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1989 Conference President

The Victorian and Tasmanian Conference of Churches of Christ announces with pleasure the appointment of Miss Phyl Davis as President-Elect for 1988-89. Her presidential year will commence following the 1989 State Conference.

Phyl was born in the old gold mining area known as Italian Gully, outside Ballarat, Victoria. Her family moved to Melbourne and Phyl was educated in the city, completing general nursing and midwifery training at Epworth Hospital. Phyl's nursing career included some industrial nursing and 12 months at John Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, U.S.A. She gained the Diploma of Nursing Administration at the College of Nursing. Her career culminated with a number of years as Matron at Margaret Coles and later, at Frances Perry House.

Phyl has had a wide involvement with various Christian organisations. She was a founding member of the Nurses Christian Fellowship in Victoria and Tas-



Phyl Davis

mania, an original member of the Youth For Christ committee and has worked with S.U., C.S.S.M., the Billy Graham organisation, Mission Melbourne and Explo. Her involvement in C.W.C.I. and World Day of Prayer has been greatly appreciated. During 1987-88 Phyl has been President of the Victorian-Tasmanian Christian Women's Fellowship.

Phyl is in membership at Balwyn North where she previously conducted a six year ministry as pastoral associate.

The Executive is also pleased to announce that Clive Ward has been appointed as Conference Secretary for a 12 month period from the end of Conference 1988. Clive, who served as Secretary for 10 years prior to 1987, has been Conference President during 1987-88. During 1988-89 a review of the Conference administration is being undertaken with a report and recommendations due at Conference 1989.



Clive Ward

Arthur William Smith Stephenson (1900-1988)



Early Life.

Arthur Stephenson was born at North Fremantle, W.A., on February 18, 1900. He was the middle child of a family of seven children. He made his confession of faith and was baptised at Fremantle church at the age of 12.

As a young man of 21 years,

Arthur Stephenson made the long train journey from Perth to enter the College of the Bible in Melbourne. He was elected Student President during his Graduation year, 1924.

Family.

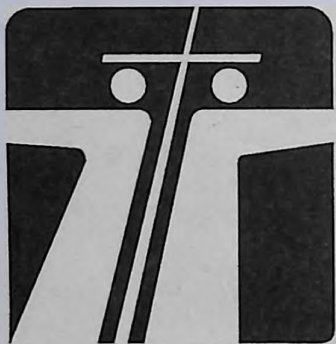
In his first year of full-time ministry Arthur Stephenson

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Managing Editor:
CHRIS AMBROSE

ISSUE	DEADLINE
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Let the Women Speak In Church: So Says Paul!



— Ronald Graham

Ronald Graham joined the church at Taree, N.S.W., in 1935 and entered the College of the Bible in 1942. He served churches in Melbourne and Brisbane and in 1954 went to America to study, remaining to teach New Testament at Drake University (1960-68) and Lexington Theological Seminary (1968-87).

1 Corinthians 11:2-16.

This has to do with Paul's idea of what dress is most appropriate in Christian worship. However, twice he writes of women's role in worship: they pray and they prophesy (vv. 5,13). To prophesy is to speak to the people on behalf of God; to pray is to speak to God on behalf of the people. These are two primary ministerial functions and Paul is as much at home with women exercising them as men.

Philippians 4:2-3.

Paul's concern is with two women leaders in the church at Philippi, Euodia and Syntyche, who had fallen out with each other. He says that they had been 'fellow athletes' with himself and Clement and others in the cause of the gospel. "Fellow athletes" of Olympian stature. That means that they stretched every nerve to further the gospel.

Romans 16.

There are remarkable references to women as church leaders in this chapter. One, Phoebe of Cenchreae (vv. 1-3) is described as a diakonos, a "deacon," which may better be translated as "minister". She was a person of standing and probably opened her home to the church and as a "helper" may well have participated in the governance and liturgy of the church. Two, Prisca and Aquila (vv.3-5) made their home a house-church. Paul describes them as his "fellow workers" and says that their ministry has been of such quality that "all the churches of the Gentiles give thanks (for them)" (v.5) (See also Acts 16:24-28).

Prominent and generous as the women were who lent their homes for house-churches, it is unlikely that they did not speak a good word for Jesus in them.

Three, Paul sends greetings to Andronicus and Junias (v.7). In some manuscripts the second person is called Junia, which would make her a woman. They are referred to as being "eminent among the apostles" (NEB). Is Paul putting the ministry of Junia on the same plane as his own?

Galatians 3:28.

"There is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Neither male nor female: no distinction.

1 Timothy 2:8-15.

This is scripture, but not, I think, from the hand of Paul. Among other things, nowhere else does Paul blame Eve, the woman, for bringing transgression into the human experience, and it is odd that he of all people should say that women would be "saved through bearing children." What of the childless and the unmarried?

•Continued on Page 3



Mums and Kids Camp

A camp for mums and kids ... well that was a new idea for reaching out to the playgroup mums at the Nunawading, Vic., church.

For three days after the long weekend in January 14 mothers and their children ... all 32 of them (20 under the age of 5) along with a number of teenage and adult helpers, spent an exciting and challenging time at "Adanac", Yarra Junction.

Surrounded by the beauty of the

mountains they shared a varied and creative program including an Australian night, a clown day and of course the traditional camp concert.

A special time was set aside for the mothers each morning when Dora Gray led some studies from 1 John enabling the Christian mums to share their faith and relate this to daily living. At the same time a special children's program was led by Clive Steb-

GROWING SPIRITUALLY

Haolis

After Christianity came to the Hawaiian Islands the natives began to call Christians haolis. The word meant "without breath".

When Hawaiians went to their temples to pray they waited a long time afterwards to "breathe life" into the prayers they made inside the temple. Christians on the other hand said their prayers and then said Amen and that was that. According to the Hawaiians they did not "breathe life" into their prayers. They were haolis.

In one sense it is great when we say Amen, to leave the matter with God, in faith that God will act upon it in its own best way.

But in another sense our Amen could be a sign of shallowness in which we shirk our responsibility by "handing it over to God." For instance it is possible in praying "Thy will be done" to be saying, in effect, "Go ahead and do your will God, it's alright by me," when the prayer is really a commitment to doing the will of God ourselves. "Thy will be done" is a prayer into which we need to "breathe life".

If we truly care for the person we are praying for, that person does not drop out of mind with our Amen. We "breathe life" into our prayer when we rise from our knees, and consciously join with God in loving and aching for that person, while getting on with the rest of the things that involve us. It is possible.

The personal prayer that asks God to give us control over things in our personalities that we do not like, will not do much if we shut off at the Amen and hope that God will surprise us in a few weeks time by presenting us to ourselves fault free. To "breathe life" into that prayer is to be consciously willing each moment ... even in hectic times ... for God to be active in creating us into the likeness of Christ.

Haollism could be a blockage to spiritual growth.

— G.R. Stirling



bls (Director of Melbourne Youth For Christ) with games, singing and Bible stories.

Was it worth the effort? Yes! The opportunities to talk informally as we made new friendships, the challenge of the video

'Joni' which the mums watched one evening, the times of relaxation around the wading pools, the canoes or the waterslide. Yes it was worthwhile despite the 37° heat!

Guest Editorial

• From Page 2

1 Corinthians 14: 34-36.

This passage has perplexed me. (1) Paul says women are to keep silent in church, but in chapter eleven there is no disapproval of women prophesying and praying. (2) He bases his position on Jewish Law. (3) What if the husband is not a Christian? Or the woman is single or widowed?

Sometimes I have thought Paul must have forgotten what he has said in Galatians and 1 Corinthians 11. At other times I have reasoned that this must be the word of an editor of a mind different from Paul's.

Recently a friend, David Odell-Scott, has pointed out two features of the Greek in this passage. First, he argues that vv. 34-35 is a quotation from the Corinthians. Paul often quotes them in order to make clear what he is responding to and where he stands in relation to their controversies. Then in v.36 he replied, "What! Did the word of God originate with you, or are you the only ones it has reached?" The word translated "What!" is the particle "e." When used to begin a sentence, as here, it indicates that the questions to follow will refute what precedes them. Thus the "e" reflects Paul's amazement that Christians would forbid women to speak in church.

Second, the "only ones" in v.36 is masculine ("monous"), which can mean that v.36 is addressed to men. Verses 34-35 would then represent the self-righteous assumptions of men who believed that men are the mediators of the Christian faith and the word of God originated with men, not women. This Paul rejects.

Such an understanding would be consistent with Paul's stance elsewhere, in 1 Corinthians 11, Philippians 4, Romans 16, and Galatians 3.

(All quotations are from the Revised Standard Version unless otherwise indicated.)



A.W.S. Stephenson

•Continued from Page 1

married Ella Winch on April 29, 1925 at the Church of Christ chapel at Invercargill, New Zealand. Arthur and Ella in due time became parents of Glenda, Bill, John and Beth. They were married for almost 60 years, Ella passing to be with her Lord on January 2, 1985.

Ministry

Arthur Stephenson's first ministry commenced in 1925 at the Moorehouse Avenue church, Christchurch, New Zealand. The family then returned to Victoria and he undertook a part-time ministry at Parkdale while doing a B.A., majoring in Classical Greek and Philosophy followed by an M.A. at Melbourne University. Then followed full-time ministries at Hampton (eight years) and again at Parkdale (five years). From the mid 1930s until 1951, A.W. Stephenson held a combination of responsible Brotherhood ministries. He was appointed the Assistant Editor of the Austral Graded Lessons in 1937 and continued this responsibility until 1951. He became Editor of "The Australian Christian" in 1941 and a lecturer at Glen Iris in 1947; each of these responsibilities continued until he was appointed Principal at the Woolwich Bible College, Sydney, in 1951.

Principalship

This was a period of strong development in the New South Wales College which had begun in 1942. Arthur Stephenson's Principalship (1951-1969) saw increased numbers of students training for full-time pastoral ministry and the development of

training facilities. He had a major influence in the erection of a Chapel and Library on the Woolwich site. The College became renowned for its strong Bible teaching emphasis and the evangelistic fervour of its students. "The Chief" or "Chiefy" was respected and loved by those who came under his influence. He believed in allowing the students to have a great deal of responsibility in the day to day operation of the College. This engendered a very positive and co-operative spirit. In 1970 the College Board bestowed on him the title "Principal Emeritus" in recognition of his long and distinguished Principalship.

Brotherhood Responsibilities

A.W. Stephenson was active for several decades in Federal and State Conference work. This involvement is indicated by the fact that he served as President of the Victorian State Conference in 1943; President of the New South Wales State Conference in 1956 and 1957 and as Federal President of the Churches of Christ in Australia in 1967 and 1968.

Preacher and Scholar

Arthur Stephenson majored in Greek during his studies at Melbourne University and this gave him the basis for his work as a New Testament scholar. It is perhaps a reflection of his humility that the actual depth of his understanding of Scripture became most evident to students when he was questioned and challenged closely. His preaching style is best

described as simple and yet profound. Many of his students have been deeply influenced by the beauty of his presentation of the gospel. He undertook two preaching and lecturing tours of the United States and Britain in 1955 and 1960. From his writings seven publications have been produced spanning from "Pioneering for Christian Unity" in 1940 to the history of the 100 years of Churches of Christ in New South Wales entitled "Victories of a Century", produced in 1984.

Inter-church Activities

Because of his deep love for God and his Word, his vision for the church and his ability as a Bible scholar, he entered enthusiastically into ecumenical and In-

ter-Church Council activities in order to graciously present the tenets of the Restoration Movement. He was an executive member of the Australian Council of Churches from 1967 to 1971 and served as President of the New South Wales Council of Churches from 1956 until 1959.

The Man
Throughout all of these activities, and many more, he maintained a strong sense of Christian humility and dignity. He and Ella formed a very close marriage partnership and provided a beautiful home of nurture for their family. His love for his children and his grandchildren has always been very special to him and to them. He also remained vitally inter-

•Continued on Page 15

C.W.F. 102nd CONFERENCE

**Wesley Church, 148 Lonsdale Street,
Melbourne**

THURSDAY, APRIL 28th, 1988

Theme: Reach Out - Now!

President: Miss Phyl Davis.

Morning: 10.20 a.m.:

Organ Prelude
Call to Worship
Duet - Mrs Glenys Reaby
and Mrs Sandra Gibson.
Tasmanian Report
Missionary Update
- Mr Jeff May

Lunch: 12.15 p.m.:

Nicholas Hall
Tea and Coffee provided
Country lunches supplied

Afternoon: 1.20 p.m.:

Organ Prelude
Interview - Mr Trevor Giles
with Miss Joy Butler
Speaker - Mr Chek Chia.
Soloist - Mrs Jenny Fearn-
Wannan

Conference Commitment
Offering

Introduction of new
Executive

Induction of Mrs Lois Smith
as President

Afternoon Tea: 3.45 p.m.:

Nicholas Hall

Evening: 7.30 p.m.:

Speaker - Mr Brian White
Soloists - Miss Helen Price
Miss Sally Wilson

9.30 p.m.:

Closing Worship

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Theological Education Taskforce

— I.E. Allsop

Churches of Christ have begun to address the issues which will affect our future and which are vital if we are to have a credible witness and place in Australian society during the next 200 years. One of the major tasks and one of our significant working groups is now getting under way. It is the Theological Education and Ministerial Training Taskforce. This taskforce was established by the Federal Conference in Hobart as a result of concern expressed by people about the nature, direction, facilities available for, and funding of, theological education and ministerial training with Australian Churches of Christ. The taskforce will conduct a far reaching enquiry and make recommendations for future directions.

The Federal Conference Executive is thrilled that John Pedersen, an Elder of the Glenelg, S.A., church, has accepted the position of heading up the taskforce. John has been active in Conference work for many years having served on the S.A. Conference Executive, State Board, the Department of Christian Education and the Christian Union committees. Professionally he is a trained teacher who holds the following academic qualifications — B.A., Dip.Ed., Dip.T., M.A.(Ed.Admin.). He was headmaster of Seaton High School for six years and then moved into the

administration of the South Australian Education Department. He is currently an Assistant Director in the Director General's Secretariat.

During the past 18 months he has been appointed by the Minister of Education as the Executive Officer to two major reviews into aspects of the Department's organisation, one of which involved working with the Vice-Chancellor of Macquarie University. John is active in community and professional groups such as Rotary and the Institute of Personnel Management. He serves as a member of several course advisory committees for tertiary institutions and is a part-time lecturer at Flinders University in their Master of Education Administration course.

Each State Conference has been asked to nominate a suitable person to work with John so that the taskforce can perform a thorough job and be aware of all shades of thought and expectations within our churches.

During the year the taskforce will meet on a regular basis and seek submissions from churches, Departments and individuals about their hopes and concerns relating to theological education and ministerial training.

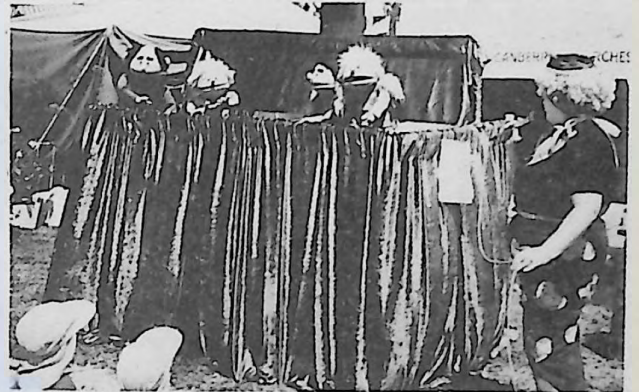
From their work will emerge a report to be presented to the 42nd Federal Conference which will be held during January 1989 in Canberra.

