness through his sons, their wives and families; and for the joy and privilege of having known him and shared with him as a true and faithful friend. We commend Mrs Warmbrunn to our Father's loving care.

— D.A.V. Thomas

Several obituaries have been held for the next issue because of space problems.

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AVR5089

THIRTY EIGHT CONFERENCES LATER

• Continued from Page 13

that goes it alone, usually led by an individualistic minister who defends his people from the "big, bad Brotherhood bureaucracy" is a minor irritation. The worst problem of autonomy is seen when congregations leave the Brotherhood, taking with them valuable real estate, especially when this property came from the toil and sweat of earlier generations who would have been appalled at such defections. It seems though that we are stuck with autonomy because so far no one has come up with a practical alternative.

STRONG ON CO-OPERATION

The fact that for 91 years autonomous churches have worked so well together in State and Federal

Conferences is a tribute to the strong spirit of Brotherhood amongst us. Perhaps, in all modesty, we can say that "The Australian Christian" has played a significant part alongside of Federal Conference in keeping the Federal Brotherhood together. It brings into the homes of our people across Australia news of what we are all doing, stimulus to keep looking at "our position" in the contemporary situation, and discussion of issues that all Christians should be thinking about, even if we agree to differ concerning the conclusions that we all reach.

GOD BLESS THE THIRTY EIGHTH FEDERAL CONFERENCE!

(Editor)



THE PAINTER: By John Michael & Terry Talbot (SPR1037, Sparrow).

On this concept album the Talbot brothers are backed by the London Chamber Orchestra. To be honest my initial reaction was not favourable. But it grew on me . . . I appreciate the Talbots (and Sparrow) for their willingness and possibly boldness to put together this type of collection of songs. The Talbots have taken us back to a music that is quite traditional in many ways. At first hearing it seems to better represent John Michael's music ("The Lord's Supper" L.P.), than the out and out rock of Terry's recent work. And yet there is an interesting blend of folk, country and traditional church music. The harmonies are sweet, the words are very meaningful and the whole idea of our lives being a canvas on which the Master Painter / Creator / God paints His masterpiece is spot on. Here are a number of songs that choirs and congregations will be able to sing, and others that can be used as features in various parts of the Church year. Besides all that the quality of the album makes it stand up well in any company. I would recommend this album to any more serious appreciator of top Christian music.

— Paul Cameron

Communion: A SINGALONG FOR GOD'S PEOPLE IN HARMONY (Birdwing BWR2009).

This is not a new album. It is a double album of tastefully produced re-recorded versions of scripture songs and easily sung contemporary tunes. A music book is available, as well as accompaniment tapes/cassettes. As we are beginning to worship, Songs of Praise and other scripture choruses are becoming more popular. This album extends this further by including a number of recent songs by singers like Keith Green, Barry McGuire, Janny and others. The album has many uses — as Christian dinner music, as background music, as a service is commencing, as an aid to learning new songs, and as a feature in a service. It is an album ideal for every Christian family, especially those who are committed to encouraging others to worship in their singing.

— Paul Cameron

Amy Grant: MY FATHER'S EYES (Myrrh MSB6625)

This is Amy's second album. I was introduced to her music at a NSW DCE camp where the song "Mountain Top" from her first album was used. It and others on this album are ideal for adaptation for congregational singing. Some may want to compare Amy to Evie, however I feel there are many differences. The main one though seems to be that Amy has more substance to her songs . . . particularly as she writes much of her own material. In "Always the Winner" she honestly looks at pride, particularly from the point of view of performers. In it she concludes . . . Thy will be done. Another song that appeals is Jesse Winchester's "Lay Down the Burden of Your Heart". Although probably not written as a Christian song, its emphasis is perfect (Lay down the burden of your heart / I know you'll never miss it/Show your Daddy where it hurts/And let your Daddy lift it). This is a good strong, well produced album. It has a contemporary sound, yet I'm sure it would appeal to all age groups.

