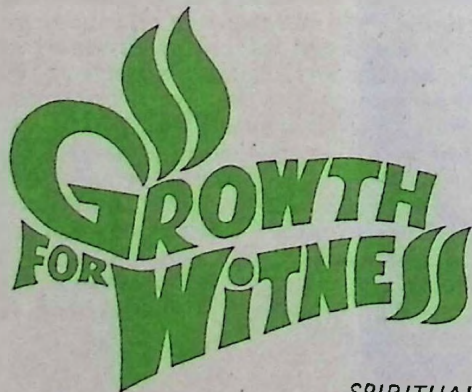


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*SPIRITUAL AND
NUMERICAL GROWTH
THROUGH WORD
AND DEED*



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ON MY MIND

THINKING OF MOVING? TO THE INNER CITY?

Brian Tunks

Brian Tunks is a member of the ministry team in the COCIAC area. (Churches of Christ Inner Areas Churches). He is studying at the College of the Bible. He is suggesting that God could be calling contemporary missionaries to leave their homes and settle in inner city areas to do the Lord's work there.

Have you ever thought of the inner city as a mission? . . . Probably not. No doubt you have driven through it coming into the city and perhaps not even given it a second thought. Or maybe you have seen the high-rise flats and wondered how people can live there.

Salt of the Earth

I live here now and sometimes I still wonder. I wonder so much about how they live, perhaps exist is a better word. But how can I, a Christian, be "salt" here?

In many ways the inner city is another country, another culture, yet it is more. It is the world of the modern day tax collector, leper and Samaritan. The people Jesus found to be good company . . . strange about that.

It is also simultaneously the home of great wealth and abject poverty, the powerful and the powerless, the oppressor and the oppressed. It is also the uncomfortable environment of many including some compassionate Christians who see that the grace of God must shine and that human dignity is important within the barrenness of this concrete wilderness.

Fools for Christ's Sake

Being a missionary here is no vocation for anyone who wants wealth, power or prestige. Paul wrote that he and his fellow missionaries were "fools for Christ's sake . . . weak and held in disrepute . . . ill-clad, buffeted and homeless." Things have not changed all that much.

To be "salt" here will cost, but what worthwhile thing does not? You will have to give up the power and some of the privileges of living in an affluent society. You have to be free from the need to dominate and achieve overnight results and that is not easy. But it is the way of the Christ whose power and dignity were so savagely violated on the cross. This self same Christ said that the Kingdom of God is to be found amongst the poor (Luke 6:20) and these poor are to be found virtually on our doorstep.

Poverty in Life Options

Their poverty is not necessarily monetary or in possessions, but it is really in "life options". We can move in and move out, they cannot. Socially, psychologically, educationally most are effectively imprisoned. Those who have initiative move up and out. Those who remain often become the very least in society.

What does it mean to be a Christian here? It means to be a servant, a brother but not a father. Someone who signs an invisible social contract of solidarity, to stand with and be taught by the locals. It means giving up some of our most cherished assumptions theologically, educationally and sociologically. It means mental turmoil, tension and re-orientation. It means ultimately integrity, relevance and hope that is not paralysed by the daunting immensity of the pervading defeatism of the inner city.

People Like You

It means people like you who are called by God, not Super-Christians, but people who want to care and have no fear of being seen as real people, warts and all.

Victoria-Tasmania — MISSIONS EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

NEW MOVE FOR INNER CITY

Ian Corlett feels a strong commitment to Melbourne's inner city and believes God is calling him into a new venture. After nearly eight years at Ascot Vale where the church has experienced significant renewal, Ian plans to minister in the Kensington Housing Commission high rise flats from January, 1982. Currently there is no established congregation to work with him. The project will be known as the Kensington Christian Network. This community is one where there are many stark social and spiritual needs. The venture is being backed by the Department as a part of its inner suburban ministry. Groups and individuals have committed themselves to substantial gifts for an initial two year period. A further \$4500 needs to be found to underwrite the project in its first year.

Progress in Churches

The new churches at Werribee, Gisborne and Dandenong North are showing progress. The three ministers have each been invited to accept further terms. During the year a large new site has been acquired at Werribee. At Ulverstone, Robert Drown commences a full time ministry in January. The Department's Tasmanian resources will be fully committed to assist in this project in 1982-1983. During a period without ministerial leadership the work has been well maintained. The church faces 1982 with expectancy.



NEW TRAINING COURSES COMMENDED

Doug Adam, the Department's Deputy Chairman, has worked during 1981 with a team of Department members and staff to prepare a new series of training courses for church members. He commends the courses to churches. Doug knows something of local needs from his experience as an elder and board chairman at Wattle Park and from his meetings with church boards as a Department member. The first of the courses *People Care*, written by Louis van Laar, minister of Montrose church, is now in use among a number of churches. There are six training sessions designed for use in local or regional groups. Provision is made for practice and study between sessions. The course is designed to train an effective team of church members to participate in pastoral care. Three additional courses on the themes of *Worship, Churches of Christ*, and *Lay Visitation Evangelism* will be ready by early 1982.

Wide Interest

Department staff have co-operated with the C.W.F. Executive to produce a series of Bible Study leaflets. With the wide interest evidenced a further series will be available in 1982. Field Director Ian Tippett is preparing a study program for use prior to Easter 1982. The four-part study is from John's Gospel and examines events and personalities of the Last Week. The Department's educational services program is currently geared to a major focus on study and training for service. In 1982-83 new moves will be progressively initiated in family ministry and related areas.



YOUTH MINISTRY VITAL

Each year hundreds of young people are involved in camping and adventure programs as diverse as rock-climbing, ski-touring, bushwalking, canoeing, study and youth leadership training. Seen here is a group of younger secondary school campers having reached *The Pinnacle* at Hall's Gap during the August vacation camp. Young people are challenged about faith, discipleship and service issues through the many activities provided. A high priority is being given to youth ministry in the '80s. Field Director Jeff Deuble and the State Youth Ministry Committee are currently planning important changes and new initiatives for youth work in Victorian and Tasmanian churches in 1982-83.

Photos — R. Potty and D. Morfow

Christmas Bowl helps Refugees

Through the **Christmas Bowl**, Australian churches participate in a world wide program of assistance and resettlement for refugees. The latest figures show that in 1981 there are 12,645,000 refugees in the world with Africa accounting for half of this total. Over half the refugees in Africa are people who have fled or are displaced within Ethiopia.

It has been estimated that only 5% of the 12.6 million refugees have been forced to flee through natural causes.

Priority for Russians

Priority for refugee work funded by the Christmas Bowl is the Australian Council of Churches resettlement program in Australia. During 1981, the ACC has assisted 630 people resettle in Australia. Almost half have been Russian refugees who have lived in China since fleeing the Soviet Union in 1919. In China more than 1000 Russians hold visas for entry to Australia. There are a further 2000 waiting to receive visas. A number of those arriving are elderly and are cared for at the Russian Old People's Home run by the ACC in the Sydney suburb of Strathfield.

Others resettled in Australia by the ACC during 1981 have included Assyrians and Armenians from Greece, Rumanians, Vietnamese and Iraqis.

The ACC has also assisted the recently arrived Indo-Chinese communities through grants to the Lao Association and Khmer Community in Sydney for community

workers and assistance to the Vietnamese Association of Queensland and the Perth Asian Community Centre.

Assistance to Eritrea, Botswana and Uganda

Grants to assist refugees in Eritrea, Botswana and Uganda were approved by a recent special meeting. A grant of \$10,000 for emergency relief supplies was made to the Eritrean Relief Committee and the ACC agreed to join with Austcare and Australian Catholic Relief in backing a submission to the Australian Government for a \$200,000 grant for assistance to Eritrea. A \$5,000 grant to the refugee discretionary fund of the Quaker Peace and Service program in Botswana was also approved.

In response to a request from the All Africa Conference of Churches to assist Uganda students expelled from the Makerere University, the ACC has made a grant of \$15,000 towards the provision of food, clothing and shelter for the refugee students. The ACC is also approaching the Australian Government for funds to assist the refugee students to continue their studies in other African universities.

TAS

LAUNCESTON (M.D. Hamilton, R. J. Allison). L. Cripps elected Evening Women's Fellowship President and C. Heier President of Afternoon C.W.F. at annual meetings ... First baptism from Little Church program held on October 25 ... Church annual meeting followed a family lunch after morning service. G. Harrison elected and G. J. Foot and P. Arnot re-elected to church board ... Ladies attended Community Day service at Salvation Army Citadel on October 26.

NSW

BURWOOD (R. A. Powell). October mission emphasis featured Neville Chamberlain (W. E. C., Hong Kong), John Twydale (S. I. M., Sudan), Bob Whan (Churches of Christ, ex-P.N.G.), Roy Ferguson and Robynne Walsham (O.M.F., Japan).

Calvin Lucas (Gospel Recordings) spoke at missionary breakfast October 17 — catered for by church men — Faith promise slips received October 25 totalled \$8537 ... Minister and member Harry Quick attended the Bethel Bible Study Orientation course.

WA

ALBANY (Dan Lundgren). Mini mission (Des Nelson preacher) was a wonderful time of revival, resulting in nine decisions and three rededications. Baptismal service held Oct. 18. All received into fellowship ... Bremer Bay camp a great time of family worship. Bible study and fun on beach were highlights ... Home Bible studies on James being held until early December.

SCARBOROUGH (Leroy Randall, Fred Hay). 100 folk enjoyed family camp. Theme 'Prayer', Graham Laycock speaker ... John Samuel, pastor/evangelist from Southern India, gave an impressive report of work in that area ... Neville Cooper, Director of O.M.F. in Australia, told of "Mindora", and its needs ... Times of great blessing at mid-week Bible study/prayer meetings ... Tim Winton won joint first prize in National Literary Competition.