How best do we prepare our people and ministers to make a witness and what theological, educational and ministerial training issues must we address to ensure that we make a contribution to the Australian community in the future?

If you want further details John Pedersen can be contacted at 18 Pacific Pde., West Beach 5024.

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Churches at Canberra Show



Chris Pritchard and the puppets

Canberra celebrates its 75th birthday this year and the A.C.T. Churches of Christ helped in the celebrations with their Outreach Tent at the Canberra Show.

This year our churches added to their program a communion service on the Sunday morning. The other attractions were a puppet theatre, "Chrysalis" (a singing group), the Belconnen Big Band, face painting and parachute games. Tea, coffee and home made biscuits were offered at the cheapest rate at the show, and the witness and outreach that this

provided must be seen to be believed!

The attendance at the tent this year was greater than in other years, in spite of the heavens opening on the area on the Saturday.

The impact that this particular outreach has is summed up in the words of a person from the Australia Post stand who asked for a cup of tea: "I came here because you are one of the few mainstream churches who are prepared to show themselves."



Face painting

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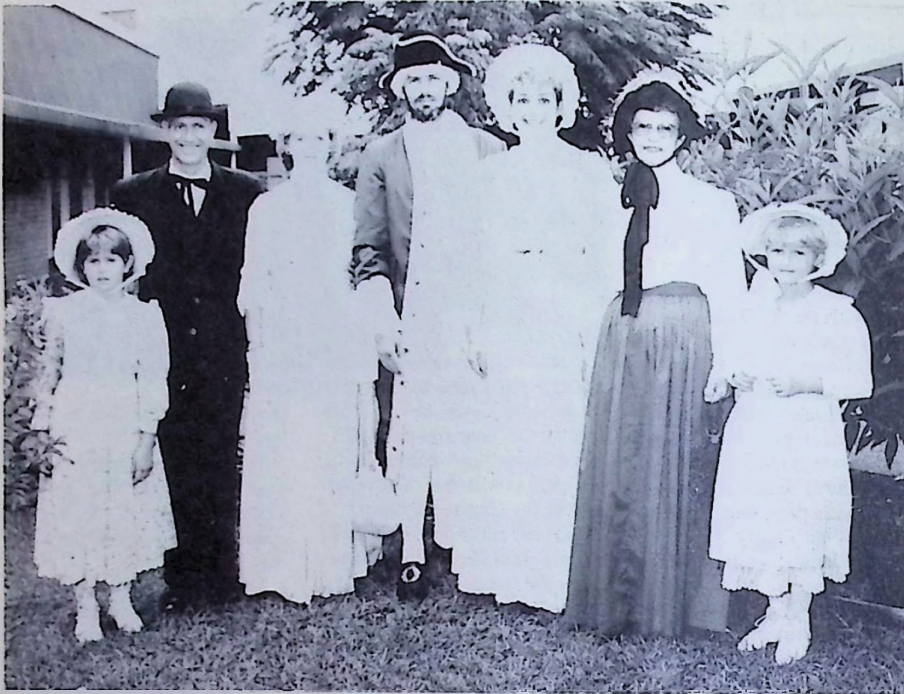
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Manning Valley celebrates first Christian service



Katie Henson, Lyal Handebo, Marie Handebo, Wayne Henderson (portraying Captain Arthur Phillip), Ann Henson, Lillian Henson and Amy Henson

A wet morning brought a change of venue from under the gum trees to the auditorium of the Manning Gardens school for Manning Valley, N.S.W., church's celebration of the first Christian service held in Australia. The celebration was held as the church's morning worship on February 7, with 200 attending.

Months of planning culminated in a large percentage of the congregation arriving in period cos-

tume, many of them in convict outfits. A number of men grew beards especially for this event.

Music was provided by Beth Norling on a 120 year old pedal organ and Barry Bates played a violin.

A special commemorative folder was produced by Lea Svenson for the service.

Minister Barry Rice took the part of the first minister Richard Johnson and based the sermon on

the passage used by Johnson — Psalms 116:12, and looked at the things for which we can be thankful as a result of our Christian heritage in this land.

Wayne Henson, depicting Captain Arthur Phillip, read the Bible reading. Dr David Norling, the President, based his thoughts on how a person arriving in 1788 may have felt towards God on arriving in a new land. he based his thoughts on Romans 8.

The celebration received excellent media coverage both prior to and after the event.

Costuming did not detract from worship but certainly helped to create fellowship as people shared damper and billy tea following the service.

Burmese born Muslim leader, Inamullah Khan, has won the Templeton Prize for 1988. Dr Khan, founder of the Modern World Muslim Congress, won the prize for his work as a co-ordinator for peace between Christians, Muslims and Jews.



Beth Norling, organist, and Barry Bates, violinist.

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Living Simply to fight Poverty

For a week in May thousands of Australians will give up eating between meals and dining out. They will eat at home - perhaps a simple meal of rice and vegetables. They will not be dieting, but "Simply Sharing".

Simply Sharing Week is a new initiative of Force Ten (an aid and development education program of the Australian Council of Churches and Australian Catholic Relief). It aims to encourage youth groups, parishes, schools and families to live more simply for a week. Many will forgo other "extras" besides food and will donate the money saved to specific self-help projects in the Third World.

Force Ten has prepared a complete kit for groups that wish to take part. This includes Bible studies and worship resources, a simply saving guide, recipes for easy and economical meals and information on the two projects to which money will go: a community development project for landless farmers in South India and a training and health care project in rural Indonesia.

The Simply Sharing Week was developed because many people wished to do something personal and practical about poverty.

Simply Sharing Week is from May 22 — 29. For more information contact Force Ten, Box C199 Clarence St. P.O., Sydney 2000. Phone (02) 29.2215.

God's People God's World

- I.E. Allsop.

42nd Federal Conference
January 15-20, 1989
Canberra A.C.T.

Where will Churches of Christ be in the next century? What steps do we need to take now to ensure that our witness to the gospel will be vital, relevant and challenging? These and other questions, directed towards our understanding of the future, will be the major agenda items for the 42nd Federal Conference which will be held in Canberra.



"GODS PEOPLE GODS WORLD"

The process of thinking through the issues and gathering input to share at conference began last year. An expert working group, drawn from all walks of life in Canberra, began to work as a "think-tank". They are now in the final stages of preparing a report for consideration by our churches which will chart possible, disturbing, and yet exciting

Youth encourages Romance



Walters discuss the drinks

On Valentine's Day a youth service with a difference was held at the Belconnen, A.C.T., church in the form of a dinner, with the young people waiting, and the congregation as guests.

Over 100 attended the dinner, which started at 7 p.m. with appetizers and drinks.

The guests then moved into the main hall where they were seated

and ready for the first course of their three course meal.

Candle lit tables and soft music from the piano helped set the scene for a dinner full of romance.

Highlights of the evening included recollections of first dates, waltzing and a 're-marriage' ceremony.

In addition to being a social success, over \$850 was raised for the church.

trends and opportunities for a contemporary Christian witness.

Together with this "think-tank" will be the reports of the Theological Education and Ministerial Training Taskforce and the Music and Worshiping Working Group contributing to the conference agenda and debate.

The purpose is to consider the work of our federal agencies, and the nature and function of conference itself, in the light of the future trends, needs and directions in Australian society. In addition there will be times of joyous worship, rich enjoyment of each other in fellowship and relaxing recreation.

Nell Gilmore and Pat Kerr (A.C.W.F. President) with their

vision of, and deep commitment to the church under the Lordship of Christ are convinced that it is time for us to affirm that we are "God's People" and that the future needs to be grasped by us so that the redemptive work of Jesus Christ for "God's World" can be made known.

This 42nd Federal Conference in Canberra promises to be an opportunity for us to take the initiative and direct the future under the Lordship of Christ. Your attendance and support for the conference will be valued.

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THE HYMN BOOK

To the Editor,

'Next to theology, I give to music the highest place and honour' — Martin Luther.

All praise to the Federal Committee which is attempting to raise the standard of music within our churches ("A.C." Feb. 20). The decision of the committee not to produce a new hymn book is however questionable. After all, our hymn book is the basic tool for producing music in worship, and while our 'new book' (1976 edition) is an improvement on the old book, when weighed in the balance, it is certainly found wanting!

1: Standard tunes such as *Aberystwyth*, *Abbot's Leigh* and *Westminster Abbey* were omitted.

2: Some tunes are unnecessarily repeated.

3: Some of the arrangements are extremely inferior.

4: Some of the harmonies are pretty ghastly, and clearly not enough attention has been given to selecting the better harmonies from various hymn books.

5: The marriage of some tunes to some words shows very poor musical taste.

6: A number of key signatures are wrong, and very often a dot after a note is missing.

7: The selected scripture readings are from the NEB which has never proved popular, and should be replaced by a more acceptable version. A wider selection of pointed Psalms would also be an improvement.

All in all, as far as hymn books go, on a scale of 1 to 10, our new book ranks about 6! In the forward, the Committee is said to have undertaken 'exhaustive consideration'. It's a pity they weren't more exhausted. Had they searched wider and been more competent, we would have enjoyed a better hymn book.

With respect, I think it time we went back to the drawing board, appoint a more qualified commit-

tee, and produce a hymn book of higher standard. That is of course unless we are content to offer God second best!

One last thought. Since music plays such an important part in our worship, the Theological Education Taskforce would do well to ensure that every theological student is instructed in the rudiments and theory of music. Hymnody and Hymnology should be compulsory, and ideally every student in our colleges should be taught a musical instrument. Then at least the pulpit should be able to give a positive lead, and assist in the long overdue raising of musical standards.

— N. Aubrey
(Taree, N.S.W.)

THE GRAPE VINE

To the Editor,

Having grown up in the Churches of Christ let me report some observations. I have come to the conclusion that, in theory, the Churches of Christ is the best church around.

However in practice it seems to have attracted a greater number of maniacs than you would expect. One example of this is the famous ether-like organism called the Churches of Christ gossip network. This pernicious animal lives in Telecom lines, Bible study groups, churches, in fact anywhere that two or three are gathered. It has not only a very wide habitat but also a very long elephantine memory and has been known to recall many events from years ago.

This ravenous wolf must be brought under control and exterminated so that we can continue to "walk in the light as he is in the light".

— Paul Craven
(Belmore, N.S.W.)

PUNISHMENT OF ABORIGINES?

To the Editor,

To those outraged by R.D. Clark's letter about the Aborigines ("A.C." February 20). Yes! Our God is a God of love! And he is also a God of terrible retribution to those who transgress his com-

mands, as we read the Old Testament.

To those who believe God's Word, as against the Theistic Evolutionists, the Aboriginal occupied this land for only a few thousand years, as man's creation only took place around 8,000 years ago. See Josephus "Antiquities of the Jews".

We are all Noah's progeny, the Aboriginal probably from Ham. Since Cain murdered Abel no race has been exempt from the brutality of being conquered, and this race has probably suffered no more than our own forbears at some time. And the time is nigh when the Christian is to suffer such brutality for his faith!

God, in his wisdom, and for his own reason, separated this race

from all others, and it is clear that now is his timing for them to be brought back into his fold.

Think of the record of Spain and the Catholic Church in the New World, where races were exterminated, and in God's name! Britain may have been the best choice!

Therefore let all who are truly Christians help to bring the Christian message to those of our Aboriginal Brethren who have not yet heard it.

— J.H. Luxton
(Biggenden, Qld.)

LETTER TO TERTIUS

To Tertius,

I have been meaning to write and thank you for your Letters to the Editor for so many years. They have been most helpful and thought provoking.

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

The Prodigal Son.

To the Editor,

Our minister went to town on the Parable of the Prodigal this morning. He said that it should be the Parable of the Returning Son, or even of the Waiting Father, or even the Reluctant Brother. He didn't suggest that it might be the Parable of the Fatted Calf!

Well if he can use his imagination, so can I. I have often played with the idea of what would have happened if the Prodigal had decided to stay down on the pig farm. I've thought of several scenarios.

He could have sat on the sty fence being sorry for himself because nobody loved him, not even the Father.

He could have had the notion that the Father was dead and couldn't help him anyhow.

He could have said that even if the Father was alive he wouldn't want the likes of him anyhow.

He could even have blamed the Father for letting him get into this mess.

He could certainly have blamed his conditioning as second sibling, as spoiled brat, as the result of oedipus complex, or having been made to go to the synagogue every sabbath as a kid.

His pride could have kept him from going to the Father even if he starved among the pigs.

I know that he could have done all of those things because from time to time I've done them. But thank God that like the Prodigal, I've had the good sense to head home to the Father. And every time "the red carpet" has been out!

Yours gratefully,
TERTIUS

Re your latest contribution "Heirs of the Father" ("A.C." February 20), I too find many of the modern day choruses lacking.

During my Sunday School days (1903 — 1911) we sang such things as "Throw out the Lifeline" and "Dare to be a Daniel" with much vim. They inspire me still!

Again many thanks. Keep on writing please.

— Gertrude Shannon
(Wembley W.A.)

TRAVEL TO ISRAEL

To the Editor,

Readers planning to travel to Israel ("A.C." February 20 tour adverts pages 13,16 and 25 together with inserted travel brochure) might consider the following questions.

1. Why go at this time? Israel is in turmoil. The media has witnessed the daily brutality of the oppression of the Palestinian, including Palestinian Christians, in Gaza and the West Bank. Israel and the Occupied Territories are more than a "boat ride on the Sea of Galilee". And for a "Christian Fellowship" tour to be joining in 'celebrations' at this particular time would appear to be, at least, insensitive.

2. Who in fact will be your guides? In fact in Israel and the Occupied Territories (and many of the biblical sites are in the Occupied Territories) your guides will be provided by the Government. This in turn will mean that you will hardly glimpse anything more than a 'holy land' seen from a very particular point of view. When in Bethlehem why not request an Arab guide?

3. Who will you meet? One of the great disappointments of Palestinian Christians is that so often, so many visitors to their villages, to the historic biblical sites make no attempt to meet with them or learn or share in their ministry. Will you be worshipping with Canon Ria Abu El-Assal in his Anglican congregation in Nazareth, or staying with the YWCA in Jerusalem or spending an evening with the refugee pastoral ministry of the Middle East

Council of Churches in Gaza?

Why not make it a condition of your participation?

Christians visiting the 'Holy Land' and the Middle East generally should return home with: a better acquaintance with the life and witness of the local churches; a better understanding of Judaism, Islam and regional inter-faith relations, as well as; a better insight in to the peace and justice issues facing the region in the 1980's.

— Alan Matheson
(Hawthorn, Vic.)

PICTURE OF GOD

To the Editor,

I'm glad I don't worship David Allen's God ("A.C." February 20), because he is not the God in my Bible. The God in my Bible is a fairly tough character and the punishing of those who worship anyone but him (whether it be Baal or Dreamtime) or fail to obey him is common all the way through. The God of my Bible, starts in Genesis by driving Cain out of the land with the promise that if anyone kills Cain he will kill seven-fold (Gen. 4), and finishes in Revelation (Rev. 6) where he gives the rider named Death and Hades authority to kill over a quarter of the earth. He killed David's son for David's wrong (2 Sam. 12), wrote the death sentence into the law, ordered his people to kill in war and warned of the dangers of other religions (Num. 31), killed his own people by epidemics because their leader wanted to take a census (2 Sam. 24) and had a tent peg hammered through a sleeping king's head (Judges 4).