—Paul Cameron



The forgotten refugees!

The refugee crisis in Somalia has been described by the United Nations as "the worst refugee problem in the world". The tragedy is so bad because it has been neglected for years.

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World Vision is working in the midst of this crisis, providing medical care and compassion in the name of Jesus Christ.

More aid is needed desperately. There is something you can do. Send your gift today to the World Vision Refugee Fund.

\$25 helps one refugee family

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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, 2640.

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NT

DARWIN (P. P. De Wildt) First official church elections held and church constitution formally adopted . . . Four baptisms recently, one at the church family camp at Tumbling Waters . . . Judy Simpson attended World Conf . . . Block of land allocated for future church building . . . Federal Subsidy voluntarily reduced this year by \$80 a week as attendance and offerings are increasing . . . Hospitality plan accepted by the church to accommodate visitors at nominal cost. All proceeds going to the building fund . . . An 83-year-old made commitment recently . . . Hennie De Wildt elected chairman of Darwin C.W.C.I. Committee . . . Dan Nebauer received service medal from the R.A.A.F.

OLD

BAROLIN ST., BUNDABERG (B.M. Nowitzke). C.W.F. travelled to Maryborough for annual fellowship day with Gympie, Hervey Bay, Maryborough and Bundaberg . . . Prof. Wilson, Kenmore College, recent speaker . . . Kenmore College Flying Squad visited and conducted services. Barbecue attended by 60 . . . S.S. presented with Overseas Missions shield won at recent state competition.

WO

MANDURAH (Martin Suter). Minister involved in A.A. Several attended church and gave testimony . . . Fancy dress fun social brought \$150 for C.W.F. manse fund . . . 21st Church Anniversary held Speakers. Ron Cook, past minister, a.m. Maxwell, Baptist minister who assisted in first years p.m. . . . Principal of W.A. College gave talk on training people to equip themselves for service in churches . . . Trash and treasure day to add to building fund.

SOUTH PERTH (K. Denton, L. Cox). Come Alive Crusade in July saw many decisions. Closed circuit TV catered for overflow . . . Kevin Denton at Harvey for week end in August and at Whyalla in September . . . Officers held second retreat . . . Missionary night had Don Butler, Ken and Shirley Birch and Ray Schmitt . . . Local singing groups "Family" and "Carpenter's Disciples" now making regular appearances . . . Men's Motivational Group led by Kev Denton meeting fortnightly at Chesterton Lodge . . . Don Stanton of Marinatha Revival Crusade recent speaker . . . Y.P. conducted car rally . . . Ladies held fashion parade . . . Rupert Chessell, father of Mrs. A. Porter died . . . David Stanford has again been chosen for Venture for Victory basketball team to tour Asia.

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

\$2.00 for 25 words, plus 8c each additional word

BIRTHS

BURGESS (Crowden) Graeme and Jill praise God for the safe arrival of Ryan Alexander at Berwick Hospital on Sept. 10. Special thanks to Dr Lindsay and Maternity Staff.

BURGESS (Crowden) May and Ben Crowden, Dorothy and Alex, Burgess express thanks to God and to Jill and Graeme for precious gift of a first Grandchild — Ryan Alexander — born at Berwick Sept. 10.

WILLIAMS (PETTIFER) Alan and Brenda together with Simon, Allana, Tim and Mark welcome with love Penny Louise as the youngest member of their family born on 23.9.1980 at Baxter House, Geelong.

WEDDINGS

LACY — KINCHINGTON October 11th at Bendigo Church of Christ Jeanette, daughter of Keith and Bette Lacy to Paul, son of Wesley and Jean Kinchington, Chadstone.

LANG-RADBONE. Valmai and Deane Radbone are happy to announce the marriage of their son Lyndon to Janine, daughter of Barbara and Francis Lang at Epworth Uniting Church, Parkside on Saturday, 4th October, 1980 at 4 p.m.