VIC

YORK ST., BALLARAT (R. A. Risson). Seminar held by Jeff Deuble. Formation of Youth Council resulted ... Church held day of prayer on Oct. 3 ... Board members held planning day on Oct. 10

... Church anniversary guest speaker Ron Brooker, current President of Conference. Services included participation of newly formed church choir and Tricia Winterbottom. Church family luncheon held that day ... Recent speakers Paul Dimitrou, Mission to Communist Lands and Cliff Dredge, Bible Soc.

ASHBURTON (K. Ridge, R. Frazer). One baptism and one addition by transfer in September ... Companionship Centre celebrated first anniversary with a luncheon ... Annual meeting decision to commence services at 10.30 a.m. ... Appreciation expressed to Verd White on conclusion of many years' service on the board ... Visiting speakers Dr Bowes, L. L. Smith and Peter Clayton ... Church anniversary George Warren morning speaker and P.S.A. with Berwick's Sugar and Salt.

BAYSWATER (R. Cambridge). C.W.F. recently participated in service ... Also Explorers participated in recent service ... Church anniversary well attended ... Home Bible study near completion for 1981.

THE PATCH (Len Martin). Generous anonymous donation given to manse fund ... Lance & Enid Fisher involved in Aborigines Mission work and because of this Lance is unable to continue as church elder. The officers' board accepted his resignation with deep regret. Church thanks them for their work over the past years ... Alan and Thelma Bell received into church fellowship by transfer from Warrnambool.

1981 Christmas Bowl

The theme of this year's Christmas Bowl is one of hope. On the posters and envelopes there is an extract from a Filipino poem:

Someday
all our dreams will come to be.

Someday in a world
where people are free.
Maybe not in time for you
and me.
But someday ... at
Christmas.

A feature this year is material produced especially for use in parish papers.

CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION

The following C.P.E. Courses are available for 1982-83.

Feb. 22nd-7th May — Applications close 30th November 1981.

Sept. 13th-26th Nov. — Applications close 30th June 1982.

Nov. 29th-11th Feb. 1983 — Applications close 30th Sept. 1982.

For further information please contact:

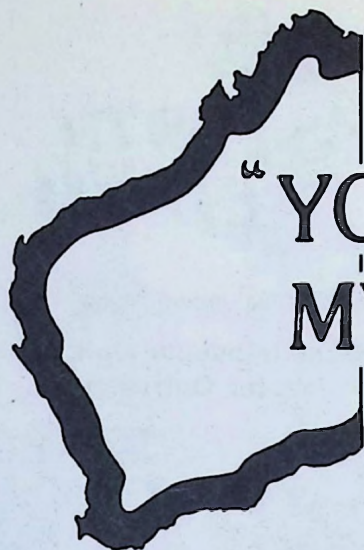
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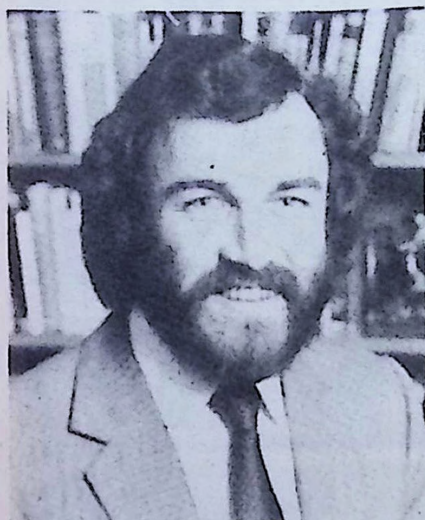


"YOU SHALL BE MY WITNESSES"

----- Jesus Acts 1:8

NEW MINISTRIES FOR OUR 1982 WITNESS

BULL CREEK PHIL. BRADLEY



Bull Creek church began with a house meeting, July 1976. The first Sunday worship was celebrated the following October.

Home Missions had already called Alan Fletcher (March '76) to minister in this developing suburbia; he commenced Feb. '77 with initial full salary subsidy.

Meetings moved from homes to Rossmoyne High School, then to Willetton H.S.

Early '81 Alan took up RAAF chaplaincy.

The church is an active community witness. It shares with other communions in Communicare and the District Council for Christian service to Schools.

Phil. will find a church flexible, keen and ready to accept leads. About 65 adults and 40 children worship each Sunday.

There are hundreds of new homes nearby the church site. That site awaits the first stage of building "When?" is yet to be answered.

A manse has just been purchased.

Phil. graduates from the College of the Bible to take up this important ministry.

In the early seventies Sunday services began in Balga as a branch work from Nollamara. A little later a building was erected on land acquired from the State Housing Commission.

Balga church became self-governing and appointed John Bolton as minister, 1976.

Financial struggles led to Home Missions' subsidy assistance (presently \$85 per week). The area of ministerial responsibility was extended to the East Morley-Noranda area to the east where there is an undeveloped church site in the midst of hundreds of homes in the building.

John Spencer, N.S.W. College graduate and former Coles Stores manager, will take over the leadership next year. His student ministry at Moorebank, a new Sydney suburb, will have been helpful experience for his new enterprising.

Balga attendances on Sunday morning have been between 50 and 60. Services were held some years ago at East Morley and efforts will be made to recommence in the new Noranda school.

BALGA-NORANDA JOHN SPENCER



STATE EVANGELIST BILL GAUNSON



Initial appointment is for three years.

Bill will be available to any church in Australia for a crusade-mission, and additionally to W.A. churches for short term leadership ministries either alongside and supplementary to a present ministry or in a new or small church; training of members, groups and ministers in evangelism and witness; and to consult with a church to evaluate, analyse and develop with that church appropriate strategies for evangelistic witness.

Anticipated budget for a full year including travel is estimated at 1982 prices at \$22,500. Initial removal and establishment costs will exceed \$4,000.

A manse in the suburb of Thornlie 18kms south of Perth and which with improvements is expected to cost \$40,000 has been purchased for the State Evangelist and his family.

"Attempt great things for God and expect great things from God."

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

106 TH.

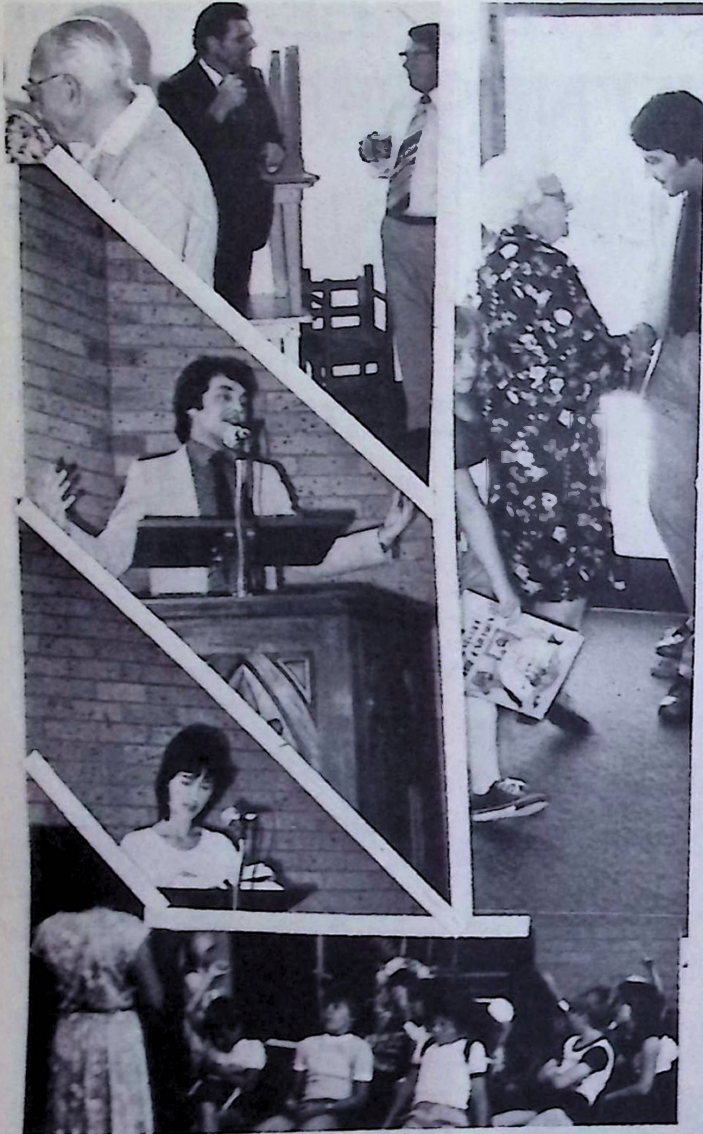
OFFERING FOR EVANGELISM

CELEBRATING



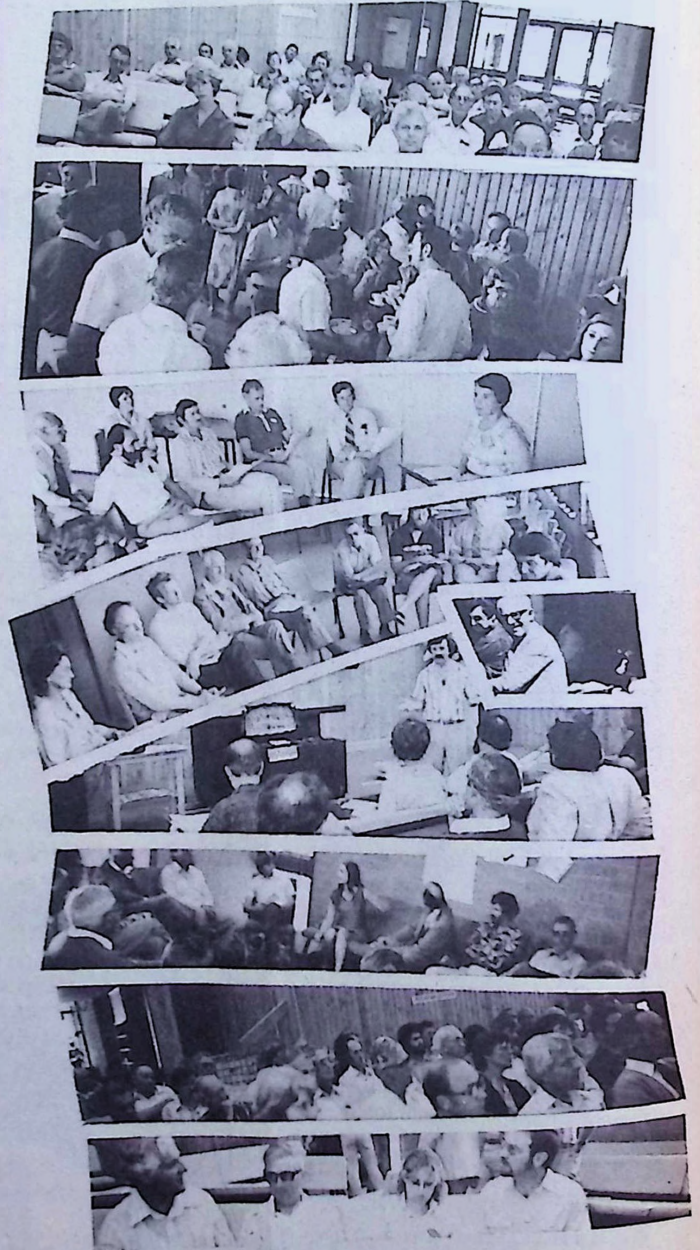
Spiritual and numerical growth through word and deed.