God does tell us to use love as a weapon against revenge and prejudice but against wrong doing punishment is his answer. It was Karl Marx who accepted God's ideas on social issues and love but disregarded God when he found that God punished wrong doing and idol worship.

Do we as J.B. Phillips suggests and put God in a Box (i.e. make him too small) because our West-

ern ideas override biblical ideas when in conflict?

— A. Byrnes
(Goonellaban, N.S.W.)

TERTIUS APPRECIATED

To the Editor,

I am astounded by the continuing astute observations made by Tertius. This person makes a major contribution to every issue of "The Australian Christian" with such amazing insights into human nature and refreshing and thought provoking comments on the frailty of Christians.

Please pass on my appreciation and commendation for this work as it is for me the highlight of every issue.

— P. Aileen
(Melbourne, Vic.)

GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT?

To the Editor,

Why do so many people get defensively angry and confused over the acknowledgement or practice of spiritual gifts? It is all a bit bewildering to me. Fear, bitterness, division and debate seem to be the order of the day. Plain logic, let alone Scriptural truth are thrown out of the window in a whirlwind of emotional turmoil.

Consider the check list below as a means of evaluating whether or not you expect, believe in or practise spiritual gifts:

Have you ever prayed for wisdom? If the answer is yes, then you have sort a spiritual gift (1 Cor. 12:8).

Have you ever prayed for understanding or revelation? See 1 Cor 12:8.

Have you ever prayed for the courage to witness? Then you have prayed for "the gift of boldness" (Acts 4:29-31).

Have you ever prayed to be a more effective witness? (Eph. 4:11).

Have you ever prayed to be a preacher and expounder of the Word of God? (1 Cor. 12:28).

Have you ever prayed for the ministry of helping people? (Eph. 4:11).

Have you ever prayed to be an encourager? (Rom. 12:8).

Have you ever prayed that God

will give you a ministry to the sick? (1 Cor. 12:9).

Have you asked God for the opportunity to assist in the church in any way possible no matter how menial? Then you have asked for the "gift of helps". (1 Cor. 12:28).

The list could go on and on. The question I would like to ask you however, is "Are you sure you don't believe in the gifts of the Spirit?"

— Don Herbert
(Goonellabah, N.S.W.)

(This letter has been edited to bring it closer to the 200 word limit on Letters to the Editor).

WHICH RIBBON?

To the Editor,

In regard to the issue of the two ribbons and the new waves that we have been hearing about, have we failed to hear the church crying? I know that we will always have different views on different subjects of the Bible, but do they have to end with such soul destroying results? Are we listening to the voice of God in and through his Word, or to men?

There are many who like me are looking for one miracle in the lives of people, and that is the miracle of new birth, and when we see it our rejoicing is shadowed by this thinking that Christ's death and resurrection isn't enough for their salvation and needs something more. Gaye Allison had a delightful illustration ("A.C." March 5) but uses it in the wrong sense. The batteries should be likened to Christ entering the life that up till then has been self motivated. Is it self that is creeping into the gospel; is that why the church is crying?

— Ron Goodwin
(Enfield, S.A.)

Panama's 9 Roman Catholic bishops have called for an independent inquiry into charges that the general who is the country's de facto ruler, Manuel Antonio Noriega, is involved in drug trafficking, electoral fraud and the murder of political opponents.

THE CHRISTIAN ECONOMIST AS 'THEOLOGIAN'

A new paper released from the Zadok Institute explores the relationship between Christian faith and economics. The author, **Douglas Hynd**, leads us into a critical appraisal of the relationship between theology and economics, prompting new understanding of whether or not there is such a thing as a **Christian economics**.

This study has grown out of the lives and thoughts of a group of people who meet to think Christianly about this key aspect of life.

This Zadok Series 1 Paper, S34, "Between the Gospel and the Enlightenment: The Christian Economist as 'Theologian'" is available from the Zadok Institute for Christianity and Society, Blackall St., Barton 2600 for \$2 plus 78 cents postage.

EMBODIMENT AND INCARNATION:

Notes on preparing an anthology of Australian Religious verse.

by **Les A. Murray (Eremos Institute)**.

The Eremos Institute issue an occasional essay. In this essay Les Murray talks on how he came to edit the recently published "Anthology of Australian Religious Poetry" (Collins Dove). Les Murray also looks at what he classifies as religious poetry and the subjective nature of some of his selections. Les Murray is regarded as one of Australia's leading poets who is also well known for his Christian faith.

Copies of this paper are available from The Aquinas Library, 3rd Floor, The Catholic Centre, 143 Edward St., Brisbane 4000 for a cost of \$6 (postage included).

BOOKS

SERVANT SONGS

Compiled by **Guy Jansen and Felecia Edgecombe**

This is an interesting collection of contemporary spiritual songs, meditative scripture songs, Psalms and traditional hymns. The book contains many old favourites as well as new compositions by the compilers.

Many of the songs are suitable for congregational singing, while others are more suited to soloists or small groups. The accompaniments are reasonably simple and can be played by keyboard player or guitarist.

"Servant Songs" would be very useful to the congregation who embraces a wide range of music in its worship.

— Jean Rose

US AUSSIES

The fascinating history they didn't tell us at school.

by **Mal Garvin (Hayzon) \$7.95.**

In this book Mal Garvin attempts to define the influences and characteristics that make up the native born Australian personality. He sees that the true Australian face has been largely missing from our history and that particularly we have not been taught about the 'currency lads and lassies', the first true white Australians. Mal argues that it is by seeing the way these people developed and the way their attitudes were shaped that will show us today where we have come from and give us insights into who we are and help us glimpse our God given destiny.

This isn't a dry history book but an easily read examination of the various eras of our history and the effect this has had on our psyche. Mal strives to illustrate how our history has shaped what it means to be an Australian. Historical, political and sociological themes are all examined as he seeks to tell the story of how the modern Australian came into being.

Apparently a companion volume is to be published this year which will explore ways that Christians can reach out to ordinary Australians and also set out a set of values for Australia in the future. This will be based on the assumptions of this volume and his understanding of Australians.

"Us Aussies" is available through many bookshops or from Fusion's Youth and Community Centres in capital cities. It is also available by mail from Fusion Bookshop, P.O. Box 105, Hornsby 2077 for \$9.50 which includes postage.

JEWS AND CHRISTIANS: CREATING A NEW SPIRIT Churches) \$9.95.

edited by **John W. Roffey (Victorian Council of Churches) \$9.95.**

This book has been commissioned by the Working Group on Christian Jewish Relations of the Commission of Living Faiths and Community Relations of the Victorian Council of Churches. After that mouth full, this book is a collection of papers on various themes relating to the interaction of believers with each other, by both Christians and Jews. Firstly various implications about the Land (Israel) are explored by both faiths. The second part of the book deals with a discussion of the development of Christianity and Judaism in Australia and then looks at the growing dialogue between both groups. The final section provides demographic material about both faiths in Australia.

This book contains material that is written by those who are committed to a continuing dialogue between Christians and Jews. Little account is given to the opinion of those who would be seeking to convert Jews to Christianity on one hand or from the very strictly Orthodox Jews on the other hand.

This book is available for \$9.95 (plus \$2 postage) from The Victorian Council of Churches Working Group on Christian-Jewish Relations, 190 Dorking Rd., North Box Hill 3129. Phone (03) 817.3848.

UNDERSTANDING PSYCHIATRY

by **William Wilkie (Hill of Content) \$14.95.**

When Dr William Wilkie, a practising psychiatrist, sought a suitable textbook for an introductory course in Christian psychiatry at Alcorn College in Brisbane, the only books available were either too complex or not practical enough. Hence this book, which explains some of the important principles of psychiatry to the ordinary reader. The author has found that there is a continual demand for information about psychiatric illnesses from patients themselves, as the number and variety of self-help groups has increased in recent years. He feels the sections on stress breakdown, phobic anxiety, grief counselling and depression would prove helpful to patients and their relatives and friends to understand some of their suffering and why various health professionals take the approaches they do towards psychiatric problems. This book attempts to take the mystery out of psychiatry and answer the questions we have on suffering, schizophrenia, alcohol and sedative abuse, obsessions and compulsions, mental illness caused by brain disease, marriage counselling, psychotherapy, abnormal sexual behaviour and more. The book would be useful as an aid to counselling training, and the excellent glossary of psychiatric terms, together with comprehensive, readable and concise explanations of many topics, make this a valuable reference book.

—Geoff Alves



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Bibles on the road to Moscow



Printed sheets of Russian Bibles coming of the press at Biblia Printing Pant, Stuttgart.

Two truck loads of Bibles left Stuttgart, West Germany on February 4 bound for Moscow via Warsaw, Brest and Minsk.

These truck loads, which consist of 25,000 Bibles in Russian and 10,000 in German, will be delivered to the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christian Baptists in Moscow. A total of 115,000 Bibles will go into Russia, not 110,000 as previously announced.

These two trucks represent the first of five shipments, three from Germany and two from England.

A second shipment of 25,000 Russian Bibles left England for the Soviet Union at the end of February. The third shipment

leaves Stuttgart in March consisting of 23,000 Russian Bibles and 2,000 Ukrainian Bibles. The fourth shipment of 25,000 Bibles will leave England in April and the final consignment of 5,000 German Bibles will leave Stuttgart in late April.

The cost of printing and transporting the 115,000 Russian and Ukrainian Bibles is \$518,352 and is being shared by the Bible Society and the Baptist World Alliance. The 10,000 German Bibles are destined for German speaking Mennonite Congregations in the USSR. The cost of these Bibles has been met by the Mennonite Church in the West.

Response to Famine

After a tragically brief absence famine is once again gripping communities throughout Eritrea. Unless they receive outside help 1.5 million Eritreans are at risk of starvation.

Eritrea's rainfall of 147mm in 1987 was the lowest in 40 years. There has been a complete crop failure.

The Kale Heywet (Word of Life) churches in Asmara and Decamere have already established feeding programs for 10,000. They hope to increase this to a total of 45,000.

The Inter Church Relief and Development Alliance has urged all I.R.D.A. members to respond generously and quickly in support of the Kale Heywet Church. TEAR Australia, as the Australian representative of I.R.D.A.,

has made an immediate emergency grant of \$15,000 to the feeding programs. It is thought that the programs will be needed until the next harvest in November. At present it costs about \$50 to provide food for one person for one year.

Information on the program is available from TEAR Australia, P.O. Box 289, Hawthorn 3122.

The US Supreme Court has agreed to decide whether the Catholic Church in the US can be forced, in legal proceedings aimed at stripping it of its tax exemption, to turn over large numbers of documents related to its anti-abortion activities.

Not Left Alone

"Pray for Geoff Maxwell because he will be alone and running the station ..." This sentence is true in one way and not so true in another way.

It is true that there are certain responsibilities I have in running Bunapas station on my own. For example there are the pays for the workman, the keeping of accounts of money that comes in and goes out, and any problems that may arise on the station. I also have to go to the outstations and repair equipment. These things are all my responsibility, because at present I am the only 'white skin' in the area. So in that sense, It is true that I'm alone and running the station.

— Geoff Maxwell
(Bunapas, P.N.G.)

There is however a sense in which the sentence is not true. I am surrounded by trained national staff. These people help me to run and look after the station at Bunapas. I really don't know what I would do without their help, and so I ask you to please pray for our fellow brothers and sisters. They have been trained, or are in the process of being trained to work with the Conference of Churches of Christ in Papua New Guinea. Pray also that God will raise up more men and women in this country who are strong in the Lord.

Christians underground in Kampuchea

A delegation which recently visited Kampuchea heard what transpired to be the closest to a Christian witness possible in the country.

While recounting the story of how he lost seven members of his

family of nine during the Pol Pot years, one of the guides for the party said: "God must have looked after me."

Christians do not openly admit their religious allegiance in Kampuchea. Despite some thawing in their official attitude to Buddhism, which includes 98% of the Khmer people, and Islam, now spring up around mosques, Christians still face personal risk and danger.

While expatriates are allowed to hold church services, they are not allowed to evangelise and the Khmer's are not allowed to join in.

Jim Bakker, defrocked by the Assemblies of God last spring for his involvement in the PTL scandal, is once more a Pentecostal minister in good standing. Faith Christian Fellowship International, a 10 year old church based in Tulsa, Oklahoma, has announced that Bakker was ordained in November as one of its 1,200 ministers. He has been assigned to work assisting another minister at a church in Lancaster, California.

Fritz Laubach, Chairman of the German Evangelical Alliance claims that the number of Christians in prisons and labour camps exceeds 20,000. Although this figure includes Islamic countries, by far the worst situation in this respect is in Communist dominated states such as Ethiopia, Mozambique, Vietnam and Kampuchea, but also in the Eastern European countries.

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March 16 was the 25th anniversary of the first Lifeline Centre in Sydney. Since 1963 Lifeline has spread to well over 200 cities in 10 countries.

The death toll from the recent Brazilian floods has reached at least 450 in Rio de Janeiro. More than 820 have been injured and about 36,000 have lost their homes. Authorities say the damage bill could reach \$224 million. World Vision has joined many other groups trying to set up adequate shelter and providing blankets, food and mattresses as soon as possible.

Flash flooding has devastated part of Ansokia town in central Ethiopia, while drought continues to cause famine in other areas of the country.

See-through dresses, high-heel shoes and a popular hair fashion have been banned from services of the United Church of Zambia in a bid to curb what some church leaders believe is "moral decadence".

A third of Victorian students who went back to school went to non-government schools. Across Australia 2.19 million students attended government schools while 808,000 attend independent schools. The number of students in non-Catholic independent schools showed a marked increase.

Barrington Williams, the British Indoor Long Jump champion has stated in an interview that he will turn down the chance to compete in the Olympic long jump if he is selected because he refuses to jump on a Sunday. The program for the Olympic Games in Seoul, South Korea, has the qualifying round of the long jump on a Sunday.

A medical team in West Germany is responding to

the shortage of kidneys available for transplant into children by removing them from severely handicapped new born babies, according to a report in the "New England Journal of Medicine".

The Malaysian Government has closed 33 Baptist churches in the Malaysian state of Negri Sembilan, using national zoning regulations to halt the services and other activities of the congregations. Baptist leaders claim they have been meeting on these present sites for more than 20 years and say the action is part of a government crackdown which began in late October when many people were arrested, including 5 Baptist leaders. The Malaysian Baptist Convention has about 5,000 members in more than 90 churches. About 33% of churches are without ministers.

Just over half of American teenagers attend church each week while 40% of adults attend regularly according to a recent Gallup Poll.

An Ash Wednesday (Feb. 17) statement by 52 Anglican Bishops says the addition of women to their number would "call in question the continuance of the Anglican Communion".

The NHK and the GKN, the 2 principal Dutch Reformed denominations, have formed a joint commission to consider a variety of questions including the dedication rather than baptism of children, whether children should be permitted to receive communion, whether confirmed members who never commune should be allowed to be elders, and whether elders who are re-elected should be re-ordained.

The first ordinations of women as priests in the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Finland were

scheduled for March 6, except in the diocese which covers the northern part of the country. Its bishop is the only one of the 8 bishops refusing to ordain women. However a procedure to allow women in his diocese to be ordained has been agreed.

In the wake of the expulsion of the Christian Conference of Asia from Singapore the United Methodist Church in the Philippines (part of the US based denomination) has voted to suspend its CCA membership.

At its synod the white Reformed Church in South Africa formally rescinded earlier stands against multiracial worship and in favour of separate congregations for people of different races.

To mark the 250th anniversary of John Wesley's mission and the birth of Methodism, the British Tourist Authority has produced a colour map highlighting 70 British towns associated with the preacher.