RUBY WEDDING

TAN-ANG Denis and Mary announce with pleasure and gratitude to God the 40th anniversary of their wedding, celebrated on the 19th October, 1940, at the Bethesda Church, Singapore by Mr E. Tipson.

GOLDEN WEDDING

MOODY-GRIST (Firth & May) — Congratulations on the happy occasion of the anniversary of your marriage celebrated at Maylands (W.A.) on 11th October 1930 by the late W. Wakefield, Doreen, Allen, Lois, Kevin, Julie and grandchildren would like to show their love and appreciation to wonderful parents by inviting friends and relatives to "Afternoon Tea" on Saturday 11th at 20 Gladman Way, Karrinyup between 3 and 5 p.m. No gifts please as sharing with loved ones will be greatly cherished.

PURDIE-EDIS. Claude and Muriel were married at Unley by the late Pastor H.R. Taylor on 14th October, 1930. Congratulations and love to our wonderful parents on your 50th wedding anniversary from Don, Valmai, Pam and families. Thanks be to God.

FOR SALE

POETRY BOOK. "Tangulated" by K. Caporn and T. Gilbert. \$3.50 inc. postage. Sec. C.W.F. Church of Christ, Swan Hill, Vic. 3585.

DEATHS

HINDMARSH, Hazel. Passed peacefully away at Harvey (W.A.) on 3.9.80 aged 79. Always remembered by her family and 25 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. "Well done thou good and faithful servant".

WINTERTON On August 18, Arthur Mervyn, late of 9 McLean St., Drouin. Formerly Warragul South. Dearly loved husband of Dorothy and loved and loving father of Merrilyn (Mrs J. Rochford), Cheryl and Maurice. Loved father-in-law of John and Grandpa of Darren. Dearly loved son-in-law of Clarie and Alice Pedersen. Aged 53 years.

IN MEMORIAM

FLOWER Arthur William 17 Oct. 1978. Loving husband of Gert. Father of Neville, Shirley, Beverley and their families. Treasured memories. At rest.

FLOWER Arthur William, 17 Oct. 1978. Two years have past. Loving memories will always last. In our minds and in our hearts. Loving Poppy of Terry, Donna and Shelly.

SITUATIONS VACANT

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SALES ASSISTANT (Part-time) A position exists for a person with experience in local church educational ministry to staff our Resources Centre Monday to Friday (approx. 4 hrs. per day). Apply in writing to: The Manager, Education Resources Centre, Joint Board of Christian Education, 5th Floor, 177 Collins St. Melbourne, 3000.

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HONOLULU CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

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MORWELL CHURCH OF CHRIST

40th Anniversary

23rd November, 1980

Could past members who are going to be present or send greetings contact the Secretary Gordon Skerry, P.O. Box 1006, Morwell, Vic. 3840 or phone (061) 34 4832.