Home Missions is people working with people for Outreach.



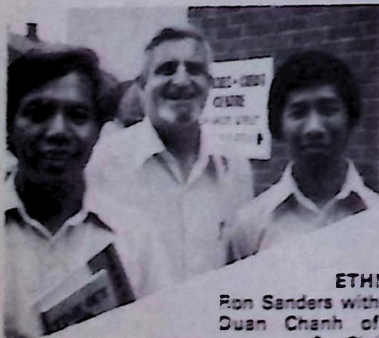
Salisbury East

Major Home Missions Project in 1981 with full Ministry Subsidy.



Seminar

EXPLODING THE CHURCH INTO THE COMMUNITY



ETHNIC EVANGELISM
Ron Sanders with Nguyen Thi of Los Angeles and Duan Chanh of Sydney visiting Vietnamese Christians in Adelaide.

FORMULA FOR DEVELOPMENT

H.M.
+ D.C.E.
+ D.M.W.
= D.C.D.



In June, 1981 Conference accepted a new formula for church development. It is called the Department of Church Development and Education (D.C.D.).

This new department brings together the former Departments of Home Missions and Evangelism (H.M.), Christian Education (D.C.E.) and Men's Work (D.M.W.).

Its commission is to provide a complete approach to church development. The work of the previous departments will continue through the D.C.D. only in a more co-ordinated way. As one department, the possibilities and resources for new initiatives in development will be greater than before.

DEVELOPING NEW CHURCHES

The D.C.D. will be continually monitoring population developments in N.S.W. Its aim will be to plant new churches in growth centres, as they grow. It will co-ordinate local and Brotherhood resources so that the baby church will grow with the community.

DEVELOPING EXISTING CHURCHES

The D.C.D. will provide a complete resource package to help local churches minister effectively — in Worship — Christian Education — Evangelism — and in its Caring Ministry within the membership and the local community.

Through its executive and field staff the Department will provide —

- Assessments of church life and ministry.
- Research into ministry areas and needs.
- Advice on principles and strategy.
- Ongoing assistance in motivating, training and enabling church members in the work of the ministry.

DEVELOPING THE TOTAL FAMILY

This Brotherhood of Churches of Christ is a family. The D.C.D. is concerned for its development too. During the past years a vital programme of Children's and Youth Camps has been developed by the former D.C.E. This will continue.

So will the valuable work of the Men's Department. The D.C.D. will be sponsoring regular events designed to promote fellowship, leadership development and personal growth for men. In addition, the new Department will be introducing events and experiences that will increase our sense of togetherness, and our effectiveness in ministry. The Bookroom and Resource Centre will continue to provide valuable service as part of the D.C.D.

TOWARDS 2000

As we move into the last two decades of this century, we need a structure that maximises our spiritual, human and material resources. The Department of Church Development and Education aim to provide this. But it needs YOUR help. It needs YOUR prayers. "Except the Lord builds the house they labour in vain that built it". (Ps. 127: 1).

D.C.D. IS OUR FORMULA FOR CHURCH DEVELOPMENT

CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN N.S.W. DEPARTMENT OF CHURCH DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



Executive Director is Bob Smith. In the early 1970s Bob had a pioneering ministry at Mt. Drullit, during which time the Church grew from an original handful of members to around one hundred. He was Field Officer for the former Department of Home Missions and Evangelism, and more recently Community Services Co-ordinator for the Social Service Department. Bob's responsibility is the overall administration and co-ordination of the new department.



Field Director, Paul Cameron. Paul comes to us fresh from a ministry at Thornleigh. Prior to that he helped pioneer the new Church at Castle Hill, which today has a thriving congregation. Paul has had considerable experience in Young People's work. He will be in charge of youth work, young people's camps, and be a resource to churches in the areas of outreach and stewardship.



Field Director, Judy Gordon. Judy is well known throughout N.S.W. Churches of Christ as a skilled and resourceful children's worker. As Assistant Director of the former D.C.E. she developed the highly successful Mini Midgets and Go Group Camps, and helped churches develop effective children's ministries. She will continue to do this, as well as providing resources for the church's internal growth.

OPEN FORUM

Correspondence to Open Forum limited to 150 words.

A TRIBUTE

To the Editor,

I heard the other day that a close friend had died. Ron Mutzelburg was Secretary of the church at Kedron during the time Helen and I ministered there. His death was a deep personal loss. Ron and Vida Mutzelburg were part of a leadership team at Kedron that deliberately set out to make our first ministry a happy one. We are more grateful to those who made up this team than we will ever be able to express. Their love and friendship convinced us that ministry, despite its difficulties, could be a rewarding experience.

Ron's death alerted us to the fact that we haven't got forever to speak our appreciation of their care.

— Graeme Chapman
(Ballarat, Vic.)

WOMEN IN MINISTRY

To the Editor,

The ministry of women has come under attack in recent letters with Paul's words being the most frequently quoted as justification. Paul was a Jew and some of his attitudes reflected the traditions and culture of his era. But Paul also said that those who were baptised into Christ were one with him, and that in Christ there is no male and female (Galatians 3:26-28).

He in fact commended Phoebe, a deaconess of the church at Cenchrææ, urging the Romans to receive her in the Lord and uphold her (Romans 16:1-2).

In 1 Cor. 11:5-13 Paul expressly acknowledges the right of women to take part in public worship.

However my strongest conviction for having women in the ministry comes from witnessing our own minister as she responds to God's call by ministering to those within the church and in the wider community. Margaret Burrage (Traralgon, Vic.).

RICH AND POOR

To the Editor,

Alan Austin states ("A.C." Sept.) that the rich are getting richer and the poor are becoming poorer. For one I agree with him. The rich are becoming richer. But I also believe that the poor are becoming richer. Poverty is measured by that standard of living one is able to afford and not by some theoretical standard.

I lived under the pre-war standard of living and when I compare it with that of our present unemployed and pensioners I am "green with envy".

We were very poor materially, but we were happy because we had the attitude of Jesus to material things. He said, "A man's life consists not in the things he possesseth." Paul wrote, "Godliness with contentment is great gain" and "I have learned in whatsoever state I am therewith to be content". Hebrews 13:5 says, "Let your conversation be without covetousness and be content with such things as you have."

It seems to me that Alan Austin's articles are stirring up discontent and covetousness between people. Fancy comparing the poor, the halt and the blind of Isaiah's and Jesus' day with the abundance of today's unemployed and pensioners.

— R. D. Clark (Chinchilla, Qld.)

FEDERAL CONFERENCE LOGO

To the Editor,

I have taken notice of the Federal Conference logo displayed in "A.C." September 5. I understood that a logo was meant to pass a message to the receiver. I ask, what do people expect when they see the illustration of two naked bodies under a fountain, and the title "Count it all Joy". Count what all joy? It seems to me that the logo reaches the base instincts of fallen human nature rather than revealing our salvation in Christ.

I appreciate that the fountain is a feature of Adelaide, but I thought that the church is the "body of Christ" and he should be revealed. To me it is a disgrace to God's name and all he has done, to have a logo that contains the message that this portrays.

— John Bolton (Girrawheen, W.A.).

MISSION OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

To the Editor,

Some comments on a couple of the arguments used by the Editor.

The appeal to the outside world's attitude to women is irrelevant. The 'outside world' is heading towards destruction, so is hardly a guide to Christian thinking. On the other hand, Christians are heading towards perfection (1 Pet 5:10), partly through obedience to God's laws.

The 'expediency' argument is dangerous. If after 2000 years we can dismiss parts of the Bible as irrelevant, in time we will be able to ignore the lot.

The 'principle' of equality cannot be taken out of context with other principles, especially 'obedience'. If an interpretation of a rule leads to breaking another, the interpretation is at least incomplete, if not wrong.

God's laws are those of the perfect society and are for our benefit (Deut. 10:13). We do not have to understand them or be able to explain from (Prov. 3:5), just obey. Jesus equates obedience with love (John 14:21).

Christians collectively and individually have 'mission(s)' (Rom. 8:28). It may be without benefit of title or even knowledge, but it will be consistent with the rules.

— P. J. Fletcher (Cheltenham, S.A.).

(No-one is suggesting dismissing parts of the Bible; but rather understanding their relevance in the contemporary situation. Ed.)

WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

To the Editor,

As a grandmother I endorse the "Page 13" article ("A.C." Sept. 5). In the early church, as need arose people were appointed; apostles, deacons, and elders. I see no problem then

about having one or two women elders, not to usurp the place of men, but to complement them in meeting the needs of women in the church, especially in these days of tangled marriages and other problems.