Two Sydney men who voted last year in favour of women priests at the Anglican general synod have been "dropped" from the church's governing body at the behest of the Anglican Church League, a group which opposes women priests.

While more than 300,000 Australians are known to be completely dependent on alcohol, about 1.5 million in Australia are directly affected in one way or another by alcohol abuse.

In America the latest line of dolls is the Special Blessings family of dolls. The cherubic, saucer eyed figures clasp their hands in a gesture of prayer with the help of Velcro. The dolls cost about \$11US and advanced orders have been brisk.

Up to 30% of hospital beds in Australia are occupied by people with alcohol related problems and up to 40% of divorces and judicial separations are the result of alcohol related difficulties.

More than 20 million US citizens do not get enough to eat each day, according to a recent report by the Physician's Task Force on Hunger in America.

When asked what person living or dead they would canonise 26% of respondents in a recent "US Catholic" poll answered Mother Teresa. 8% said their mother and 6% said Dorothy Day.

In England the Church of England's debate on whether homosexuals should be admitted to the ordained ministry is likely to continue. This follows the failure of the General Synod to make a firm, clear decision on the issue when it sat on Feb. 8.

Czechoslovak Christians are continuing to sign a petition for religious freedom, despite moves to deter them, according to the Keston News Service. Police arrested and interrogated several people in connection with the petition.

Labour Camps VS 389/36 and 37 in the Perm region of the Ural mountains which are reserved for political prisoners have been closed down according to a USSR News Brief.

In a letter to the world's Roman Catholic bishops, the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship said that functioning Roman Catholic churches are not to be used for concerts featuring secular music.

At the recent General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the US some of the decisions included — Defeat for a resolution

that would have blocked financial aid to the African National Congress. The resolution urged the denomination to oppose violence and seek peaceful solutions to end apartheid; a resolution supporting a US peace tax fund that would provide a legal alternative for those who do not want to pay taxes that will be used to support military action and the arms race; the adoption of a motion opposing the Strategic Defense Initiative (Star Wars) as a threat to peace; and a resolution calling on members to support their churches "rather than those of television ministries with poor records of fiscal integrity".

Amid reports of a rapid escalation of violence in Gaza and the West Bank, the Executive of the Australian Council of Churches has called on all parties to support the convening of an International Peace Conference in conformity with the guidelines of the 38th session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Jim Wallis, founder and pastor of the Sojourners Community in Washington DC, and Editor of "Sojourners" has accepted an invitation to the general meeting of the ACC June 23-27. The meeting will be held at the Labour Conference Centre, Eastwood, NSW.

The ACC has urged the Federal Government to increase the refugee and special humanitarian intake from 12,000/year to 18,000 as soon as possible. The ACC also endorsed an overall increase in immigration from 120,000 to 180,000/year over a 3 year period. It has asked that the Government give some priority to people from Southeast Asia and the Pacific countries.

Southport on the Move

There has been considerable progress since this photo was taken in January and the rear section of the complex is almost ready for occupation. We must vacate our present building by Easter, and the first service at Parklands Drive will be held on Easter Sunday, April 3, in the youth hall at the right rear of the photo.

The centre rear section is a seminar room seating some 200. The Sunday School halls are extreme left, and in between the Sunday School and youth halls, there will be a landscaped outdoor dining and barbecue area. A caretaker's residence will also be on site.

The new church is in a very strategic location, is high on a hill, and surrounded by a C.A.E. College, showgrounds, Salvation Army Home and lawn cemetery. Most important of all is the massive building of new housing estates, and as we are the only church in this new area, we expect it to become the centre of family worship for many hundreds of new people.

The prospect is exciting, and under the positive and excellent leading of our senior minister, Noel Newton, great things are expected.

If you are visiting the Gold Coast our future address will be Parklands Drive, Musgrave Hill. The easiest way to find it is to begin at the side of the old church and follow North Street - Smith Street for 2.6 km to the turn-off just above the new showgrounds. The turn-off will be sign posted.

To all who have given so much of their time and voluntary labour in the building of this huge complex, we express our deepest gratitude. It has been an accident free project.

The project has been financed through the sale of the present property and an I.C.A. interest free loan of \$200,000.

— Noel Waters

Lima, Peru, is one of the few cities in the world with a significant movement of churches among the poor. Of the 610 churches in the city of 6 million, 90% are among the poor.



Some of the voluntary workers, both men and women, standing in front of the pulpit area of the new Southport, Qld., chapel.



NATIONAL BIBLE SUNDAY 17th JULY 1988

In 1988 National Bible Sunday is three years old. Parts of the Book which National Bible Sunday celebrates are over 3,000 years old.

The remarkable thing about the Bible is that it is as fresh as today's bread.

Church congregations all around Australia will celebrate the gift of God's Word on Sunday, 17th July. It will be a national celebration.

Join others in declaring the Bible's importance to our church and nation.

Bible Society and Scripture Union working together to help Australians read the Bible.

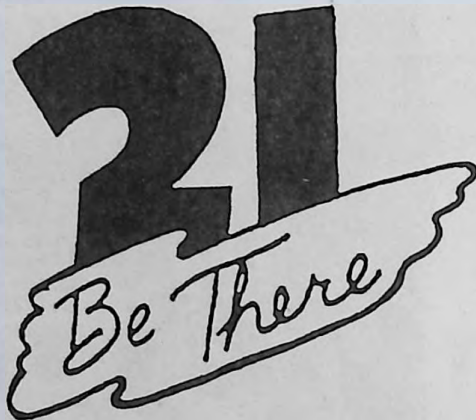
It is the Word for Australia.

Bible Society and Scripture Union will supply material for your celebration. Call the State Office of either organisation, now.

Plan Now!

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The Victorian Temperance Alliance has launched a community project that aims to develop community awareness to the benefits of increasing the legal minimum drinking age to 21 years. The overall aim of the project is to encourage responsible attitudes and behaviour generally by the wider community, and specifically by youth, towards alcohol. The aim at present is to change community attitudes so that they will then put pressure on politicians to change laws.

The Temperance Alliance sees that these objectives can be achieved through a concentrated education and awareness campaign involving legislators, parents and young people. They see the involvement of young people as essential for the campaign to be successful.

One of the speakers at the launch was Michelle Ring, an 18 year old from Canberra. She has become convicted to do something positive to help her contemporaries. She became involved in drinking at parties and discos at the age of 13. One of the com-

ments that she made was that many young people see the future as a black hole that gives them no real possibilities. This lack of a future helps give them an incentive to drink.

Another factor that she emphasised is that teenagers need to be shown that they can have fun without alcohol. Her feeling with previous campaigns was that they had failed because it was primarily adults involved and generally young people do not listen to older people. She, and others, have set up Nocahols to promote non-drinking among young people. Interestingly since Michelle has started on her campaign her family has all given up drinking alcohol and are using their property as a training centre for young people in leadership and communication.

Another speaker at the launch, who confessed to being a social drinker, was Dr Paul Wilson. Dr Wilson is the Assistant Director (Research and Statistics) at the Australian Institute of Criminology. He commented that as he views crime statistics he sees the role that alcohol increasingly plays directly and indirectly in crime. He commented that alcohol use does not lead to crime but it does increase the possibility of crime occurring.

He said that alcohol has a 100 times greater effect on society than illegal drugs. He also shared some of the statistical evidence on the effects of a zero alcohol blood reading on driving.

He called for a pricing policy on alcoholic drinks that increases the price according to the higher levels of alcohol. He also called for more stringent regulations of the industry on such matters as the

Assisting in Church Planting.

- Ron McLean.



Lena Ting from the Cowandilla church involved in Sunday School teaching at the newly established Chinese Alliance church.

The Grace Fellowship, a Malaysian youth group, regularly meets for fellowship and Bible study after sharing with the Cowandilla, S.A., church in Sunday morning worship. Towards the end of last year these young people prayed that God would use them to serve him in additional areas of special need.

The Lord answered their prayer when they were contacted by Suan Le, a Chinese Christian

from Vietnam, who was eager to establish a church, mainly for Chinese speaking people, from Vietnam and Kampuchea. In November 1987 the first meeting of the new church was held and since then, the Grace Fellowship has been actively involved in establishing this church, through the ministries of preaching, visitation, music, Sunday School teaching and youth activities.

In this major church planting role they need prayer that they will be able to continue assistance as tertiary education studies will increasingly demand their time and attention.

The new church is known as the S.A. Chinese Alliance Church and 40 now gather for worship every Sunday in facilities provided by the Woodville Gardens Uniting Church.

images presented in alcohol advertising. His final question was, are we (Australia) going to lurch or stagger into the next century?

Details of the 21 Be There campaign can be obtained from the Victorian Temperance Alliance, 47 Wellington St., Windsor 3181 or on (03) 51.6415.

Church of Christ ROMA

Come and help us celebrate
100 years
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August 27th & 28th
Plan to come

Register as soon as possible
with Secretary:

Alec Waldron,
P.O. Box 409,
Roma 4455.

CHURCH ON THE MOVE

The Southport Church of Christ is moving as from the 3rd April, 1988 and we desire to advise our regular visitors to the Gold Coast to take particular note of our new address, which will be **Parkland Drive, Southport, off Smith Street Connection between Gaven Way and Gold Coast Highway**. We are opposite the new College of Advanced Education (CAE). We have also changed our Morning service times as follows:

9 a.m. Communion and Worship (One service only)
6.30 p.m. Gospel Celebration

Grand opening and dedication will be held on Sunday 12th June, 1988 at 3 p.m. during the Churches of Christ South Queensland Convention.

Enquiries: Pastor Noel Newton (075) 31.4353
Administrator Ray Rittmeyer (075) 32.5660

COME AND WORSHIP WITH US IN OUR NEW COMPLEX

Student Minister for Tuggeranong

Kim Roberts, a student at Carlingford College, has accepted a call to serve at Tuggeranong, A.C.T. Kim commenced his ministry on March 6.

Kim is single, 26 years of age, and from the Kalamunda, W.A., church. He has a B.A. in Fine Arts and a Graduate Diploma in Education. He is a talented person in

areas of creativity and has a fine singing voice. He is particularly keen on personal evangelism. Kim was awarded the prize last year for the best all-round student in the first year of College studies.

Tuggeranong members are looking forward in anticipation to sharing with Kim in their ministry to the community.

History in the Making

It is with a sense of excitement that the Kalgoorlie, W.A., church is looking to where God is leading them in growth, worship and commitment. The induction of Larry Gibb on February 14 was a continuation of the direction. The service began with with proclamation of Christ alive. The Children's Choir welcomed Larry, Pauline and family. Song and prayer for our country and its leaders was followed by an address from Ian Taylor M.L.A. Larry then spoke on his calling. Ken Duffy (W.A. Conference President) and Gene Howell

(pastor at Kalgoorlie) laid hands on Larry in prayer and commitment. Gene then welcomed Larry into the pastoral team. Larry then led in communion. Many guests were present from local churches. A light luncheon followed the service.

A.W.S. Stephenson

•Continued from Page 4

ested in the well-being and ministries of his students till the time of his death. He was truly a man of whom it can be said - "in him the Spirit of God dwelt".

John Ellerby Honoured



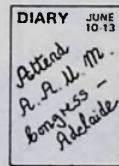
Lorna and John Ellerby

On February 27 the Thornleigh, N.S.W. church held a dinner to pay tribute to John V. Ellerby for his 34 years of devoted and efficient service as Church Secretary. It was a time of celebration, remembering the years of church history that it spanned, and many thanks were expressed to John for his loyalty and the fine quality of his service.

Discovery '88

100 Americans are coming November 7 — 18. More than 50 preachers plus song evangelists, wives and personal workers with experience in evangelism, church planting and missionary work. 30 churches in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South and Western Australia have confirmed agreement to conduct crusades. Only another 40 churches will be able to participate. If interested write to Doug Wills, P.O. Box 291, Kenmore 4069.

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NEW ZEALAND: 592 Dominion Rd, Balmoral. 4. Auckland. (09) 689-118



BIRTHS

IRWIN (MANLEY) Scott and Wendy welcome a beautiful little daughter, Sarah Elizabeth, born 26.2.1988.

PROSSOR (WIGNEY) Jeff and Merrilyn are proud to announce the arrival of Corinne Elizabeth on 7th March, 1988, at Derby Hospital, W.A.

WALLIS (BARRITT) Vicki and Ross give thanks to God for the birth of Michael John, at Geelong on March 14, 1988. Brother for Julie, Craig, Christine and Peter. Seventh grandchild for Shirley

Wallis (Footscray Church of Christ).

WILLIS (DAVIES). Mark and Lisa welcome a son, Timothy James (TJ), born on February 25, 1988. A brother for Naomi.

ENGAGEMENTS

WRAY — LE ROUX Kaye and Reg, of Owen, S.A., are pleased to announce the engagement of their younger daughter, Sharon Catherine, to Christopher James, elder son of Margaret and James, of Modbury, S.A. Wishing them God's continued blessing.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

WILLIAMS (ELLIS). May and Bon celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, conducted at Horsham Church of Christ, April 14, 1938, by the late Mr Methven Snr. Love from Max and Irene, Marg and Errol, Rob and Marlene and families.

DEATHS

TROMPF Raymond Glen. Passed away during the morning service at East Kew church on Sunday 21st February 1988. Much loved husband of Gwen. Loved father of Warren and Julie; Malcolm and Faye; Graeme and Linda; and Ross and Anne. Loving grandfather of 13 grandchildren. "You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you." Isaiah 26:3.

IN MEMORIAM

FLANDERS In loving memory of Helen May Flanders "Nell", who passed away suddenly on March 30, 1987. A great loss to loving husband Tom, children Gordon, Ian, Helen, Keith and Shirley, grandchildren Mark, Andrew, Rodger and Rowan. Beautiful

memories, precious forever, we all shared together.

SPRAKE, Ivy Morris. Called Home April 3rd 1987. My love for you will never fade, it grows too deep. The happy days we spent together, Those memories will last for ever. Your loving husband David and families.

WANTED TO BUY

CHURCHES OF CHRIST HYMNAL 1976 edition. 100 only good second hand words only copies. Apply Secretary Church of Christ, 95 Victoria Street, Taree 2430. Phone (065) 52.4356.

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DICKY BEACH, CALOUNDRA Beach house FF. Why not "Winter" on the Sunshine Coast and enjoy EXPO too. very reasonable rates. Contact Allan & Kath Male. Phone (07) 888.1438 (evenings). **ENJOY EXPO AND /OR GOLD COAST.** Absolute waterfront unit adjacent Bayview Harbour. Available privately. Only 40 minutes to Expo. Very reasonable rates. Enquiries: Len Brooks, 118 Wilgarning Street, Stafford Heights 4053. Phone (07) 359.7227.

KANIVA

Church of Christ

Centenary celebrations planned for

March 10, 11 & 12, 1989

Invitations will be forwarded late in 1988 to known addresses of past members of the circuit churches.

An open invitation awaits all past members or associates. If you don't receive an invitation and you desire to attend, the committee would appreciate notification of your intentions.

Sec.: D.J. Wallis, 7 Young Street, KANIVA 3419

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Two 2 hour training sessions
Sunday April 10 & 17
at 2 p.m.

How to lead in worship; the role of the President; Planning what to say; Reading the Scriptures; How to pray in public; Introducing the Lord's Supper

Conducted by
Ian Tippett THORNBURY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Cnr. St Georges Rd., & Smith St.
Contact Peter Rama
Rau, 426 St Georges Rd, Thornbury, 3071
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This group has been formed out of the expressed needs of committed Christian single people from several denominations. Would you like the opportunity to meet others and from friendships with people who have similar values and interests?