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- 2. BEST OF TASMANIA TOUR** — departing 5th October this ever popular 11 Day tour takes us to most of the interesting places. All meals (except 2 lunches) are included, and the price from Melbourne it \$679.00. This tour will be repeated on 8th February and 29th March but increased price is \$779.00.
- 3. SOUTH EAST ASIA TOUR** — 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 and adequate free time, with an optional Flight over Mount Everest. Our Leader is George Glazier, President of the New South Wales Branch of the Pocket Testament League. The price is: Sydney \$2199.00; Brisbane \$2271.00; Melbourne \$2278.00; Adelaide \$2324.00.
- 4. SEE BEAUTIFUL NEW ZEALAND IN THE SPRING** — Leaving on October 11th we visit Christchurch, Tekapo, Oamaru, Invercargill, Te Anau, Queenstown, Alexandra, Fox Glacier, Greymouth, Picton, Wellington, Napier, Rotorua, Auckland and Waitomo. This 18 day tour can be extended by a 4 day tour to the Bay of Islands. Prices are: from Melbourne \$980.00; Sydney \$948.00; Brisbane \$969.00. Bay of Islands extension \$205.00. This popular tour will be repeated during March/April 1981.
- 5. WESTERN AUSTRALIA AT WILD FLOWER TIME** — Our 18 days tour leaves on 20th October and all travel is by coach except for 2 nights across the Nullarbor by train one way. This is one of our most popular tours and prices are: from Melbourne 1st Rail \$1111(2nd rail \$1070); Adelaide \$984 (943); Sydney \$1143 (1077); Brisbane \$1253 (1187). Pensioners concession is available.
- 6. MIDDLE EAST ADVENTURE TOUR** — Departing on January 1st, this 30 day tour takes us to Bangkok for 4 nights, Jordan 3 nights, Israel 10 nights, Egypt 9 nights, and Singapore 2 nights. Our Group Leader is Tom Paterson, former Director of Road Transport in the Commonwealth Department of Transport. The price is \$2965.00 from Sydney or Melbourne.
- 7. SEE INDONESIA IN DEPTH** — departing March 29th. This tour is really something. We stay in Bali, Salawesi (Makale, Ujung Pandang) Java (Surabaya, Jogjakarta, Bandung and Jakarta) and Singapore. An optional 7 day extension to Malaysia is available. Our leader is Mrs Lois Walker, formerly Lois Hurse who worked with the A.I.M. for many years. The Tour Price is \$1721 from Melbourne or Sydney, and the supplement for the Malaysian extension \$345.00.
- 8. SOUTH EAST ASIA SPECIAL TOUR** — This 14 days tour is designed for the busy person who wants to get away for a short time as well as for the regular tourist. Leaving on April 15th, we visit Kuala Lumpur, Penang, Bangkok with a visit to the Kwai River Bridge and the Prisoner - of - War Cemetery, and Singapore. We will attend the Anzac Day Observance at the Kranji War Memorial, and visit the Changi Chapel. Our leader for this tour is the Rev. Vic. Maddick ED Senior Chaplain (retired), Royal Australian Army. The tour price is \$1188.00 from Melbourne.
- 9. LANDS OF THE BIBLE TOUR** — Our next Lands of the Bible Tour will leave during March, and details will be available shortly. Registrations are now being taken.
- 10. VISIT U.S.A. / CANADA** — Leaving during May this 37 day tour will take us to San Francisco, Seattle, Vancouver, Kamloops, Banff, Yellowstone National Park, Salt Lake City, Toronto, Montreal, New York, Washington, New Orleans, Phoenix, Grand Canyon, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Honolulu etc. Details available shortly, but register now.
- 11. A.C.T.S. / SITMAR CRUISES in beautiful TV FAIRSTAR** — We will have groups on Cruises 62 (Pacific Islands) in March; 64 (Japan and the Orient) in April; 67 (S.E. Asia and the Barrier Reef) in July; 72 (Pacific Island Hopper) in October, and 78 (New Zealand Cruise) in January 1982. Send for details.

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OC6



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(1 Tim. 4:13).

SO

PROSPECT (R. H. Sercombe).
Thanksgiving Day Collection to go to
Madang Christian Centre, P.N.G. \$500
... Kadina Adult Group came to present
play ... C.W.F. held a cooking
demonstration ... A.G.M. elected Presi-
dent R. Groves, Elders D. Pebbeck, A.
Roberts ... S.S. Anniversary held fol-
lowed by tea ... Y.P. visited Royal
Adelaide Hospital to take patients to the
chapel ... Church secretary and organist
in R.A.H. following heart attack.
MARION E.P.C. Hollard). Mrs Joan
Fewster interviewed on "Features at
Five" ... Sympathy to Mrs D. Fenn in
loss of her father ... Senior Men's
Basketball won pennant in D grade ...
Display in church lounge giving the story
of the Reformation in stamps presented
by Vic Leske. A Lutheran Pastor owns the
collection ... Musical group H.I.S.
provided a program ... Minister inter-
viewed Lee Hatcher, editor-in-chief of the
news section of 5 D.N.