I agree that in the days of the Corinthian letters, women could have been speaking out of turn because of lack of education. But the strong statement of Galatians 3:38 means no race limit, no status limit and no sex limit. It is simply the availability and willingness of the sanctified person to be used by God for his purpose.

I admit that there are some areas of service in and out of the church where men do better than women, and honour must be given to those to whom honour is due.

— (Mrs) D. Dallinger (Mt. Colah, N.S.W.)

(This letter has been abbreviated to conform with the 150 word limit. Ed.)

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

BITTER-SWEET

To the Editor,

While I was waiting for church to start I was reading Revelation chapter 10. It was about the voice telling John to eat the little book. You didn't say no to a voice that thundered like that. So John ate the book. Just as well it was a little book! Strangely it tasted sweet like honey in his mouth. But when it got down into his stomach there was all sorts of trouble, and no wonder!

I'm not sure what it all means; the sweet taste of the book in the mouth and the bitter taste in the belly (to use biblical language). But it does describe my experience of the gospel.

The sweet bit for me is to know that for some reason best known to him, God loves me and accepts me, faults and all. It is to know that Jesus Christ stays my friend even though most of the time I forget him. It is to know that the Holy Spirit makes it possible for things to happen in my family and in our church that continually surprise me. And perhaps sweetest of all is that the church with all its faults and mine thrown in as well, is a warm, wonderful, supporting family.

The bitter bit is having to go the second mile and to turn the other cheek and to keep my temper intact, and praying when I don't feel like it, and stewardship and going to church on cold (or hot) nights and trying to overcome my shyness and embarrassment when people find out that I'm a Christian.

But it seems from the Book of Revelation that we have to take the whole package, the bitter with the sweet. And who am I to argue with scripture?

Yours thankfully (most of the time),

TERTIUS

BIG CHURCHES, LITTLE CHURCHES

Only 25% of our churches in Australia have more than 100 members. (W.A., 46%; S.A., 30%; Vic.-Tas., 23%; N.S.W., 14%; Q., 19%.) We have a lot of small churches.

This leaves room for the cynic who wonders why God always seems to call the most capable ministers to the largest and most successful churches. It could be, of course, that some of them were quite small when the capable ministers first started in them.

Church Builders Wanted

We have observed churches at work when calling a minister. Rightly they make their first approaches to ministers in the top drawer and work their way further down. Their efforts to get a top person have nothing to do with the quality and Christian commitment of our ministers, who without exception are committed Christians of real quality. But they do not all have equal ministry ability.

What churches are looking for is ministers with charisma, preaching ability, leadership skills, pastoral diligence, drive, imagination, ability to motivate the laity and the capacity to get new people into the church. And the big churches seem mostly to get the ablest ministers, in these respects.

Big Churches Attract

Able ministers are not attracted by bigness itself, but by the opportunities that most big churches offer them to use their gifts and skills. Most big churches are big because they are open to imaginative and creative leadership and because the ever present obstructionists do not get so much say in a big church.

Meanwhile smaller churches languish for want of outstanding leadership. Some of them for reasons of history or geography or demography or personality will never grow whatever their leadership. It would seem good strategy in some of these cases to liquidate their assets in real estate and personnel and redeploy them elsewhere in the kingdom.

Some Could "Take Off"

But some of these smaller churches could "take off" if they could get the sort of leadership that is usually attracted to larger churches.

This is probably where Home Mission Departments could take some initiatives, as indeed some have. It would not be possible to place a top leader into every Home Mission subsidised church, although it would pay in the long run to do so. But it would be possible for each Home Mission Department to have five or ten year plans for the development of certain small churches in key areas of inner city, middle suburbs, outer suburbs and strategic country centres.

Mobilise the Brotherhood

Brotherhood imagination, resources and publicity could be injected into such areas, backed solidly by informed prayer. It could be made worth while for some of our top leaders to accept ministry in such churches. By worth while, we do not only mean in terms of salary and allowances and manse and conditions. We mean that such ministers would be assured of an unhampered free hand to develop the work, unhindered by small

● Continued on page 17

CAN YOU HELP?



NEEDS:

1. Carnarvon — 2 couples for child care — URGENT
2. Norseman — 1 couple for Christian Centre — URGENT
3. Fairhaven — 1 mature, single worker — lady — URGENT
4. Eldsvold — 1 lady for Office — URGENT
5. Mareeba — 1 mature, single worker
6. Other staff for an expanding work.
7. Norseman — 1 mechanic, diesel and petrol.

QUALIFICATIONS:-

1. A deep personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour
2. Love for and a willingness to share faith with the Aboriginal people of Australia.
3. An ability to live with and work in close proximity to others.
4. A willingness to care for children.
5. A strong sense of the call of the Lord to this work.

Are you retired? Have you considered that the Lord can use you in the work among our Aborigines?

Further information obtainable from:-

The Federal Secretary,
Churches of Christ Federal Aborigines Mission
Board Inc.,

26 MARRADONG ST., MT LAWLEY, W.A. 6050

PHONE 444 3672



The De Garmo and Key Band: THIS AIN'T HOLLYWOOD (Lamb & Lion LLC-1051)

De Garmo and Key are also a rock band within the Christian contemporary sphere. They have a good, hard sound, almost Doobie Brothers-ish in parts. The songs are about commitment, Jesus' return, his love, the changes he makes in a Christian's life and the fact that he is the light of the world. The themes are traditional, but their presentation certainly isn't. It is '80's rock. It is interesting that a lot of Christian rock is coming out of the U.S. It is interesting mainly because it is uncompromising in its lyrics within the rock idiom, but also because we don't really seem to have a REAL Christian rock "scene" in Australia. Is it because we're frightened - or just out of date??? "Hollywood" is an excellent example of a modern day youth-witnessing tool, we need more like it. (Best tracks: When He Comes Back, Never Be the Same, Love is all You Need.)

Daniel Amos: HORRENDOUS DISC (Solid Rock SRA 2011)

This is another "Larry Norman presentation" and it's rock! Unfortunately however, like most of Solid Rock releases, it's been sitting around for some time waiting to be released. By its release time, D.A. had left the label and another album is out in

the U.S. All that aside, this is a great 1-p. Daniel Amos is a band, and they start the album off with a heavy-rocker, although the album does settle back into a very British sound (a la Electric Light Orchestra?). As usual with Solid Rock releases, the album would be a suitable gift to a non-Christian rock music lover. The songs can be excellent discussion starters. I mean even their titles could start a debate (consider "Near sighted girl with approaching TIDAL WAVE"!!!) Nothing is mentioned of the band's musical break-up or instruments, but the music speaks enough - they are traditional rock band, guitars, keyboards and drums. Best tracks - Hound of Heaven, Horrendous Disc, I Believe in You. (Get the album, before it gets you!)

DEAR IS THE LIFE by A. W. Grundy (\$6.50 from the author, 12 Wilson's Rd., St Martin's, Christchurch 2, New Zealand.)

Many veteran ministers who have had colourful and successful ministries over long years have had urgings from others to write a book about their adventures in ministry. Most have shunned such a retirement chore. Not so Arthur Grundy. He has put together 100 pages of history, anecdote, humour, pathos and photos to tell a lively and interesting story. Even those who have not known Arthur and Daisy would find it entertaining reading. From Gisborne (N.Z.) Arthur went to the College of the Bible where he was contemporary with Dick Maiden, Laurie Trezise, Keith Jones and Will Atkin. From College he went to his involvement in 50 years of ministry in New Zealand, where today he is a surprisingly young looking 'father in the faith. His son Clive is the Dunedin minister. His daughter Jean is married to Palmerston North minister David Brown. His family are all active in the church. It is the sort of book that you buy for an enjoyable read and with confidence pass on to others to share your joy.

Christian family

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SOUNDS LIKE JESUS.

"In so far as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren you did it to me". Mat. 25:40.

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Your own children too will benefit by learning to relate to an under privileged child overseas. They will love to exchange letters, drawings and photos. You can more easily teach them to pray and encourage them to give in a meaningful way. Beyond this God will reward you abundantly. (Lu. 6:38)

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Address _____

State _____ Postcode _____

Objectives Achieved in Vanuatu

Bruce and Lyn Pederson with their two boys Michael and Stephen, returned to Adelaide from Vanuatu after serving there since January 1979. Their specific ministry in Vanuatu was to establish a carpentry workshop program at the Londua School on Aoba. The Overseas Mission Board expresses sincere appreciation to Lyn and Bruce.

In their final newsletter they advised how their objectives were achieved. "At the beginning of our time here we committed to God two broad objectives. The first objective was to see a ministry of discipleship training, trusting the promise of Jesus to give us 'fruit that remains.' The second objective was to establish an effective technical program. As a testimony to the faithfulness of our Lord we have seen the fulfilment of these objectives. There are a number of young people that we have had the privilege of working with who have shown evident growth and are showing signs of being established. In a recent exercise in testimony writing it was a blessing to read testimonies giving glory to God for changed lives, broken habits, and a new power for living.

It has been good to observe the growth in our workshop program. The standard of work has been high and students have acquired useful skills. It is anticipated that a replacement couple from Australia will arrive in the new year. Meanwhile Charlesworth and Graham continue in their training as instructors and will 'hold the fort'. We are planning to bring Chralesworth and Graham to Australia for 12 months extra training during 1983. The workshop program has proved to be more than valuable as a means of opening the door to other ministries.

In our first year here, God gave us a promise from Isaiah 55:13. God promises to give trees of permanence and usefulness in place of weeds. In the spiritual context we are seeing that promise fulfilled here. God has promised that this will be 'an everlasting sign.' Please join us in prayer that this promise will continue to be fulfilled, and that these young people we leave behind will be like these trees.

Lyn and I would like to pass on to you all our thanks for your kindness to us over these last three years. Your concern for us has been shown in so many ways. Your prayers, letters and gifts have all had a part in our ministry. We have been made truly aware of what fellowship within the family of believers means."