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* Maundy Thursday
7 p.m.

* Good Friday
9 a.m.

* Easter Sunday
10.30 a.m. & 7 p.m.

Preacher at all services
Kelth Horne

Church address:

Mary St., Mitchell Park
Phone (08) 277 7388.



Kelth Horne

Top News Stories

Each year "The Christian Century" select the 10 major news stories in religion in America. They use four criteria to determine their choices: (1) the extent of media coverage and commentary; (2) the impact on religious institutions and society; (3) the possible long-range implications and historical significance; and (4) the moral and ethical issues involve.

There is probably no surprise at all in their top religious news story off 1987 — the televangelist fiasco. (This is still continuing in 1988 with the disgrace of Jimmy Swaggart).

"The Christian Century" comments:—"With the help of an obliging press, the sex-and-hush-money scandal that knocked Jim and Tammy Bakker from atop the PTL television empire in March provided Americans with a real-life soap opera throughout 1987. More significantly, the scandal focused new attention on the financial practices of television evangelists and on the need for accountability in religious organisations."

The other major religious stories were:

2. The ethics of reproduction. It became clear, especially in the agonising Baby M surrogacy case, that the rise of artificial means of reproduction have outstripped our capacity for making legal and moral discriminations.

3. The Pope and American Catholics. Pope John Paul II's visit to the U.S. in September focused attention yet again on the divergence between his views on many ecclesial and moral questions, especially sexual ones, and the practices of American Catholics.

4. Textbook rulings. Two legal victories by conservative Christians who had objected to the content of public school textbooks were both overturned on appeal pushing the debate over religious liberty and secular humanism a step closer to the Supreme Court.

5 The new Lutheran church. In the course of the centuries scores of smaller U.S. Lutheran synods, divided by theological and ethnic traditions, merged into

larger groups: the Lutheran Church in America and the American Lutheran Church. In May these two, together with the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches, joined to form the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The 5.4 million member body is now the fourth largest Protestant denomination in America.

6 Southern Baptist battles. The decade long fundamentalist effort to dominate the Southern Baptist Convention was continued. The main battle this year was over the seminaries.

7. New Age religion. Whether it is the recovery of ancient spiritual practices or simply an exotic form of stress management, New Age spirituality became impossible to ignore. One of the most visible proponents of New Age spirituality was actress Shirley MacLaine.

8 Pat Robertson's campaign. TV evangelist Pat Robertson, resigning his Southern baptist ordination, officially declared himself a Republican candidate for President.

9. Denominational moves. The move and possible move of

several denominational headquarters.

10. Glasnost for religion? Signs that Mikhail Gorbachev's leadership was allowing a brand new openness in the Soviet Union raised hopes that religious freedom there might also expand.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has confirmed previous statements by the Kremlin that the missing Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg died in Moscow's Lubjank prison in 1947.

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Obituaries limited to 100 words.

BROOKS, Joseph Francis Hone

The congregations of Grote St. and Mile End gathered in significant numbers on March 7 for a thanksgiving service for the life of Joe Brooks. The service was led by Bill Bowden and Harold Long. Joe was born at Sandwell (today Birkenhead) in 1905 the second last of a family of seven. From schooling at LeFevre he went into the workforce first for Shell, then the Adelaide Pipe Works and finally for E.T.S.A. for whom he worked 32 years until retirement in 1971. He enlisted early after the outbreak of war rising to the rank of Staff Sergeant and served in the Middle East and New Guinea. Married to Dulcie Manning in 1928 this was the first wedding in the new chapel at Grote St. She predeceased him in 1946. He married again at Mile End to Pen Eden. Their union was blessed by two sons, Philip and Alan. Next to family the church could be truly be said to be the centre of his life.. Never seeking any public role he served by gathering hymn books and assisting his wife Pen in disseminating the weekly church bulletins. He leaves a legacy of a strong deep faith.

EAGLE, Stanley Joseph (Stan).

Without exception the members of the Hawthorn, S.A., church were saddened at the loss of Stan Eagle, born February 14, 1920 in Leicester, England, the fourth in a family of six. Arriving in Melbourne in 1927, apprenticed to Rierdon Motors, enlisted in the Navy and served for five years, promoted to Chief Petty Officer on patrol boats in Northern Australia. He was married to Joyce Stevenson in 1945 by the late Em Brooke at Cottonville, S.A., being baptised by George Mathieson Snr. In 1953 he established his own business until retirement in 1983. He belonged to the Inventors Association. Stan was of inestimable assistance to the church and Brotherhood as Bible School teacher and Deacon for 25 years, C.M.S. Interchurch Fellowship, Christmas visiting, organised working bees for Longwood camp, gave invaluable assistance to Loxton, Moorook and Barmera churches. Very much a family man, all the children and grandchildren were together for his last birthday.

FUNSTON, Allan James

(24.12.87). The Berwick, Vic., church was saddened by the sudden death of Allan Funston. Allan had been home from hospital for only a few days after being treated for a heart attack. 500 were present for the memorial service. Allan's death meant the end of an era in Berwick. He contributed much to the church and the local community. After being born in Berwick in 1923, he lived the whole of his life in Berwick and contributed much to its development. His family was one of the foundation families of the church. He took an active role in the church having been Secretary of the Board for a number of years. He was also instrumental in the relocation of the church. He was elected to the Berwick Council in 1959 and served

until 1972. In 1967-68 Allan was Shire President in its centenary year. He was a past President of the Berwick Rotary Club, and the Berwick Bowling Club and was Secretary of the Berwick Cemetery Trust. Allan served on many school and community committees and held many positions and helped organise numerous functions within the city. Allan Funston was a great person who loved life and he was an outstanding example to the community, not only in the way he served but also in the way he loved his wife Betty and children Adrian and Jenny and their families. He provided an inspiration in the life he lived.

KAVANAGH, H.C. (Charlie).

The recent death of H.C. (Charlie) Kavanagh saddened the church at Hawthorne, Qld. Our oldest male member, and past Chairman of the Committee of Management, had at 83 years of age, while sitting at his kitchen table reading his paper, entered into the presence of his Lord. Baptised at Annerley church in the early 1930's Charlie had a great love for God's Word, his people and was a friendly and encouraging man. His committal took place before his many church friends and family conducted by the writer.

— W.J.H. Davidson

LAWRENCE, Cecil Arthur William.

(30.1.88). Cec lived a long and full life — a loyal caring man, he was one of nature's gentleman. Born in Dorchester, England in 1906, he was in his 82nd year. He came to Adelaide with his step-parents when he was 16 and lived with them until he married Lorna Harkness in 1929. Their children are Joan and John. Baptised in the St Morris church he was there in membership for many years and later at Magill. Cec was employed at Harris Scarfe for 51 years rising from sweeper to Department Manager. He was a great lawn bowler and held office in the Tranmere Club for 50 years.

LAWSON, Joyce

(17.2.88). Born in Willoughby, N.S.W., Joyce was a Sunday School scholar, then a church member at Chatswood, N.S.W., and was married by the Chatswood minister, J. Whelan, to Stanley Lawson, Sept. 17, 1918. Both maintained their membership at Chatswood until late 1985 when they transferred to the Narraweenra church. Over the years Joyce was active

in church attendance and in C.W.F. activities, and made firm friends in both churches, as well as in bowling clubs. Ill health affected her for many years. She was a loved wife, mother and grandmother. Many gathered to express sympathy and love to Stan, children John and Kaye, John's wife Louise, and grandsons Ben, Philip, Jeremy, Adam and Trent. As long-time friend and a former Chatswood minister, the writer conducted the service.

— C.G. Taylor

TROMPF, Raymond Glen

(21. 2. 88). Born 69 years ago at Middle Park, Ray Trompf collapsed near the close of the morning service at East Kew. Immediate assistance given by church members and later by the special ambulance was unsuccessful. Within 40 minutes Ray died in the presence of his wife Gwen, and his son Warren with Julie and Matthew. Ray Trompf was the longest serving Trustee of the Properties Corporation, serving from 1955. As a licensed valuer and estate agent he used his professional skills within the church. For many years he was a partner with the late Robert Geyer. Ray and Gwen were married at Gardiner by Thomas Hagger and A.R. Main in 1941. They spent 10 years in Stawell where three of their four sons (Warren, Malcolm, and Graeme), were born. Ross was born in Melbourne. During their 35 years at East Kew Ray served as Sunday School teacher, church secretary and Elder. A gracious Christian gentleman, rich in family life, enthusiastic in sport (table and court tennis) and then in the East Hawthorn Bowling Club), gospel quartet singer, Ray still kept himself active professionally.

— E.W.R.

VIC

COLAC (D.E. Horne). Great excitement! January saw us purchase our first manse. Don Smith inducted minister on Feb 7. David, Elaine & boys fitting in well ... David Grist & Sharon Daff baptised recently ... Good Companions has recommenced led by Vicki Munro & Julie Griffiths ... Explorers has recommenced led

by Geoff Griffiths ... David Daff leads the youth group ... CWF elected Ev Allen sec & Lois Daff pres ... Sunday School held annual picnic in Botanical Gardens.

SWAN HILL (L.J. Mayes). Six baptised on March 6 before a capacity congregation of 160. Three commitments during service & further baptisms planned for Easter Sunday ... Party of 35 from Broken Hill church visited on weekend March 18-20 ... Church saddened at the passing of Alex Anderson, member of long standing ... Church involved in Operation Good News '88 Bible distribution.

HAMILTON (Ray Eldridge). Special Sunday services held March 13 coinciding with "Back to Hamilton" bicentennial celebrations. Four former ministers returned: R. Saunders, A. Clark, A. Page & R. Wesley. All participated in the services. Luncheon followed morning service. Evening service well attended. Time set apart for reminiscing ... Warmambool, Port Fairy, Portland & Hamilton held combined picnic at Mt Eccles Labour Day holiday. Great time of food, fun & fellowship.

One of the largest supplies of New Testaments to any one centre in Australia was delivered to Newcastle on February 25. 66,000 NIV New Testaments from the World Home Bible League and 11,000 "Good News Australia" New Testaments from the Bible Society were delivered. 1,300 volunteers from every church and denomination have been trained in how to visit homes and how to offer a New Testament without causing offence.

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To Whom It May Concern.

- Noel Williams

(Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.)

In a day of increased mobility and of the increased occurrence of moving home I write to a very practical and urgent concern. I write of the transfer of members and those in fellowship within our Churches. What is very useful is an up-to-date, annual listing of all our churches (ministers and secretaries) throughout Australia to be compiled, printed and sent to every minister and secretary across the Australian Brotherhood. It would also be most helpful to have a basic diagrammatic map of the location of all our churches within each of our capital cities and state-wide map of each of our States/Territories again showing the location of each of our churches. (These maps may also provide our Church Development and Growth strategists a good exercise in long term development strategies and projections).

The cost of these booklets, (seeing as it is for the churches) I would suggest could be borne either state-wide (included in the church affiliation fees) or maybe borne at Federal Conference level (subsidised by State Departments).

My reasons for these comments are as follows:-

1. Basically and primarily for the conservation of our people both in our churches as well as within the Kingdom of God. I have read many articles describing the mammoth number of 'work hours' and 'people hours' to bring one person into the Kingdom (humanly speaking). Whether these articles are valid or not is not the issue but I am sure we all recognise, the (hard) work of faith and labour of love to bring a non-believer/new convert to maturity in Christ. Why then is it so easy for them to get lost in the process of transferring house and home?

2. I know that within each State's Conference Handbook is the list of churches/ministers etc. but what about States beyond our own? I am sure not many secretaries/ministers would have all (if any) of an up-to-date directory of

every State in Australia. My suggestion therefore is a very practical aid toward the furtherance of the Kingdom of God throughout Australia.

3. The maps of capital cities/regional areas of our States would greatly assist the easy location of the nearest (or choice of) churches where the transferees are moving. Maybe a further benefit would be a greater identity, interest in, and prayer regarding our Brotherhood.

The Bible has been translated into Welsh for the first time in 400 years and published March 1. It was an ecumenical effort including full Roman Catholic participation.

Soviet authorities have informed the Pentecostal community in Chuguyevka, who have been trying to emigrate from the USSR since 1983, that they will all be receiving exit visas. Most of the members of the church already have clearance from the West German authorities to settle in Germany and only require Soviet exit visas in order to be able to leave.

The next Queensland CWF Rally will be held on May 18 at 7.30 pm at the East Ipswich church (69 Brisbane Rd., East Ipswich). The guests will be country gospel singers Richard and Shirley Pearce.

In 1987 Baptist churches on every continent are showing significant membership gains. Baptist World Alliance affiliates in 7 world regions reported 978,415 more members for a total of 34,169,392 in 129,285 local congregations. The figures do not include younger children in church families or people under pastoral care who have not been baptised.

AN EASTER REFLECTION

Saturday Night and Sunday Morning

Teetering on the brink of despair,
We await a word from God.
But no word comes —
God is silent.

You speak to the death reigns in our lives,
from your death-to-life experience,
And give us hope.

— Garry Harris

THE BOOK OF ISAIAH Chapters 1 — 39.
The New International Commentary on the Old Testament.

by John N. Oswalt (William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co).

This is the first volume of a two volume commentary on the book of Isaiah. Apart from 74 pages of introductory material, the bulk of the book (over 600 pages) is devoted to an excellent commentary on the text, which is Oswalt's own translation from the Hebrew with textual and philological notes to support his reading. The commentary seeks to illustrate Isaiah's message to his ancient audience as well as his message to us today.

After a brief discussion of the title, occasion, canonicity and text John Oswalt looks in detail at the historical background which he sees as corresponding to the three main divisions of the book. He sees chapters 1 — 39 as being written for Isaiah's contemporaries in the eighth century BC; chapters 40 — 55 presupposes the exile of the sixth century; and chapters 55 — 66 presupposes the eventual return from exile. In all this Oswalt argues that the book should be attributed to the Isaiah of the eighth century and that it was written as a unity.

Four main areas of theology are also covered in the introduction: God, humanity and the world, sin and redemption.

An excellent addition to what should be a great commentary set.

— C.R.A.

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First Year Students visit Mulgrave.



Students on site.

Today, February 25, I, with the other first year full-time students, stood on the C.O.B. Mulgrave campus site - in the magnificent foyer on the ground floor. The vision is taking shape!

No, there weren't any walls, and on this delightfully sunny day, not even a cloud provided a roof over our heads. Yet, there, laid out on the ground beneath our feet, was the builder's full-size plan of the whole campus complex; the administration, teaching, lecture and faculty areas, tutorial rooms and library, - yes, - even the baptistry could be found!

At this historical moment there came to my mind a comment by a faculty member that ours was the largest first year intake for many years, and that here at Mulgrave there is to be a far larger campus than at Glen Iris, to cater for up to 125 full-time and nearly as many part-time students. This, to me, was further fulfilment of the vision. After C.O.B. was forced to plan to move out of Glen Iris,

there was a vision of what could be. That vision of a campus much larger than before, with a greater capacity to equip the growing church and meeting both its ministry needs and the challenge of the church's growth was claimed.

As that vision has been claimed and commitments made, we first year students arrive, greater in number and all seeking to fulfil our calling and our vision of what God wants to do through us. I see us as the confirmation of the Mulgrave vision, for part of that vision is in buildings, part is in students, and here we are, the first instalment of the increase.

The remaining part of that vision is taken up by those of you who will be sharing in this project to provide a new campus at Mulgrave. You, by your faith in God and by your desire to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to fulfilment through the Churches of Christ, have and will, become co-partners with C.O.B. and the students, both present and future, to carry out this great mission.