TAS

LAUNCESTON (M.D. Hamilton, R.J.
Allison) Miss Elaine De Russett of Zaire
spoke at C.W.E.F. Open night ...
Heather Ferguson spoke at morning
service on the Christian Options program in
schools ... G.J. Foot and A.T. Orr told of
World Convention and American tours at
evening service and church tea.
NUBENA (Cec Neville). Recent
visitors and speakers D. Barker, Bible
Society, and three students and one staff
member of C.O.B. ... 16 of Boys' Brigade
competed in games night at Bellerive ...
Two rose trees planted in church grounds
to commemorate 70 years of guides in Tas
... Men held special Fathers Day Service
with singing and items.

BELMORE (J. A. Rae). Y.P. combined
with Bexley North at camp at Camp
Caney. Denby Holmes led studies ...
David and Lanay West have returned
from Banmatmat Bible College, where
they installed a generator ... Dr Lloyd
Jones has given special series on the
restoration movement ... Special service
for Father's Day, when many men took
part ... Young couple from the basket-
ball team baptised.

CARINGBAH (Brian White). 60 people
attended a four-night Christian Marriage
Enrichment Seminar conducted by Mr
and Mrs White. Course covered husband-
wife relationships, roles, sex, communica-
tions, resolving conflicts and parent-child
relationships ... Members involved in
preparation for Fed. Conf. ... Over \$1500
raised for World Vision during 40-hour
famine ... Faith Promise Missionary Of-
fering for this year \$8,000 ... Board voted
to support new causes with a \$500 gift to
both Darwin, N.T. and Moorebank,
N.S.W. ... Board reviewing current
programs and community trends with a
view to planning future strategies.

VIC

SWANSTON STREET, MELBOURNE (A Webb, B. Morton, P. Mason). 350 saw gospel film at evening service . . . Six recent additions including married couple from Indonesia and four Malaysian students . . . Repainting church exterior under way. Renovations and repainting commenced in area beneath the church . . . Half night of prayer held to pray for appointment of a Christian Education Director . . . Living Circle Choir preparing for presentation of gospel musical.

BENDIGO (S. Curkpatrick) Mr and Mrs Keatch and Elizabeth farewelled. Appreciation of ministry expressed by representatives of various auxiliaries and ministers fraternal . . . S. Curkpatrick to minister until arrival of G. Wegner in 1981 . . . Helen Banks, State Pres. of C.W.F. recent speaker, with about 70 people from Central and Northern Conf.

NUNAWADING (E. C. Keating, P. B. Burnham, C. H. J. Wright). Couples Communication Course by Frank Horwill conducted in Pastoral Care Centre . . . Tiny Tots Toy Library commenced . . . Church families being photographed and displayed on a Personalities Board for identification . . . Junior C Netball team and Section 6 Tennis team premiers . . . Bulletin titled "On Cue" being distributed among Young Marrieds, Playgroups and Toy Library contacts . . . Peter and Pearl Sumner guests at C.W.A.F. . . . Fiesta Gospel Service held . . . Renovations at Springfield Road complete . . . Guests at Gateway Services includes Agape, Trilogy and Ken Gnanakan. Coffee shop followed . . . "Unhitched" held snowtrip . . . C.Y.F. assisted at North Melbourne Mission . . . Alan West appointed Director Aborigines Arts Board of the Australian Council . . . Roslyn West studying in Japan . . . Trevor Wakefield won Maths Competition.

KNOXFIELD (E. L. Williams) Annual Meeting told of 60 communicants weekly . . . Four decisions recently . . . Several new families now attending and membership has reached mid-nineties . . . Church has donated over \$600 to Africa Relief Appeal.