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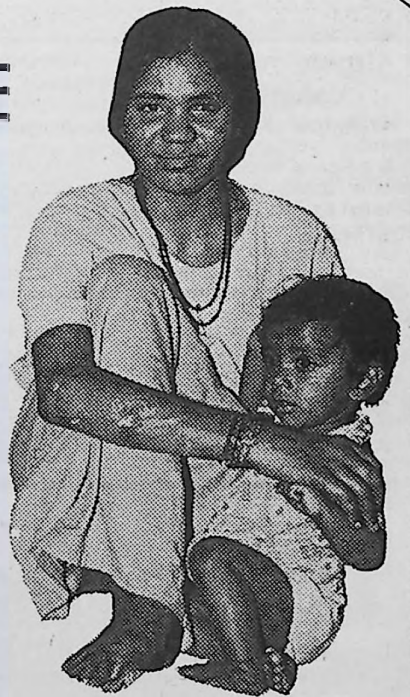
Leprosy is not a life-sentence — it's a disease which can be cured. And you can help bring that good news to leprosy sufferers around the world.

Fifteen million people suffer from leprosy today. Only 5 million are receiving any treatment. The others face being cast out by family and community — ostracized as 'untouchable lepers'.

The Leprosy Mission is reaching out to these people to meet their physical and spiritual needs.

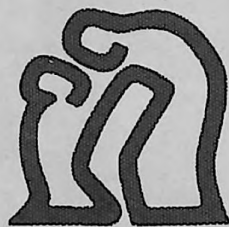
But we need your support to enable us to continue this ministry. Just \$20 pays for one year's treatment for a patient, and most patients can be cured within 5 years.

Will you help change a leprosy patient's sentence into a cure?



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The Leprosy Mission, 7 Ellingworth Parade, Box Hill, Vic. 3128

Little Churches in Launceston.

"Little Churches" grew out of an earlier small group program which concentrated on Christian growth through Bible study, prayer and sharing. Our studies on the church led us to see a New Testament "pattern" of "house churches" in geographic areas around our city in addition to meetings of the "whole church" for worship and outreach. At about the same time we discovered the Project Phillip material of the World Home Bible League on "Little Churches" and have used that as a guide.

We now have three groups of 12-14 people meeting fortnightly where the emphasis is placed upon encouraging and supporting each other to serve

and witness for Christ — by deepening friendships with contact people, shepherding new converts, befriending the lonely or the visitor to worship by mail, and by inviting non-members to join the group.

As well as the evangelism emphasis, time is spent in prayer, Bible study, sharing, praise, and on deepening our missionary involvement, and in service within our community.

Those involved in Little Churches see it as an important commitment and praise God for the valuable opportunities for growth, fellowship and witness which they provide.

— George Green.

Urgent need for Volunteers

Melbourne City Mission urgently needs volunteers, both men and women (but especially men), to help with Citimission Hospice Program.

The program provides comprehensive care for people with a terminal illness and their families. It supports the family in caring for the patient at home for as long as it is appropriate. There is also an in-patient Palliative Care Unit at Harold McCracken House, Church Street, North Fitzroy.

The contribution of a sympathetic listener, plus practical help and support, is vital to the services of the program.

Not all volunteers want to be directly involved with the patients, however, but help in all kinds of imaginative ways — with craft work, typing, musical entertainment and so on.

Those interested in becoming involved should write to Citimission Hospice Program, 10 Church Street, North Fitzroy 3068, or Contact: Mrs Patty Hodder, (03) 489 9666 (Business)

Hear JAN PRONK

Deputy Secretary General of U.N.C.T.A.D.
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A member of the Brandt Commission on International Development Issues.

Moderator of the World Council of Churches Advisory Group on Economic Matters.

Formerly Minister for Development Co-operation in the Dutch Government.

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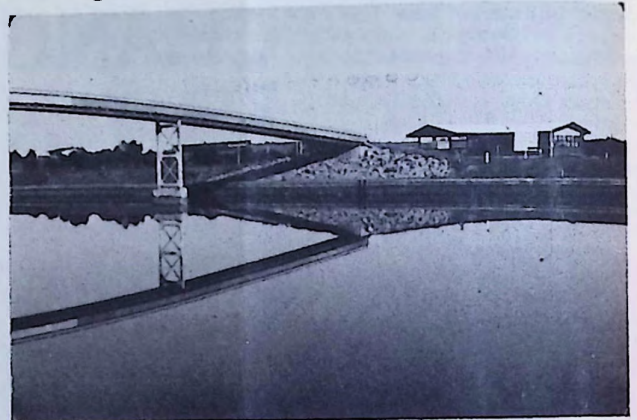


Church buys Service Station at West Lakes

Reversion — instead of the petrol company buying the church corner block the West Lakes (S.A.) church has bought the "Shell" service station on a prime lake-view position at West Lakes. There were two reasons for the transfer — the business of the church was booming and the sales of petrol had declined. For just \$100,000 (the price of the land alone) the church bought a building which can be easily adapted to provide two chapels, meeting rooms, lounge and the real spirit for travelling in pilgrimage. The

driveway will be the nave of the larger chapel. Perhaps the pit will be the baptistry for West Lakes is a United Parish combining the Churches of Christ congregation and the United Church of Australia parish.

The present church building has been sold for \$100,000 and a sub-divider expects to re-coup \$70,000 from the sale of blocks from the balance of the land. This money will be used to pay for alterations to make a worship centre of a garage and give the parish room to grow.



View of the service station from Dephin Island. Supermarket on left and footbridge abutment hides present West Lakes church building.

Southport's 500th Member

Mrs Jane Dunstan, grandmother of the minister's wife, Patricia Newton, was baptised 12 days before her 90th birthday. Mrs Dunstan resides in the Golden Age Retirement Village associated with the Southport church and the chaplain Doug Holloway baptised her. It was a great thrill to the church to reach an active membership of 500.



Mrs Jane Dunstan at her 90th Birthday.

Sales Tax and Christian Literature.

It is obvious that the intended sales tax on books, magazines and newspapers could inhibit their distribution. The Christian Bookselling Association of Australia has therefore drawn up an appropriate petition for use by churches and other groups, requesting the Australian Government to think again concerning this matter.

Churches and other interested groups are invited to write for supplies of these petition forms from "The Christian Bookselling Assn. of Australia," 47 Gawler Place, Adelaide, S.A. 5000.

SOUTH YARRA (Peter Nelson). The prayers of the church are with Alex Davis who is in hospital . . . C.W.F. held a very successful stall at the Prahran Market, where we raised \$420 . . . Gospel Singers are busy preparing for Christian Endeavour reunion and Christmas concert for the elderly citizens of the area.

THE POWER OF A STORY

Page 13

Sometimes a story can hit us with a truth faster than the pages of closely reasoned prose or the eloquence of fine preaching. People have remembered my children's stories longer than they have my sermons.

I have been browsing through some of my books as I have been culling some from my library. Three stories jumped from the pages and arrested me.

I want to tell readers these stories. I do not propose to point a moral from them. That is for children's stories in church with the story for the children and the moral for their parents. But for those who do not like "to be left in the air" there is a clue or two that might help to earth each story in our own particular back yards.

A Father and Two Sons

Frederic Greeves tells this story in "The Christian Way" (S.C.M. Book Club.)

A lad had been sent to his room for bad behaviour. He wept there, sullen, bitter, resentful towards his father. Eventually his sobbing ceased and he looked up from his pillow to see his older brother sitting in the room, voluntarily sharing his isolation. There was a strange look on his brother's face that seemed to say that he really wanted to be there, although he had done no wrong. The older brother tried to persuade the lad to go to his father and to say sorry. But he refused stubbornly to go. The brother said, "Come then, I will go with you!" And the lad went with him. The father took him up in his arms and loved and kissed him. And the lad noticed on the face of his father the same look that he had seen in the room on the face of his brother.

A clue to a meaning is the last 15 words of 2 Corinthians 4:6. Then read the first six verses.

Really Saved

Story number two is in "Salvation Today" by Pauline Webb (S.C.M. Book Club.)

A Gamblers Anonymous meeting is held in a Methodist hall. Sometimes the minister drops in and his quiet interest is greatly appreciated by the members.

As in Alcoholics Anonymous, the major activity of the meetings is testimonies by chronic addicts who are overcoming their disease.

One man told the story of the way in which the group had helped him to get work, to find a way of paying his debts, to get his wife back, and to find a

more meaningful life style. He wound up his testimony by saying, "My life was shattered and I was in the gutter. They picked up the pieces and made me stand on my feet again. I can only sum it up by saying that I have been saved."

Then he looked up and saw the minister and there was a moment of embarrassment. He overcame it by saying, "I didn't mean saved in any religious sense Reverend. I mean I've been really saved!"

The clue to what this might be saying to us could be found in the answers to a couple of questions.

1. What did he mean by salvation, and is it anything like what the Bible means by salvation?
2. Did God have anything to do with this man's salvation?

The Coal Miner and the Song

The third story is from "The Good Pagan's Failure" by Rosalind Murray (Fontana.)

A group of visitors was being shown over a Welsh coal mine. The conditions were bad. The mine was wet, hot and foul smelling.

They looked far into a drive where in the reflected light of his lamp they could see a miner picking away in a crouched position, unable even to sit upright. There was loud indignation that such de-humanising conditions should be allowed to exist.

They moved on angrily discussing among themselves what they had seen. They then heard the miner's ringing tenor voice break into,

"Were the whole realm of nature mine,

That were an offering far too small.

Love so amazing, so divine,

Demands my soul, my life, my all."

They walked on in silence.

This story should be as disturbing to those with an individual gospel orientation as it is to those with a social gospel orientation.

Rosalind Murray, a Roman Catholic, comments —

"The miner today works under better conditions, with shorter hours, higher wages, and pithead baths, but 'the love so amazing, so divine' has been denied him or hidden from him. No pithead baths can compensate him for it."