-David Reynolds
(First Year Student).

Although the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) outlawed polygamy in 1890 and has excommunicated members practicing it, an investigator for the Salt Lake City District Attorney's office estimates that about 10,000 Mormons still engage in this practice.

New for '88 - Explorers

A new logo, new leadership and promotional resources, and new standards of training have been introduced to the Explorers for 1988. As it celebrates 50 years of ministry and service to boys this year, it is a fitting time to give the club a new basis for the future.

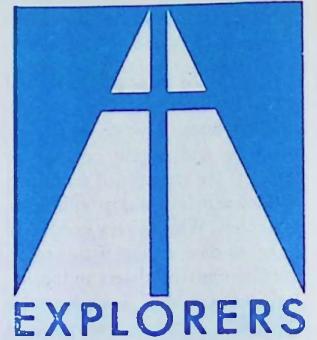
At the Explorer Leaders' Breakfast in February, the new resources were presented. These include a new leaders' manual, 40 programs for 1988, promotional leaflets, banners and car stickers. The new resources were very warmly received by leaders. The encouragement of the Conference President, Clive Ward, was also much appreciated.

The logo in blue, gold and white, symbolises the club's allegiance to Jesus Christ along the road of life. It also represents the fourfold program of faith developments, social training, thinking time, and fitness games.

Leadership training will be raised to new levels in 1988 with leaders required to fulfil specific training programs. These programs will be both in-house and external programs such as run by Scripture Union and St. John Ambulance.

It is significant that in its jubilee year three Explorers are enrolled at the College of the Bible. The Executive and the Department wish Wayne Allen, David Perkin, and Paul Clarke God's blessing as they train for ministry.

The Explorer Executive is keen to meet with churches who are interested in establishing new clubs or redeveloping existing clubs. You can contact Russell



Croxford, Explorer Chief, through the Department of Mission, Education and Development on (03) 662 2377.

Peace Service

In our last issue (March 5 we reported in the Happenings column that the Palm Sunday (March 27) ecumenical service for peace was to be at St Peter's Cathedral from 1.30-2.15 p.m. We made an error and the details we supplied were for Adelaide. (The press release had no mention of the city and we just assumed it was from Melbourne).

The Melbourne ecumenical peace service is being held at St Paul's Cathedral from 1-2 p.m.

Services will be held in other capital cities but at the time of going to press we do not have details of these services.

There are some 500 German Lutheran Churches in the Soviet Union. They exist primarily in Siberia and middle Asia and they have a membership of 1 million.

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Worship & Communion

Gospel Celebration

Lunchtime Service



Ivanhoe's Family Camp

Church camps have an atmosphere of their own and Ivanhoe's recent one, at Camp Gundiwindi in Wandin was no exception. The 40 campers of all ages were catered for with elective activities including bushwalking, volleyball, trampolining and archery as well as Bible studies on Encouragement and Discipleship, led by John Caporn. (minister). After the Sunday morning communion service, the children left for special activities while the adults participated in a simulation game on Church Stewardship. There was no official conclusion, but all would agree our church will go nowhere unless there's communication and a common direction.

The children, before kite-making, were challenged to be Christian kites. That is, to let the Holy Spirit fill them, as the wind does a kite, so like a kite, each can soar as a Christian. It was thrilling to see the parallel demonstrated as the children experienced both the flying and plummeting kites. Just as Christians can, the kites flew again empowered by the wind.

Now, it wouldn't be a church camp without the highlight, that concert and we had one ably M.C.'d by our College assistant Peter Eades. There are a few folk who regretted the presence of the video camera throughout, but, for those who were unable to attend, a night is planned to share just what really happened.

Although the Eades family were unable to attend throughout, the camp was an opportunity for us all to share and get to know them as part of the ministry team and our growing family at Ivanhoe.

— Kaye Caporn

The Queensland Department of Church Development and Education during 1987 had 410 campers at their various camps. Over the Christmas camps 25 campers gave their lives to Christ and 12 recommitted their lives. 6 campers were baptised during camps at Lake Currimundi.

Bethel Breaks Bible Barrier



What is the Bethel Series? According to its promoters it is a method of studying the Scriptures which has broken the barrier to the Old Testament and unlocked the door to the new.

Over 25,000 Australians from 350 churches can testify that through the Bethel Series the Old Testament has come alive, which

has helped them to make sense of the New Testament. Thousands more, from all denominations, are constantly en route.

Harley Swiggum, author of the Bethel Series, recognised that if he was able to develop a Bible study program that was understandable, it would attract more people than one person could teach. This made it imperative that laypeople be trained to teach the program.

Thus was born the transferable concept of lay training which was destined to revolutionise adult Christian Education. Church Bible study became popular, so much so that 50% + of members enrolling became commonplace.

The Bethel Series people see that there is hope for the church in Australia. They see the church dying unless the Bible is restored to its rightful place as the authoritative word on life and living.

For those wishing to know how to get a Bethel Series started either ring Rev. Kelth Morley on (02) 642.0251 or write to the Adult Christian Education Foundation, P.O. Box 1, Greenacre 2190.

Reports reaching the West from Ethiopia put the number of Christians in prison at 7,000. Most of them have never been put on trial, or have charges laid against them.

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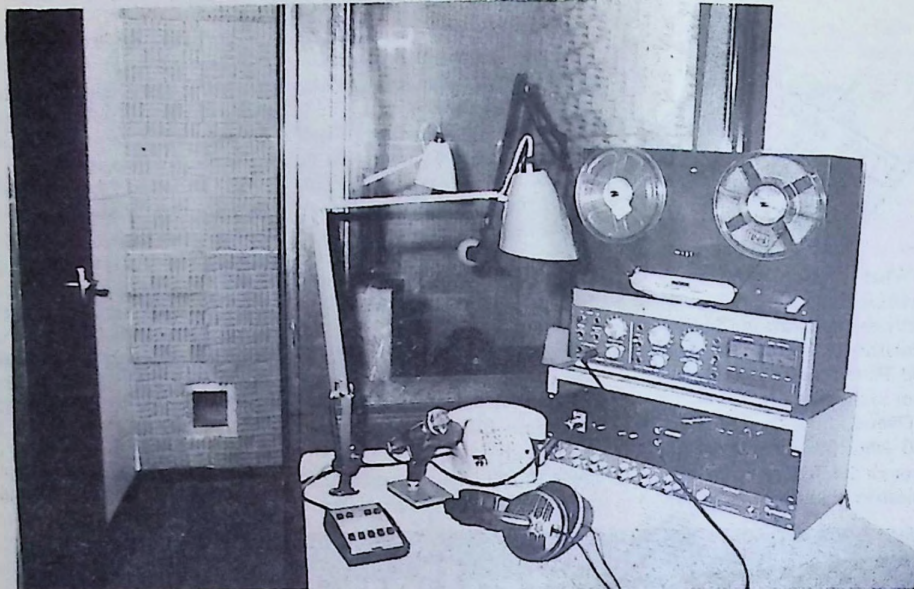
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New 'Talking-Book' Studio.



Christian Blind Mission International recently opened its second sound recording studio.

This studio will greatly increase the number of "talking books" that CBMI will be able to make available to blind people.

There are around 500,000 in Australia who are 'print-handicapped'. They are unable to physically hold, mentally comprehend or actually see to read printed material. Such people need and desire information that will help them to live a satisfying, happy life, like everyone else.

With the world of books denied to them because they cannot see to read with their eyes, blind people have to depend upon their "inner eye" and their listening ears to join the reading experience most of us take for granted. Christian Blind Mission International is one of the very few organisations in the world producing Christian literature in English on the 'talking-book' format.

A 'talking book' is a book or magazine read out loud onto recording tape. Cassette copies are made of this master recording which, when it is completed, is called a 'talking-book'. 'Talking-books' are supplied to blind people through the postal system.

The ratio of books to borrowers available to print-handicapped people is way below normal library standards. Most public li-

braries aim at a minimum of four titles to be held in the catalogue for each person being served. The CBMI ratio is just 1.4 for each borrower. To make up for some of this shortfall a new recording studio was opened recently at the Mission's headquarters in Kew, Victoria.

A dingy dark and dusty old-fashioned pantry has undergone a stunning transformation which

has resulted in a neat, bright little studio. Christian Enterprises, an organisation made up of concerned business men, have underwritten the bulk of the financial commitment for the project.

The average cost of producing a 'talking-book' to be supplied to blind and 'print-handicapped' people is \$300. It is expensive to produce quality recordings on 'talking-book'. The master re-

ording, will be copied many times and the same will be read by large numbers of people.

CBMI commenced producing talking books in 1970 when it was realised that there was a need for inspirational cassettes to provide help for those who could neither read Braille or large print. The first talking book produced was "Invitation to Love", a series of devotions and daily readings from John's Gospel.

One area of need that CBMI always face is that of good readers for the talking books. Most applicants who wish to help in this way are rejected as their voices do not reach a very exacting standard. At present there are about six who read all the productions with another 20 - 30 who do field recording, although the quality of the field recordings is not as good as the studio produced material.

Each book takes about 7.5 hours to read and needs a further couple of hours production time. A book records on about five cassettes. CBMI are now hoping to produce 100 - 150 books a year for their current 900 borrowers. The popularity is such that they are not advertising their services too much as they could not cope with the demand.

Endeavourers at Wembley

On February 29, 1948 the Wembley, W.A., church, commenced its Christian Endeavour activities, by starting a junior grade. Numbers grew, and because of the zeal, ability and loyalty of the members, additions soon followed. Each week there was an assurance of a varied and interesting program.

By October 1951 there were enough juniors ready to graduate to form an Intermediate grade. J. K. Bond had not long arrived to be Wembley's minister. He knew the value of C.E. as a training ground and moved quickly for the formation of the "inters". Good material was waiting to be "harnessed". The grade gathered strength by the enrolment of others than the graduated juniors. The same zeal, ability and loyalty was evident in this older group which found Mr and Mrs Bond

wise leaders for their developing talents.

Provision for graduation at the appropriate time has been one of the strengths for C.E. success. In due course a Young People's grade was formed with Mr Bond continuing in leadership. The graduated Inters continued their loyalty and development as potential church leaders.

In the meantime the Junior grade continued as a recruiting ground. Seldom was the enrolment much less than 40 which ensured an annual graduation service, and resultant flow to the senior grades. By the time of the conclusion of Mr Bond's ministry C.E. was well established as one of Wembley's strong auxiliaries. It continued that way for more than 18 unbroken years. During that time up to as many as 100 had passed through its ranks.

AT the function to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the birth of Wembley C.E. - there were ex-Endeavourers, with their marriage partners, totalling 80 in all. They were drawn from many prominent places and numerous state churches. Present examples are - Don Parker (President-elect of W.A. State Conference), David Pyne, (Treasurer of State Conference) and Eric Hogben, (Treasurer of State Home Missions committee).

Greetings were received from interstate and overseas.

It was a very happy evening, giving encouragement for watchful development, at the juvenile level, of the talent that flows through our churches.

- L.H. Park.



COCOA for Pigs?



At first glance the spending of the Lord's money on pigs and a pigsty seems an awful misappropriation of funds but through a piggery that was financed by a gift from COCOA (Churches of Christ Overseas Aid) deaf boys at the World Opportunities International School for the Deaf in Albay Province in the Philippines are able to earn a living while receiving education and Christian instruction. Already five of the boys have found Christ and have been baptized.

Since the construction of the piggery a few months ago, four typhoons have hit the area and the pigsty has lost its roof three times, but the pigs are still thriving.

Over the past few years gifts from COCOA have helped initially with land purchase and then with building construction and again now with help starting this income generating project. We, who are involved with this outreach to the deaf, are most grateful to the supporters of COCOA.

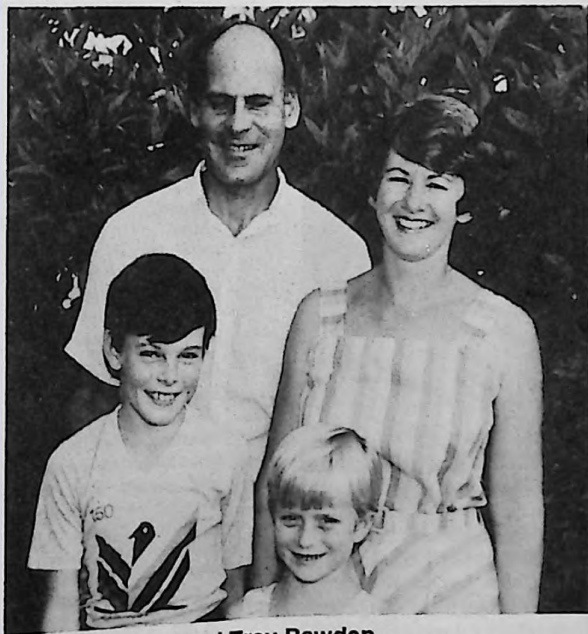
The school and home for deaf children is located in the Biiol area of the Philippines and not far from the City of Legaspi and the beautiful Mayon Volcano. There are estimated to be about 3,000 deaf people in the province, the vast majority of whom are illiterate.

In recent times the area has suffered a great deal, economic disaster, N.P.A. Communist guerrilla activity, killings, threats and demands for protection money and four disastrous typhoons. In

spite of this, the work of Christ continues.

The need for a resident missionary teacher of the deaf

I don't want to continue with Correspondence Lessons, I'm lonely and have no Friends"



Jill, Roger, Kent and Troy Bawden.

Jill and I pondered this statement by our 12 year old son Troy as we were making a decision as to whether we would accept an invitation to return to Vanuatu for a further term. We are returning to Vanuatu and decided that it was in Troy's best interest that he remain in Australia. But... that meant many other heart

Small gain in a huge task

Books of the Bible have been printed in at least 1,884 different languages and dialects world wide, according to the United Bible Societies.

The Bible was published last year in two new languages, Quechua Ayacucho, spoken in the Andean region of Peru, and Tuvaluan, used on the island of Tuvalu in the South Pacific.

The New Testament was reported published last year in 38 languages, and in six of these cases it was the very first Scripture publication ever to appear. The Tagbana people of Ivory

Coast, the Aekyom people of Papua New Guinea, and the Paraoa people of Venezuela are some of the people who can now read the New Testament in their own language for the very first time.

The total of 1,884 languages includes all languages in which at least one book of the Bible is known to have been published since the start of Bible printing in the 15th Century.

Books of the Bible have at some time been published in 288 languages of Australasia.

continues to be a matter of prayer for us. Anyone with a burden for the deaf who does not mind heat, mosquitoes, typhoons, volcanoes or bullets! can write directly to the school C/- Mr & Mrs L. Gavla,

P.O. Box 244, Legaspi, Albay, Philippines or to the administrative office. C/- Neville Muir, P O Box 58, Seobu, Seoul, Korea 122-600 for any further information. - Neville Muir.

settled well into a caring school and has made the initial adjustments well. He also has established a circle of school friends and is doing well in his work.

It is no small thing to ask someone to parent your child for three years, especially if he is about to enter his teenage years. We wondered who the Lord (never "if") would provide but we were never anxious about the situation. We were overwhelmed by the response, as a number of people indicated their willingness to provide parenting for Troy.

A decision has been made about parenting Troy and we have a peace about that. Perhaps even more importantly, it would seem that Troy is at peace with the decision also.

It will obviously not be easy to leave Troy in Australia. It will not be easy for Troy as he makes further adjustments in his life. It will not be easy for the family who will provide for him in Australia and it will not be easy for Kent to become an only child in our family in Vanuatu ... But ... God has proved time and time again that he is faithful, caring and to be trusted.