SPRINGVALE (Reg Combridge) Mrs May Wilson celebrated her 95th birthday at a party given by the ladies. She has now moved with her family to Tootgarook . . . Sympathy extended to family of Mrs Constance Sheehan, who passed on recently . . . Men's Fellowship painted S.S. hall . . . Midweek fellowship resumed after school holidays . . . South Yarra Singing Group sang at recent evening service . . . Young lady made her decision at recent evening service.

ARARAT (A.E. Stevens) Drought broke for Ararat. At August 24 morning service young man committed life to Lord. He and a married woman were baptised that night. Also that night, three married couples, separately committed their lives. They have also been baptised . . . Program of visitation by church leaders using an audio visual. Families visited in their homes.

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Ambrosia

by Chris Ambrose

UTOPIA

This issue is the one that comes out in the middle of the Federal Conference. Here many from the Brotherhood will be sharing and learning of our dreams for the future of the Brotherhood. Many see the 1980's as a time of growth through evangelism and already aspects of a "Strategy for the 80's" have been worked through.

Each person has their own dreams of the perfect society. We as Christians look forward to the time when God's rule will be fully acknowledged by all people and that the Kingdom of God will be seen in its complete fullness.

Throughout the Bible there are dreams of the future that we can look forward to and which we should be striving to reach now although we must also be realistic and realise that evil is still an active force against us today. Think of the vision of Isaiah and his dream of the wolf and the lamb lying down together. Ezekiel had a magnificent dream of the new Jerusalem. John had the extensive vision of the victory of the lamb that would occur but only after a time of great trial.

As Christians we also have to warn as did the prophets and Jesus that the coming day that we are so looking forward to is a day of judgement as well. The results of this perfecting of the world will astonish some people. We need to warn people that they need to be right in their relationship with God or their conduct and thoughts will judge them.

We are caught in the dual aspect then of our utopia as Christians. On the one hand we look forward to the return

of Christ and the glory associated with that event and yet on the other hand we must acknowledge that evil is still present and fighting the powers of good that God has given to us even now.

Many people have had a dream of what they would like their society to be like. At the moment in the middle of an election campaign we have several dreams of the type of society we could have in Australia to choose between. None of these dreams will be perfect because in many of them God is not considered.

Words attributed to Robert Kennedy (I think) have been a great motivation to me over the years. He said "Most people see things as they are and ask 'Why?' I see things as they could be and ask 'Why not?'"

Another dream that tremendously moved me was that set out by Martin Luther King in his "I have a dream..." speech where he looked forward to the freedom and equality of all people especially his own people the American Negroes. How much are we Christians sharing that equality we know, that freedom we know in Christ? Do we show this by our actions and do we know the living reality of this great truth in our lives?

As many gather at Federal Conference and as we in the churches look at the implications of the discussions that will occur between the leaders in various areas let us encourage the dreamers to work towards the establishments of their utopias when these will encourage the people of God and deepen our understanding of the coming kingdom of God.

THE LAST WORD

No one has the right to take for granted his own advantages over others in health, in talents, in ability, in success, in a happy childhood or congenial home conditions. One must pay a price for all these boons. What one owes in return is a special responsibility for other lives.

Albert Schweitzer

EVIL SPEAKING

O! the world! the world!
All ear and eye; and such a stupid heart,
To interpret ear and eye; and such a wicked tongue,
To blare its own interpretation!

— Mrs. Browning.

★ ★ ★

A small country church had raised some money, so the members called a meeting to determine how to spend it.

One member was emphatic in stating her case that the money should be used in buying a new chandelier. An old man, sitting in the back, was much opposed to it.

Finally the woman arose and said, "Brother Jones, would you mind to give me, one good reason why we shouldn't spend the money for a new chandelier?"

Brother Jones got up slowly, and said calmly, "Yes, I'll give you three. First, nobody can spell it so you can order it. Second, nobody can play it. Third, we need better light."

★ ★ ★



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