Dying, Death and Bereavement Seminar

— Des Symes.

Tragedy and death seem to be news headlines almost daily. Yet when we are personally faced with death and bereavement, most of us find it difficult to cope and to honestly talk about our feelings. The Traralgon church decided to invite David Treloar of Tobin Brothers Funeral Directors, to conduct a seminar to help families of the church and other families associated with the church, to deal with this subject. As the idea was talked about it germinated and we felt there were many in the community who would also benefit from it.

We inform over 40 community groups and churches of our plans and four secondary schools were also invited to be part of the overall program. Local radio, T.V. and press also assisted with informing the public.

Of the four Mondays that David was with us, he conducted programs in the schools during the day. And each evening over 70 people attended the public seminar at the church. The topics covered were: "Facing Up to

Death in the 1980's", "Caring for the Dying and Their Families", "Caring for the Bereaved Person" and "Helping Children and Teenagers to Come to Terms with Loss and Death".

A number of people have told us that they had not been able to find anywhere in the community where they could talk about these personal and important issues. As part of the seminar a leader of a local, Loss and Bereavement Group was able to inform us of local resources.

Already both lay and professional people have shared with us experiences of how they have felt easier about supporting others in their grief because of insights gained from the seminar.

As a church we have found this to be a valid healing ministry. A ministry which may take months or years. We are challenged not only to store this experience in our memory banks, but to be more sensitive to those who are suffering loss and grief. And to listen to the community needs for means of appropriate follow-up.

Poll on WCC findings on Aborigines

According to a nationwide Gallup Poll, 53 per cent of Australians agree with the recent World Council of Churches report that "Racism is entrenched in every aspect of Australian society." This compares with 40 per cent who disagree with the WCC report on this, and seven per cent who are unsure.

53 per cent of Australians say that Aboriginal people on Aboriginal reserves should be given freehold land or land rights.

The Poll was conducted four weeks after the release of the WCC report which generated widespread national debate on the situation of Aborigines. The results have just been released to the ACC.

In the Poll, 2010 people throughout Australia were asked three questions, the first of which was "Do you think the Federal and State Governments are between them doing — too much for Aborigines? or — not enough? or — about the right amount?" This question was identical to one asked by APOP in 1976 and the replies show no significant change in people's opinions over the intervening five years.

50 per cent say that the Governments are not doing enough with 18 per cent saying they are doing too much, and 25 per cent saying they are doing about the right amount.

In Queensland and Western Australia (the two States where the Premiers refused to meet with the WCC Team), the States with the larger Aboriginal populations, the percentage of people who thought that not enough was being done for Aborigines were significantly lower than in the other States.

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Where the Action Is

Statistics don't tell the whole tale but they do have something to say.

I just happen to have the Conference handbooks for 1973, a mere eight years ago. I have access to all the Conference handbooks again this year. So I felt that it was appropriate to make some comparisons.

What resulted was most interesting. Only two States have shown increases over the past eight years. These States were **Western Australia** with 18.44 per cent increase and **Queensland** with 32.45 per cent increase in active membership.

In Queensland during the last Conference year, an increase of membership of 5.35 per cent was registered. However, from the time of reporting in June, it seems to me that that rate is not only being maintained, but improved upon.

Southport church have passed the point of 500 active members and the meetings for the opening of a new work at **Nerang**, resulted in three initial meetings of 200, 90 and 80 for the Sunday night when the mothering church held normal meetings. Quite a number of other churches are also experiencing growth.

But the growth is not evenly spread across all churches in Queensland. The churches in the Brisbane area have been static for the past 10 years. An actual increase of 10 members has been recorded. It has been the non-Brisbane churches that are forging ahead. Even remote country areas have demonstrated dramatic growth.

Positive evangelistic thrust both by means of Missions and churches which have developed friendly, caring,

on-going evangelistic outreach as a normal part of their work are showing the way.

Those persons who are interested in the growth of the church should be getting out of their arm chairs and looking at what is happening in these growing churches to see what are the contributing factors that is creating the best growth in Churches of Christ in Australia in decades.

Queensland's Centenary Conference year is approaching. In 1982-83 we will celebrate our centenary with the Centenary Conference in October 1983. People who would like to see where the action is should plan to visit for the celebrations and make it a learning experience.

— **Don E. Stewart.**

SWAN HILL (J. A. Caporn). George Warren (Dept. Mission, Education and Development) visited church on November 1 to conduct family service . . . Two C.W.F. street stalls raised \$1,200 . . . Family outing and barbecue held at Anderson's property . . . Young man welcomed into fellowship.

New Secretary for S.A. Council of Churches

The South Australian Council of Churches has named **Rev. Richard Chance** as its new Secretary. He is currently Field Officer with the Anglican Board of Christian Education in Adelaide, will succeed **Rev. Peter Holden**.

The Rev. Richard Chance came originally from Sydney and was ordained a priest by

the Anglican Bishop of North Queensland. He has served as parish priest in remote areas of Queensland. Since coming to Adelaide in 1977, Fr. Richard has been involved ecumenically in Christian Education and is a member of the Anglican Archbishop's Task Force on Aboriginal aspirations.

He sees his appointment as an opportunity to help the churches in their response to the call for justice for Aboriginal Australians.

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Minister: Bob Aldred
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VIC

WARRNAMBOOL (H. A. L. Clark). Members enjoyed time of fellowship when they billeted 45 visitors from New Zealand ... Three young ladies were recently baptized ... New electronic organ has been purchased ... During evening service Doctors Tim and Joy Linton shared testimonies and experiences as medical helpers in Africa ... Annual meeting featured small-group sharing on areas of church life ... C.W.E.F. visited hospital kitchens.

HURSTBRIDGE (H. Pietzsch). "The Creation" was the theme for the Kindergarten anniversary. C.W.F. donated Bibles for children being promoted to Bible School. A presentation was made to the Kindergarten Superintendent, Marilyn Pietzsch before she left to spend four months in U.S.A and Canada ... At the Bible School anniversary the children, trained by Mrs Jean Mynott, presented the musical "The Jesus Story" ... Youth Club camp at Belgrave.

OAKLEIGH (C. J. Mackenzie). Jewels and Junk and Temple Day results of \$2520 assisted towards church's contribution of \$5200 support of North Dandenong ... Glen Brown of Community Care and Ted Keating speakers for Temple Day ... Don Fraser recovering after heart surgery ... Good Companions snowball drive helped camp expenses ... "The Poets Tongue" series being given by minister.

SA

WEST LAKES (John Wayt). Three night seminar "Managing Stress" held in November. Speakers included Kevin Seacombe, Lifeline Director, John Edwards, Psychologist and a local medical practitioner with student minister Bill Reddin and minister John Watt leading ... Church asked to conduct seminar on "Worship for Under 40's" at S.A. Uniting Church Synod ... Five baptisms in November ... Contact signed for the sale of present church building.

QLD

SOUTHPORT (N. Newton, D. Holloway, D. Capuano). Successful crusade at Nerang. The new work of the church at Nerang, which is less than six months old, held a "Come Alive" Crusade, Oct. 16-18. Some 370 were present during three nights and four new families were added to the fellowship ... The church has reached an active membership of 500 ... 600 at official opening of 36 equity units at Lady Small Haven ... Bethel Training program for 70 church leaders from around Australia held in our facilities.

MARGARET ST., TOOWOOMBA. (B. Armstrong, I. Alves). Several participate in Force 2 and Force 10 schemes to reduce debt on second manse ... C.M.S. project is for support of missionaries Aileen Draney, Lyall and Jillian Muller, Bas and Glenda Kastanya and Fay Christensen ... Ian Alves heads regular working bees on church property ... Choir has been formed ... Morning sermons taped for use of members ... Last quarterly half-night of prayer held.

NUNAWADING (E. Keating, C. J. Wright, R. Burnham) ... Fete raised \$4,300 for others ... 14 ladies attended C.W.F. camp ... Springfield Rd. presented "Bullfrogs and Butterflies" at their anniversary ... 40 children from S.S. Kindergarten participated in worship service ... Art/craft venture, The Open Door, overwhelming success ... C.W.F. entertained Lakeside Lodge deaf folk with picnic at Badgers Creek ... C.Y.F. and Y.A.F. service project involved Villa Maria ... Guests included Crossroads and LeMesurier Quartet.

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Big churches Little Churches

● From page 9

resources, small budgets and small people. Perhaps a basic condition of appointment of such ministers could be that they are responsible to the Home Mission Department until the churches concerned are self supporting.

Church Support

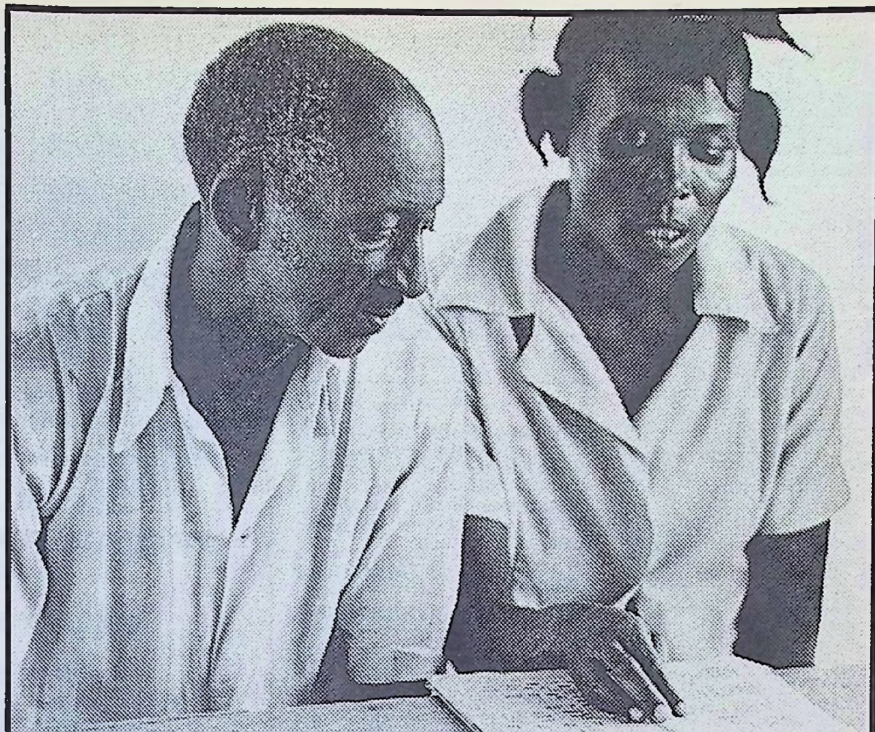
Our Home Mission Departments are doing splendid work in starting new causes, supporting smaller churches, providing advisory services, running evangelism and planned giving programs, and initiating new forms of co-operative suburban ministries. We believe that it would be good for our future if the churches could support them in a program whereby some of our ablest leaders are used in strategic areas to build up a lot of smaller churches into big ones.