— Jill and Roger Bawden

wrenching decisions: Where would he stay? How would he cope in Australia? Where would he go to school? How will Kent, his younger brother, get on?

All these things, and more, were committed to the Lord and we had a real peace about the whole situation.

At the time of writing Troy has

Is it a Record? - The Class of 67.



August Ben

Maybe there was something special about 1967. It was the first year students graduated from the Bible College at Banmatmat on South Pentecost in the New Hebrides (now Vanuatu). I have thought on it often but it wasn't until an article appeared in "The Australian Christian" (February 6) that I was prompted to write about it.

Out of the very first intake of 10 students, nine continue faithfully in service and are in many ways the pillars of Churches of Christ in Vanuatu today. In fact only the second intake of 1968 comes even close with eight out of 10 remaining in leading pastoral positions.

Vanuatu's Pidgin English is so descriptive of what the first intake did. They had to "break the bush" as they physically built the college and then moved out to help establish very new congregations all around the island.



John Liu

Only one of these first 10 students has failed to go on.

August Ben. After many years of missionary service in P.N.G., August returned to Vanuatu and took up the post of Director of Home Missions and Evangelism for six years. When the V.T.K. Sugaken Youth Hostel opened in 1986 August was appointed the first manager. As well as the obvious work associated with a hostel giving home to 24 young people August is responsible for other programs to provide for the needs of other youth in Luganville, Santo.

John Liu. John undertook further studies at Woolwich and Pacific Theological College in Fiji and was lecturer and then Principal at Banmatmat Bible College. Now John is doing an unofficial tent-making ministry at his home. He is probably the only person with a tertiary degree resident on his island and in the last year or so has been responsible for a lot of development both in church work and the general standard of living.



Samuel Vusi

Samuel Vusi. After several pastoral appointments Samuel went back to the College as a lecturer. He then became Principal of Banmatmat in 1982. In 1986 he went for further studies at Pacific Theological College and is now in his final year of his B.Th. course.

Alec Vuti. Another faithful man who has worked hard in several pastoral positions. He pioneered the new church work on Tanna. He is now actively pastoring the people of his home village, Saralokambu.

Richard Lala. Richard is another with overseas mission



Alec Vuti

experience. He spent two years in P.N.G. and pastored in several places. He is now pastor of a small church at Alowaru on Malo Island.

James Casper. James has had several pastoral appointments around the churches. He is now a very busy man being secretary of West Ambae Churches of Christ Council, an elected member of Ambae/Maewo Local Government and pastor of his home village at Amata.

Simeon Aru. Simeon is now the Principle of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Bible College.

James Banga. Christian and Missionary Alliance pastor at his home village, Lorni.

Jacob Tuku. Jacob is the Assemblies of God pastor in his own home village of Finawangwe.

These were "The Class of 67". We should never have any doubts that our investment in the Lord's work will pay dividends. The opportunities for investment are not over.

- **Lyall Muller**
(Nduindui, Vanuatu).

Drought in some parts of Tanzania is forcing hungry people to eat poisonous roots to stay alive according to an AFP news story. The wild roots are toxic to humans unless soaked for several days and washed frequently before being eaten. Unfortunately some people can't wait and fears are held for those eating roots torn from the ground.

The war caused famine in Mozambique has been made more desperate by a spate of flooding. Heavy rains have forced rivers to rise and meant that thousands have had to abandon their homes in the province of Gaza. At least 6,000 of the flood victims were people already displaced by the civil war.

A private members bill which set out to reduce the time limit for abortions from 28 weeks to 18 weeks passed its second reading in the House of Commons by 296 votes to 251.

Evangelist Josh McDowell recent held a series of meetings in Poland. Local Christians had prayed for 100 new converts, but over 2,300 professed a Christian faith for the first time. A further 1,000 indicated a desire to find out more about Christianity.

The Deputy Prime Minister, the Honorable Lionel Bowen, will launch the Good News Bible Australian edition at the National Press Club, Canberra on April 13.

Of 34 reportedly ordered detained for 2 years under Malaysia's Internal Security Act, at least 9 have church connections.

Evangelist Paul Slennet paid £50,000 (which he hopes to get back through donations) to have letters postmarked at 68 of the 69 UK postal sorting offices stamped with the slogan, "Jesus is Alive!" through Easter. Representatives of Jews, humanists and the National Secular Society have protested.

Third Minister for Marion Team!

The Marion, S.A., church is pleased to announce the appointment of Brian Ricketts to the position of associate minister responsible for Christian Education and Small Groups. He will commence in this role at the beginning of next year.

Brian and his family have been members of the Marion church for the last five or six years and in that time, Brian has become a very popular figure among people of all ages, with his extraordinary abilities as a Counsellor and Small Group leader. He graduated from the College of the Bible in 1962 and had ministries at Gawler, Tumby Bay and Dulwich (all in South Australia), prior to taking up a teaching appointment at the Croydon Primary School in January 1974. At that time, Brian had completed his Education Degree at Flinders University and had commenced work on a Graduate Diploma of Community and School which he completed in 1978. Prior to commencing at Marion, Brian will have served at Croydon Primary for a total of 15 years, during which time he has served as class teacher, a teacher of Italian and a



Brian Ricketts

parent liaison teacher.

His hobbies and interests including cooking, reading, table tennis and growing his vegetables. Brian is married to Margaret and they have three children: Jenny (married), Stephen (also married), and Carolyn.

Brian's appointment comes at a crucial time in Marion's history as it prepares to lift off the pad into its next phase of growth. Although average weekly communicants have climbed from 160 per week when the church first opened about nine years ago, to the present figure of over 320, the Board and Elders believe that the church is nowhere near the point of reaching its full potential for Christ.

Brian's special ministry gifts will doubtless make a strong contribution to the church in its ongoing quest for ministry effectiveness. Marion is currently served by Graham Agnew (senior minister), Keith Horne (associate minister Pastoral Care, Community Service and Small Groups), John Elliott (part-time pastoral worker), Jenni Anson (part-time office administrator) and Sally Greenhalgh (part-time office administrator). The church continues to seek the services of a half-time Youth and Children's Worker.

Anglicans are the most educated non-Roman catholic churchgoers. Presbyterians are the oldest. Pentecostals are the youngest. And there is no young adult church-going generation. Women were more active in all denominations surveyed but men were most involved in the Assemblies of God, Churches of Christ and the Congregational Church. These are some of the findings of a study called "Looking in the Mirror" an examination of 120,000 Protestants and 2,000 congregations throughout NSW.

The most attractive churches to the young were the Pentecostals and Assemblies of God, followed by the Churches of Christ.

Most churchgoers had been attending since they were children, with only 5-18%, depending on the denomination, not having a church background.

With approval from the Roman Catholic archbishop an estimated 300,000 Roman Catholics have signed a petition calling for 31 changes in the religious situation in Czechoslovakia, including separation of church and state, and church access to state run media.

East German police reportedly arrested several activists on March 6 following a church service attended by about 200 denied permission to leave the country.

The Socialist Zimbabwe government has challenged its churches that unless they embrace Marxism they could not claim to be serving the people fully.

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Enquiries: Peter Wing Tang (03) 288 1613.



Fishermen's Dilemma

Now it came to pass that a group existed who called themselves fishermen and organised themselves into a club. And lo, there were many fish in the water all around. And the fish were hungry. Month after month and year after year these fishermen met in their club to talk about their call to fish, the abundance of fish and methodology on fishing. Continually they did research for new and better ways to fish. They sponsored costly nationwide and worldwide conferences to discuss fishing, to promote fishing and to brainstorm on fishing. Large training centres were set up and courses were offered on the needs of fish, the culture of fish and where to find fish. Those who taught had doctorates on fishiology but had little experience in actual fishing. They just taught other how to fish. And those who were sent out to fish did exactly as those who sent them. They organised more clubs. They analyzed the fish and discussed what was necessary in order to catch fish. But one thing they did not do. They did not fish. Imagine their hurt when one day a person suggested that those who don't fish are not really fishermen. By definition a fisherman is one who catches fish. Some of them began to advocate change and renewal. But soon they found out that a change of mind and tradition is no easy matter. Indeed it is downright painful and threatening.

— Anonymous

(Printed in "World Evangelization")

I Enjoyed Epiphany

During my first two year's of ministry at Boronia, Vic., I shared in the observation of the key seasons of the church year to a degree not experienced earlier. I appreciated the effective use of appropriate symbols above our baptistry for the main days and weeks from Advent through to Pentecost.

These symbols, I believe, helped us not only to focus on the significant events of the gospel drama, but to rescue their true meaning from the confusion and corrosion of commercialism.

As we entered this Bicentennial year I particularly enjoyed the lesser known season of Epiphany with its symbol of a boat taking the great news of the gospel to the whole world ... a visual reminder of our ongoing responsibility and a timely warning that "a



Epiphany symbol

ship in the harbour may be safe, but that's not what ships are for ..."

— Keith Milne

3 pastors of the Evangelical Church of Vietnam were released from re-education camp as part of the amnesty marking the Lunar New Year festival. All had been held since 1975. This leaves 11 pastors still in re-education camp.

The Mayor of Assisi, once home of St Francis, has banned the sale of souvenirs in local shops, because he says, they degrade the highly spiritual and moral standards of the saint.



Easter symbol

NSW

LISMORE (Ian Phillips). Members from Southport, Tweed Heads, Murwillumbah, Bangalow, Ballina & Goonellabah attended the service when Ian Phillips was inducted into ministry by Noel Newton of the Southport church. Ian, his wife Marie, & children Joel & Charissa, were welcomed into the church by the Elders ... 26 attending congregational level Bethel studies ... Camp reunion held at Sue & John Ramsay's.

MAITLAND (R.N. Hawkins). Recent speakers Dr K. Turner, Dr K. Johnston, Tahlee students, Mr & Mrs MacPherson back from cross cultural work in PNG ... A Sunday Seminar/Workshop with A. Roberts excellent. Theme The Rainbow Connection (New Age conspiracy) ... Friday variety night successful. Monthly venture ... Biblical meditation seminar conducted by minister.

HAMILTON (W.J. Flett). Margaret & Dennis Holmes farewelled to Kingaroy; Merv & Gloria Curran welcomed into fellowship ... Kristy, new babe for Russell & Rochelle Litchfield ... Morning tea & presentation held recently for pastor & family to mark commencement of ninth year of ministry ... Hamilton & Georgetown churches in co-operative venture of 12 months trial. Ministry shared in morning worship & combined of an evening. Assisting in ministry are Tahlee students Alan & Dorothy Smith from Burleigh Heads & Greg Bruggeman, Carlingford College.

THORNLEIGH (Franklyn Elliott). 62 shared in youth camp at Crangan Bay over the weekend of March 4 — 6 ... Good number shared in an outreach fellowship breakfast at 7.15 am on March 12. Alan Hohne, a Christian businessman from Westpac, was the speaker ... Special guests on March 13 were am Bob Bagley of New Tribes Mission & pm Judah of SSEM. Franklyn Elliott was speaker at am services.

WAGGA WAGGA (B. Whan, N. Williams). Elders & leaders met together for a retreat to consider on going plans in fields of worship, evangelism, women's activities, youth & children's

work. As a result plans are being developed ... \$500 given in support of Max & Bev Winch with RBMU ... Sunday evening services continue to draw attendances of 80-100 with good proportion of youth ... Weight watchers group commenced ... Playgroup attracting large numbers.

Task available

A volunteer is sought for an interesting occupation, of special interest to retirees. It is to maintain the Roll of Honour which Christian Projects has initiated. It was formerly designed to record the achievements of the winners of Overseas Scholarships, but following a recommendation from the February Forum, we are planning to extend it to include retired ministers and others. It will be a type of Who's Who of the Brotherhood.

The person required would need to be methodical, able to act independently, write letters and maintain records. It won't take up much time and will return only out-of-pocket expenses, but it is the sort of job which provides interest and purpose.

If interested please write to Mrs Jean Troilo, 99 James St., Templestowe 3106 or phone (03) 846.1558.

The Salvation Army is holding its Bicentennial Congress in Sydney May 25 - 30. Part of the program includes the presentation of a musical "Southern Cross" which is being performed in the State Theatre on May 26, 27 and 28. As well there will be a Youth Spectacular on May 27 at the Sydney Entertainment Centre, a Musical Extravaganza on May 28 also at the Sydney Entertainment centre and a Gospel Rally on May 29 at the same venue. Tickets for each of these events should be available from Salvation Army offices.

Estimates are that more than 2 million Americans are Muslim. This group has grown by 400% in the past 10 years in the US.

WA

KALGOORLIE (Larry Gibb, Gene Howell). Congratulations to Jan Ball passed Scripture in Schools exam, Kevin Rendall EGSHS English prize ... Welcome back all those on holidays ... Farewell to Wendy Ford, Chris & Christine Smith & family ... Bible Schools recommenced ... Special welcome back to second minister Larry & Pauline Gibb & family. Induction of Larry on Feb. 14. Guest speaker pastor Ken Duffy, Ian Taylor MLA present with representatives of other churches.

ALBANY (Mark Randall). Car rally & barbecue held Feb. 6 celebrating 21st church anniversary. The early services began in Spencer Park School before moving to present building. It was also to meet Mark & Kerry Randall, incoming minister. Mark was inducted by Ken Duffy (Conf. Pres.) ... Bruce & Ruth Clapp have moved to Perth, Bruce was minister when church opened in Feb. 1967. Bruce at the time of leaving was serving as Elder.

WEMBLEY (J.T. Timms, M. Willson). Christmas service best attended in years ... Mark Wilson commissioned on Jan 24 as youth minister for 1988. Already youth contacts have greatly increased in all groups ... John Timms spent Jan in India with Indian Village Evangelism, sharing in 84 baptisms & spending two weeks planning with Don DeWalt of USA. IVE has established churches in villages & over 3,000 members. Recently opened first Bible College to train Indian preachers & evangelists.

MANDURAH (R.A. Ryall). Following inter-church service on Jan 26 conducted by Roger, N. Muller (treasurer) was presented with award for community service ... On Feb 6 minister led local church leaders' consultation. Lively discussion ensued ... M. Cotter rededicated her life to Christ ... Church thanks God for excellent recovery of Diane & Paul How after road accident ... Musical "The Witness" presented to packed halls in Pinjarra & Harvey ... CWF commenced Feb 20 with 20 ladies. Roger inducted office bearers.

CARNARVON (Don Bone). Rex & Judy Ugle again overseeing the work of Ingada Village, Peter Taylor in charge of garden & Joyce Luffrum managing Olive Laird Hostel ... Church AGM held. Doug Diemer appointed secretary ... Christian bookshop reopened in town centre ... Don Bone gives monthly radio message.

ROCKINGHAM (K. Ware). Church enjoying fellowship of many visitors ... All Auxiliaries have now resumed & numbers attending Thursday afternoon Kidz Club have increased ... Church rejoicing in baptisms of Vida Dare & Sharon Rue ... Ladies taking program to all Nursing Homes in the area ... Regular prayer meetings have commenced for Mobile Mission Maintenance ... Vin Wilson, our pastor's mother-in-law welcomed to the church from Croydon, Victoria.

KALAMUNDA (Tim Hanna, Mark Proud, Dean Smith). Many involved in different aspects of Leighton Ford Crusade ... Ladies hosted & took part in program for World Day of Prayer. Morning tea & fellowship was enjoyed prior to worship service ... Fellowship evening in number of homes after evening services first Sunday of month ... 15 committed to a training program as "Pastoral Visitors" to assist with visitation & outreach ... Picnic at Coogee Beach on Labour Day holiday was enjoyed by many.