It is true of course that big churches also need strong capable leadership. But it is common sense that it is not good strategy for all of the leadership to be monopolised by churches that are already big.

Big Church Phobia!

And for those who are squeamish or phobic about big churches and cry out, "Numbers game!", we stress that there is no virtue in bigness itself, but that there is a lot to be said for large numbers of people being discipled and brought into churches that are viable in mission in all of its aspects.

PORT FAIRY (H. A. L. Clark). Church has shared in two combined church ventures. The James Dobson "Focus on the Family" series attracted large audiences. A combined Sunday School program featuring singing, dancing, puppets and craft activities was also very successful. A monthly combined prayer group is also held. Our members give leadership in all these activities.



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BIRTHS

GEEVES, Phillip and Jenny (Chalk) welcome a son Luke Martin, 16th October, brother for Wade, at Ipswich, Qld.

ENGAGEMENTS

QUAYLE — BASSETT. With great pleasure Mr and Mrs W. F. Quayle of Gilgandra and Mr and Mrs R. J. Bassett of Pendle Hill announce the engagement of Lois and Geoffrey.

DEATHS

GLOVER, Frank Keith. On October 21, at hospital, Adelaide. Dearly loved husband of Aileen. Loved father of Rona, Judith and families. Aged 79 years. Treasured memories.

IN MEMORIUM

THOMAS. In precious memory of our mother, Hilda Thomas, passed away November 17, 1970, and our father, James E. Thomas, passed away November 27, 1944. "Re-united in glory, still loved and missed by children, grandchildren and many friends."

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

BAXTER, Elizabeth (Aumann) and Kevin Baxter, Gospel soloist with guitarist, 38 Western Road, Boronia, 3155. Phone (03) 762 2326.

Ex-Morland Church of Christ GET TOGETHER

A Get-together of members will be held at Coburg Lake Reserve, on Saturday, 21st November, 1981, between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. BBQ available. Bring your own lunch, drinks and seating. If weather is bad, it will be held at Coburg Church, Bell St., Coburg.

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Applications are invited for the position of co-ordinator to manage the H.R.D. Division of ITIM (Vic.) which is responsible for educational and organisational development programmes for the work community and churches.

QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants must have educational and organisational development experience. Preference will be given to those who also hold appropriate academic qualifications.

Applicants must be ordained in one of the member churches. Preference will be given to those whose theological capability includes social ethics.

ENQUIRIES

For further details contact — The Revd. Canon Lawrie Styles, Director, Box 1888R, G.P.O., Melbourne, 3001.

Tel.: 63 9667

CLOSING DATE

Applications must reach the Director at the above address no later than Friday, 20th November, 1981.

NOTICE OF THANKS

WILLIAMS Hazel and Murray Williams would like to express our thanks to so many friends for their phone calls, letters, practical help and most importantly your prayers on our behalf, during the last nine months that Murray has been so ill. Murray is permanently confined to hospital and we are extremely thankful to the doctors and staff at Tumbly Bay Hospital for their unsurpassed care and concern for both of us. Particularly to Dr. Dennis Maton and presently to the staff at Eudunda Hospital and Matron Lyn Williams. Sincere thanks also to Frank Richards and Rex Williams.

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2.30 p.m. Dedication Service

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● Helen Hardcastle, Percival Sturt,
Robert Cushing, Rosalyn Wattridge,
Geoffrey Palmer, Suzanne Taber,
Jane Dunstan, Sheree Gibson, Leeah
Gibson, Martin Franklin, Joanne
McKinstry, Lyn Whittington,
Southport, Qld. ● Helen Corbett,
David Nice, Rowena Snell, Kerry
Hewitt, Timothy Veal, Stephen Bray,
Christine Carey, York St., Ballarat,
Vic. ● Sally Ann Cloud, Robert
Quantrelle, Merle Wightman, Ronda
Goodall, Nunawading, Vic. ● Arthur
Smith, Brian Wood, Ashley Jones,
Gavin Jones, Paul Smith, Jodie
Kaufmann, Ruth Kaufman, Robert
Kaufmann, Roslyn Woods, Albany,
W.A. ● Rodney Bell, Ashburton,
Vic. ● O'Toole and Lorelei Boseman,
David Taylor, Scott Thomas, Marion,
S.A. ● Karen Henderson, Milton
Bray, Victor Harbour, S.A. ● Naomi
Dekock, Kathy Erasmus, Scar-
borough, W.A. ● Carol Gates,
Roxanne Lawrie, Balaklava, S.A.
● Patsy Sturzaker, Launceston, Tas.

MARRIAGES

● Julie Scott to Shayne Taylor,
Cathleen Craig to Michael Nesvadba,
Juanita Desumalia to Ramon Ritt-
meyer, Southport, Qld. ● Julie
Marshman to Graeme Nicolai, Owen,
S.A. ● Anette Ridge to Gary Buck-
nara, Scarborough, W.A.

DEATHS

● Mrs Eff Taber, Southport, Qld.
● Mrs Kerr, Horsham, Vic. ● Mrs
Rowell, York St., Ballarat, Vic.
● Mrs A. Simons, Victor Harbour,
S.A. ● Mrs Elsie Shrubsole,
Balaklava, S.A.
● Miss Arden, Hamilton, Vic. ● W.
Wright, Oakleigh, Vic. ● Mrs Gwen
Russell, North Essendon, Vic.

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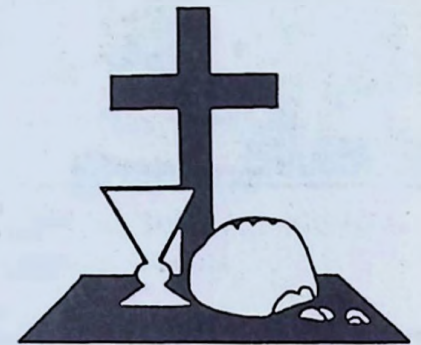


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SO

VICTOR HARBOUR (Robyn Mitchell). Bible School picnic held on a farm ... Prayer retreat day much appreciated by those who participated ... Three Y.P. and Mr Bray baptised on Mr Bray's 76th birthday. Baby Simon Walker also dedicated. Girl's group, Young Faith, sang 'Living with Jesus' ... Southern Districts Churches met at V.H. for half-yearly rally, sharing in basket tea followed by items from different churches ... Mission in December.

MARION (G. Agnew). Board retreat held at Mt Barker to plan for 1980. One feature will be the establishment of home fellowship groups ... Church hosted Home Missions Conference on "Growing in the 80's" ... Graham Agnew guest lecturer at Flinders Medical Centre for volunteer service staff ... "The Gospel in a Changing Ethics" The theme for four weeks teaching series on Christian ethics ... Youth camp at Balaklava.

FLINDERS PARK (Geoff & Joan Fewster). Abundant Life weekend conducted by LIFE to train in personal

evangelism ... Church anniversary dinner saw over 140 gather for fellowship and to hear Jeff May speak ... Evangelism Dept. organised a two week crusade led by Kevin Denton and David Bond. This resulted in a total of 21 decisions and great encouragement to the church ... Missionary Dept. organised a missions day October 25.

VIC

CHADSTONE (B. Skillicorn). H. Bischoff has accepted a part-time ministry for a two year term commencing Jan. 82 ... Good Companions held sleep-in at church prior to family service, the girls then taking part in service ... C.W.F. took program and afternoon tea to Christian Guest Home, Oakleigh, for Aug. meeting ... Mrs N. Saunders from the C.W.A. gave a craft demonstration of recycled goods at Sept. meeting ... Party for minister and fiancée. **GLEN WAVERLEY** (Ron Elbourne, Keith Milne). Church has accepted with regret the resignation of Keith Milne ... C.Y.F. provided luncheon and entertainment

for retired members ... Newly formed Evangelistic Group undergoing training ... Guest speaker on Girls' Sunday Mary Hughes, Cheltenham ... Speaker on Boys' Sunday Russell Croxford.

HORSHAM (Wally Gibney). Church members voted in favour of assistant minister to share with Warracknabeal-Brim-Dimboola churches ... Church members shared in Change the World School of Prayer, Christian Women's Conventions International ... Specials, family service and Father's Day in September ... Rev. John Richards of the Victorian Temperance Alliance spoke and members of the Independent Order of Rechabites attended service.

MILDURA (B. W. Brown). New Zealand tour group spent two nights at homes of members — took part in local tour, river trip, and exchange of information and experiences with local people at buffet dinner evening. \$500 raised by billeting went to Jenkins India support fund ... About 35 from church participated in Freedom from Hunger doorknock and following weekend the young group staged a mattress "bounce-a-thon" raising \$400 for F.F.H.

SWANSTON ST. (Allan Webb). Throughout the month of October all services have been marked by record attendances. The communicant average for the month has been 430. There have been 12 baptisms and nine primary decisions ... The Living Circle Choir has twice presented the powerful musical "It's Getting Late" ... Mr and Mrs Webb spent four weeks in South East Asia visiting former students, parents and Christian leaders.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

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Churches of Christ (NSW) Theological College



The Editor in Queensland (1)

We left Melbourne in sunshine and arrived in Queensland in cold and rain!

Our base has been Unit 2 in the new Calypso Court at Camp Cal, the brotherhood conference centre.

T-Shirts and a Bus Trip

We had no sooner settled in than the indefatigable Alan Male (D.C.E. Director) had given us Camp Cal T-shirts, souvenirs and literature and involved us in a bus trip and barbecue with teenage girls from the Shaftesbury

program. They were delightful kids, yet every one of them has been referred by the Welfare Department. Two of them made neat little speeches to the Rotarians and their wives who put on the barbecue for them at Mooloola Beach.

Dudley from the Ann St. church who drives the bus is a keen subscriber to the "A.C." and an ardent Joh fan. He graciously thanked us for the paper and gently chided us for sometimes seeming a bit hard on the Premier.

Alan Male is a salesman extraordinary, an achiever and



Holiday Units

a man of God. Apart from the Holy Spirit, the growth of our Queensland churches is probably more attributable to his work than that of any other person.

©.Y.© Unit on the Sunshine Coast

A backdrop to the barbecue at Mooloola was blocks of units selling at \$250,000 per unit. The Victorian invasion has inflated Sunshine Coast real estate. But it can be done cheaper than that. Any family can own its own unit for two or three weeks (or more) per year at Calypso Court, for periods of from seven to 10 years or more. They are cheaper in non-school-holiday periods, and Queensland schools do not have vacations in May or August. The cost per week works out at about half the casual letting rate, and the long term purchase beats later inflation. As the brochure says, "The units are just 400 metres from sliding door to sparkling sand."

Nambour

Our first Sunday morning was at Nambour. They were bringing in extra seats as the service started. Their six year old building is inadequate. So they are selling it to an un-

dertaker and have bought 17 acres of undulating bush land opposite for a church centre and retirement units.

We were interested in the reason for the phenomenal growth apart from Alan Leane's dedication and drive and Roy Dixon's pastoral gifts. Then we began to pick up stories of love and acceptance and supportiveness of the people. And some of the new ones spoke of the attraction of a church that is alive. On the morning we were there a young woman was received in after her baptism. She suffers from multiple sclerosis. A church family discovered her while they were visiting at the hospital. Being homeless, they have taken her into their home, with all of the responsibilities that entailed.

Inter-Church Aid (I.C.A.)

For the evening service we drove 150 km to East Ipswich.

We were graciously entertained for tea by Glad and Cliff Coward. Cliff is the most enthusiastic person I have met, and it is all for the Lord's work. Retired, he works 16 hours a day. He buys stock for 15 butchers and takes no pay. They give



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COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

GRADUATION

Friday 20th November, 7.45 p.m.

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Federal Conference Executive of Churches of Christ in Australia will conduct the

ORDINATION SERVICE

FOLLOWING THE GRADUATION SERVICE

SPEAKER

MR KEVIN HARVEY

The Editor in Queensland

donations to the College or to one of our churches.

The rest of Cliff's time is spent on Inter-Church Aid, a scheme in which Queensland churches help one another with interest free loans. Churches and halls and manses are going up or being extended or renovated everywhere, and instead of 30 and 40 years debts, all loans are paid off in six years because all payments are off the principal. It is the only scheme we know, secular or sacred, that is beating the high interest rates. It involves over one million dollars after only 10 years. My friend Jack Dunner, its secretary, assures me, "It would only work in the church because it depends on trust."

"Bull Frogs and Butterflies"

At the "packed to the doors" evening service at Ipswich the young people presented the musical "Bull Frogs and Butterflies" on the theme of re-birth. There are lots of young people at Ipswich and they are talented. Barry Rice is trying to do the work of three ministers as he moves into his 10th year. He will be missed as he goes to Taree in 1983.

"Beacon"

I think that "The Beacon" of the Ipswich church is the best local church paper in the brotherhood. It is an offset, two colour, illustrated 12-page job, and they print and publish it every week. Allen and Ev Feldon are its editors and have been doing it for almost 25 years.

The impression that we have of a Sunday at Nambour and Ipswich is that both churches have a lot of people for whom their church is the number one priority in their lives.

Information

Information about O.Y.O. (for two or three weeks a year) Units at Caloundra or concerning the I.C.A. program can be had from Churches of Christ Centre, 428 Ann St., Brisbane, 4000.

And if you want to know about cheap pineapples, there is a roadside stall near Landsborough where you can get five big ones for a dollar. The girl gave us an extra one because we were southerners.

Social Service Appointment

The Queensland Social Service Department has announced the appointment of Malcolm Chandler to the position of Office Administrator and administrator of Children's Homes.

Malcolm has had a ministry at the Pine Rivers church.

His ministry within the Social Service Department will involve the development of children's work and a wide range of the state office business administration. Malcolm will commence this new position in mid November.

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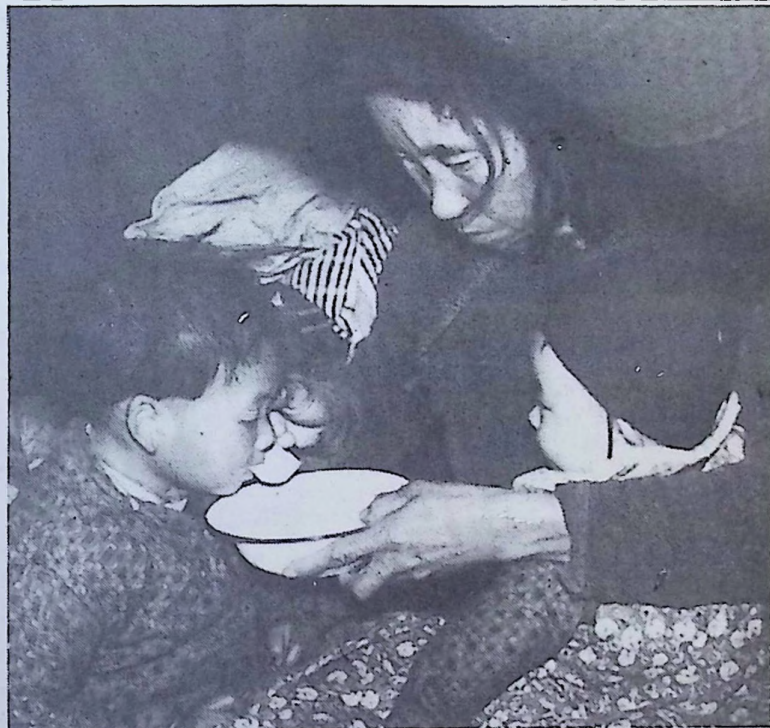
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Ambrosia by Chris Ambrose

Conviction and Joy

This column is starting to be like a film review column. This week Mary and I went to see the film I mentioned last issue "Chariots of Fire". This is an excellent movie and Mary commented that she enjoyed it so much that she would like to go again the next night.

The main plot of the film is how two men strive to win gold medals in sprinting in the 1924 Olympic Games in Paris. The two men are Harold Abrahams an English Jew who is fighting for some sort of self esteem. The other runner is Eric Liddell a Scotsman who runs because he believes that God has given him the gift to be used to God's glory. Eric Liddell eventually became a missionary in China and died there at the end of the Second World War.

This movie shows how faith and drive led these two men into this situation. The movie has one of the most sympathetic, honest looks at the faith of a Christian that I have ever seen in the media. The way that God was real to Eric Liddell and what that faith meant to him was realistically portrayed. This film is an excellent discussion starter for use with non-Christians who have seen the movie.

What stood out to me where the joy of being a Christian that Eric Liddell expressed and the way this showed out in his masculine Christianity. The other point that the movie made on me was the way that Eric Liddell stood by his convictions in God even if that was to mean his missing out on running for the gold medal.

The way that the runner expressed

his joy in God in his running was tremendous. (Especially as a sportsman) Here was a person who loved the God who gave him his abilities. The pure joy that runners feel was shown and he gave thanks to God for that joy.

This brought home to me the need for us as Christians to express the joy that we have in all that we do. Running can cause pain and hardship in the actual event and yet there is joy in just running as well. Many of us as Christians do not express our joy in God's world. In fact many of us are very gloomy and we do not help others see God through this, in fact we cloud him from people.

The other main point to me was the way that Eric Liddell stood by his convictions as a Christian. In an increasingly secular world we Christians need to stand by our principles. This is different than forcing our convictions on other people which I would never sanction. But if we are convinced on a matter of principle then we should stand by that principle even if it will be personally costly. For Eric Liddell it cost him the chance to run in the 100 metres race for which he would have been one of the favorites.

Christians need to make stands and to support others who make stands even if at times they do not agree with the stand. Many today are not so concerned over the issue of Sunday observance as was Eric Liddell and yet one could only applaud why he made the stand. Have you thought through your faith and what that means in today's world? Are you willing to make a stand for a Christian principle or will you compromise your faith?

THE LAST WORD

Your disposition will be suitable to that which you most frequently think on; for the soul is, as it were, tinged with the color and complexion of its own thoughts.

— Marcus Aurelius

You've had your bath, my precious tot.

You're clean and sweet, your mother's not!

—Virginia Mock

★ ★ ★

The husband had been in a complaining mood during dinner and he continued his sour comments when his wife began to clear away the meal. Eventually she handed him a teatowel with the cheery invitation. "I'll wash and you gripe."

★ ★ ★

A motorist whose car was stuck in a muddy ditch calmly set about digging the wheels free until a passerby besieged him with a string of distracting questions.

"What are you doing, mister, digging yourself out of the mud?"

"No," replied the irritated motorist, "my motor just died and I'm digging a hole to bury it in."

★ ★ ★

"How old would you say she is?"
"Oh, somewhere in the middle flirties."



"I don't want any of that religious stuff. You guys are all fanatics!"

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