KINGSLEY (Don Butler). Brian Smyth elected as Elder ... Funday School & youth group commenced year with successful camps ... PA system donated by Hamilton Hill church ... Armadale/Kelmscott led recent evening service ... Men's basketball team playing Saturday afternoons ... Ladies craft evenings being held monthly ... Family picnic held at Mussell Pool on March 26.

VIC

SPRINGVALE (T. Ede, J. Sutton). Joyce Luffrum & Jason farewell to take up service at Olive Laird Hostel at Carnarvon ... Lester Sutton commenced ministry training at Carlingford joining brother John who started in 1987 ... Church has bought 1,000

New Testaments for distribution in Operation Good News '88 ... Tom Ede is C of C Chaplain at Monash Medical Centre ... 80 attended church camp at Adanac Lodge with Maurie Conry as study leader.

NUNAWADING (E. Keating, J. Wright, S. Ludgater, C. Bentley). Commissioning service for those involved in pastoral visitation & outreach ... Dedication service for SS staff & Playgroup leaders ... Family teas held weekly during March followed by electives, teenage Bible studies, children's programs ... Sunday pm alternate services at Springfield Road led by Shirley Ludgater ... Nunawading Early Planning for Retirement Group guests at Sunday service ... Welcome dinner for new worshippers ... Guest speakers Julie Trinnick CWF, Rosalie Rofe CWF.

BORONIA (Kelth Milne, Mike Folland). The year has started on a high note—attendances up at all services ... Good support for Mike Folland at his first evening service ... Enrolments up in Church School & clubs ... World Day of Prayer in our chapel. Iris Lawson speaker ... 67th anniversary celebrated, Phyl Davis, CWF Conf. Pres., speaker. Anniversary offering for others \$720. College of the Bible & Epileptic Foundation to share.

CROYDON (W. Gibney). Church deeply involved in planning for Bill Newman Crusade ... Plans for 1988 also include house churches, spiritual gift identification & commitment & pastoral training ... Emphasis on prayer continues but under God's guidance we are seeking to improve our worship & increase our missionary awareness ... Offerings continue to increase & many new folk attending ... George Elliott & Caroline Urquhart speakers March 13.

OEAN GROVE (Andrew Henley). Induction service for Andrew Henley on March 6 a wonderful day. 200 attended service & luncheon. Graeme Chapman guest speaker ... Successful church fair held. \$1,500 raised for block of land ... Singles Camp held at Cumberland River ... Alf White's interim ministry was a valuable & appreciated time.

PORTLAND (R. Hough). Church & auxiliaries break-up & Christmas tree for children well attended ... CSSM & Theos took part in services over holiday period ... Some members travelled to Hamilton for induction of R. Eldridge & family by Ian Tippet ... Induction of board members at Portland ... Three Bethel classes meeting at present ... Marriage seminar by Brian & Joan White well attended ... Working bees held to paint buildings ... Numbers increasing.

ECHUCA (A. Symes). Pastor & family complete holidays first week Feb ... Colin Hipwell preaches for first time while pastor away ... Three families leave fellowship prior to Christmas ... Weekend mission with Graham Hyman March 4 - 6 very successful ... Three carloads attend Colin Urquhart speaking at Shepparton March 10. Noel Rosendale healed at this service ... Annual meeting held.

CHADSTONE (Peter Bradley). A Bicentenary barbecue held on the Yarra enjoyed by 19 members & friends ... Kathy Bradley has commenced her Bachelor of Education in Drama at Rusden College ... Sharing Life Discovery Groups have begun in church homes ... To assist the mission of the church our Vision Hire Mowing Service received a cheque from Christian Projects, presented by Ian Hendry ... Church expressed sympathy to Marg Pritchard on the death of her husband Norman.

REDCLIFFS (R. Sharrad). Ladies' Group have replaced existing carpet. It is flecked blue ... Two men have repainted vestry & CWF provided new curtains ... Delightful service on Feb 28, fully conducted by Mildura "Focus" group, who also brought a six piece orchestra. Address by G. Hackforth ... Other recent speakers have been D. Clark & G. Ford ... CWF held first meeting for 1988 on March 10.

More than 80% of church buildings in the city of Fuzhou, capital of the coastal province of Fujian, China, have now been restored to the religious bodies, according to the Fujian Daily.



VIC

EASTERN SUBURBAN REGION

ASHBURTON (Ken Barton). Christmas services included an Advent wreath with candles lit over four Sundays ... Children took part in special service based on 'The Christmas ABC' & adults participated the next Sunday in 'Another Christmas Alphabet' ... 'Kids' Club' conducted by Mark & Anthea Thompson fortnightly averaged attendances of 20. Parents & children attended Christmas services ... CWF held morning coffee for Community Care & Phyl Davis spoke at their Christmas worship service.

HARTWELL (Graeme Rogerson). Christmas activities included letter-box drop, out-door nativity scene & inspiring family service featuring the drama "A Tale of Two Kingdoms" by Youth With A Mission ... Graeme Rogerson appointed to ministry for a further three years as from Jan. 1989 ... Church board established four committees to oversee vital areas of church life ... Mr & Mrs Savage visited from Perth ... Edna Scambler & Len Butler welcomed after hospitalisation.

EAST KEW (Ed Roffey). Church fellowship shocked at Ray Trompf's death on Feb. 21 during the morning service ... Third Thursday luncheons held at the church each month. 25 members & friends heard an excellent

talk by Rev Dr John Roffey who is Education & Policy Officer for AIDS for the Anglican Church.

CAMBERWELL Property is undergoing extensive external changes. Those ancient & drain destroying palm trees in Aird St. have been removed ... Church Life Conf held on Feb 26 with Surrey Hills/Wattle Park was most successful. The sector's work & ministry was examined & evaluated. Findings will be the basis for the combined work in 1989 & beyond.

BALWYN (Graham Woodward). The church year has begun with much energy, excitement & enthusiasm ... The old manse has been sold & a new manse purchased ... Graham, Sheila & Evan Woodward have settled in well at the new manse ... Graham Woodward & Don Thomas lead the ministry team at Balwyn for 1988 ... All auxiliaries are back in full swing ... CWF held recent luncheon where all enjoyed a demonstration by Metropolitan Research ... CWF commenced their year with a "Piece from the Past".

SURREY HILLS/WATTLE PARK (Milton Oliver). Student minister Milton Oliver & wife Anne appointed to Surrey Hills/Wattle Park/Camberwell for 1988. Appointed two days/week concentrating on pastoral care & preaching ... Brand new evening services to recommence in March with "The Good News" theme. Emphasis on praise & sharing ...

Camberwell & Surrey Hills have committed \$1,500 to up coming Bill Newman Crusade. Eldership actively promoting & involved in this event ... Eldership ran Church Life Conf. in Feb to seek feedback from membership & evaluate ministries & programs.

IVANHOE (John Caporn, Peter Eades). Peter, Shirley, Donna & Julie-Anne Eades welcomed from COB to ministry team ... Pitt family welcomed by transfer ... Church camp successful ... All activities resumed after holidays ... A.B. Withers preached in Jan ... Church accepted Russell Clinton's resignation from eldership & board ... Glynthea Finger outlined new campus plans at CWF ... Thelma Cook, Elsie Muir unwell ... Kids Klub resumed enthusiastically ... Sunday school attendance increased, also youth group attendance ... Prayer triplets underway.

WANGARATTA (Carl Clayden). Family Christmas service very moving when youngest members honoured oldest members ... Friendship Centre had busy time on reopening. Day club for elderlies very popular, fills a real need ... New Bible studies on evangelism are very relevant for daily living ... CWF arranged picnic at Euroa with link group Sandringham. Very happy time for all ... Clothing parcel sent to Batleys for mission work. Arrived safely & much appreciated. Ladies sending more.

LA TROBE TERR., GEE-LONG (Dr C.J. Mckenzie). Auxiliaries recommenced during Feb ... CWF picnic at Dr & Mrs Morris' home. \$75 raised for missionary project ... Rosalie Rofe from PNG guest speaker at combined CWF missionary rally ... Mrs Smail recuperating after operation. Others on sick list ... Some members involved in choir, counselling, follow-up etc. for Leighton Ford Celebration meetings March 2-8 ... Youth group attended special concert with Kenny Marks.

PRESTON (J. McCormick). Church pleased to announce that a Community Development Officer has been appointed to Neighbourhood House ... Our building is being used for worship each Sunday night by the Greek Evangelical Church ... CWF Pres, Phil Davis, spoke at our ladies meeting ... Open Door went to Moscow Circus, a bus tour of Williamstown & have donated 24 knee rugs to Fred Combridge House.

HORSHAM (H.A.L. Clark, I.N. Hunt). Thanksgiving Sunday, Feb 28, featured bicentennial theme "Bondage to Freedom". Beryl Carter wrote special hymn for morning service & Helen Freijah, immigrant from Lebanon, gave testimony in evening ... Church saddened by deaths of oldest members, Mrs Edith Rokesky & Horatio Butler ... Doug Smith & Harvey Clark led baptismal service of their daughters, Mamey & Katherine.

1989 AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Christian Projects through "The Australian Christian" is providing a Scholarship available for overseas study during 1989.

The Scholarship is for a short-term period of study for up to one year.

The Scholarship is open to any member of Churches of Christ in Australia for any area of study that will assist the Scholar in a sphere of service within Churches of Christ.

The Scholarship is designed to assist applicants who would be otherwise unable to travel overseas.

Applications close May 1, 1988

Application forms and conditions from:

The Australian Christian,
P.O. Box 101,
Essendon North 3041.
Phone (03) 379.1219.





DISCIPLESHIP

•Elizabeth Ritchie, Dandenong, Vic. •Garry Hattwell, Dyanne Rothel, Kym Rothel, Glen Waverley, Vic. •Peter Franchis, Ormond, Vic. •Annemarie Griffiths, Ivanhoe, Vic. •T. Baker, B. Baker, Salisbury East, S.A. •Mamey Smith, Katherine Clark, Laureen Blake, Horsham, Vic. •Arlana Brown, Ivy Smith, Peter Hutton, Springvale, Vic. •Shannon Giles, Nunawading, Vic. •Chris Phipps, Stuart Smith, Huon Community, Tas. •Vida Dare, Sharon Rue, Rockingham, W.A. •Karen Trappell, Kalamunda, W.A. •Fiona Daff, Vicki Wood, Brian & Judy Scheuerle, Susan, Stephen, Andrew & Leonie Scheuerle, Bongeeen, Qld. •Mandy & Jacky Stevenson, Launceston, Tas. Lauren Kilgour, Julie-Anne Barrett, Croydon, Vic. •Wendy Goodrick, Portland, Vic. •Steven Macrae, John Lloyd, Joanna Heath, Lewis & Christine Howcroft, Ousha Ruhle, Emma Dalglish, Mandy-Lee Scott, Sunnybank, Qld. •David Grist, Sharon Daff, Colac, Vic. •Kym & Pam Lewis, Yvonne Proctor, Carolyn Hickman, Ian Simpson, Joel Ross, Swan Hill, Vic. •Shane Morris, John Willingale, Andrew Scofield, Penny

Stroud, Tami Mole, Brett Kennett, Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.

MARRIAGE

•Sharon Williams to Brian Chambers, Kalgoorlie, W.A. •Corinne Buchanan to Allan Normington, Ivanhoe, Vic. •Michelle Tucker to Glenn Coulthard, Horsham, Vic. •Arlana Brown to John Sutton Jr., Vanessa Ede to James Scott, Leanne Ross to Rob Beer, Springvale, Vic. •Juliette Sutton to Tim Keating, Lisa Onans to Malcolm Prout, Nunawading, Vic. •Annette Halamoutis to Nick Gaertner, Kerry Scott to Chris O'Sullivan, Boronia, Vic. •Sandra Quartermaine to Athol Ventris, Kalamunda, W.A. •Fiona Haslam to Andrew Margetts, Bongeeen, Qld. •Rhonda Hickin to Danny Moorhouse, Croydon, Vic. •Elaine Millard to Robert Mann, Ocean Grove, Vic. •Alison Posselt to Chris Mason, Portland, Vic. •Julie Field to Michael Hogan, Chadstone, Vic. •Sharon and Edward Palmer, Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.

DEATHS

•Les Baker, Tootgarook, Vic. •Mrs A. Semmens, Flinders Park, S.A. •Ray Trompf, East Kew, Vic. •Miss Ethel French, Preston, Vic.

•Horatio (Raiche) Butler, Mrs Edith Rokesky, Horsham, Vic. •Mrs Mabel Keck, Springvale, Vic. •Alan Gairns, Nunawading, Vic. •Cecil Lawrence, Magill, S.A. •H.W. Street, Launceston, Tas. •Mrs Amy Lovell, Black Forest, S.A. •Audrey Bruton, Devonport, Tas. •H.C. (Charlie) Kavanagh, Hawthorne, Qld. •Alex Anderson, Swan Hill, Vic.

Changes of Address

THORNLEIGH: Church office — Phone Number(02) 484.1120 not 484.4882 as recorded in March 5 issue.

VIC.-TAS. OVERSEAS MISSION COMMITTEE: Treasurer — Val Wilson, P.O. Box 362, Springvale, Vic. 3171.

PERTH CITY: Minister — George & Gladys Powell, 6 Ethel St., North Perth, W.A. 6006.

THANK YOU

Gordon Stirling would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who graciously sent messages of appreciation for his work as Editor of "The Australian Christian", on his retirement and since. He and Lesley are sincerely grateful.

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by April 8th.

RARE OPPORTUNITY IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY FOR A CHRISTIAN TRADESMAN

Fusion Australia is looking for a project manager for job creation workshop which produces metal sporting goods in Gippsland, Vic. Need someone with commitment to young people, technical skills (ideally metal work) and management ability. sales ability helpful. The setting is a Christian community which includes training of Christian youth workers and care for young people in need. A house is provided at minimal rent. Although Fusion is a faith mission a small remuneration may be possible. This programme is part of a joint project with the Uniting Church. Ring (051) 44.6864/6615 Bruce Dutton or Anne Nanscawen.

"ISSUES FACING THE CHURCH TODAY"

A series of thought-provoking evenings at the
BORONIA Church of Christ

(Last Sunday each month)
This Sunday night March 27
Rev. Rowland Croucher
"The Injustice of World Hunger"
April 24

Mr Jos Goudswaard
Manager Beacon Hill Books
May 29

Archdeacon Alan Nichols
"The Church and the Family"
Brief worship segment, sermon, questions/discussion, bookstall, supper.

RECOMMEND THE CHRISTIAN

VDU OPERATORS Temporary

As we prepare for the 1988 40 Hour Famine several vacancies are available for experienced VDU Operators, aged 20 plus. Tasks include VDU work, telephone and some general clerical duties. Applicants need to be capable people with a mature approach to work.

These positions are temporary beginning in April through to June. Flexibility is essential with working hours as evening and some weekends are required. We are located in South Melbourne and these positions would possibly appeal to committed Christians wanting to contribute their abilities to a Christian Overseas Aid Organisation.



Interested applicants please apply to Malcolm Wilton on (03) 699.8522.



SO

FLINDERS PARK (T. & M. Williams). Sunday School declined to eight so decided to relate to kids in today's world. **TACK** (Thursday Afternoon Kids Club) commenced in third term 1987. Attendances up to 77 ... This encouraged a trial period of contemporary evening services hoping we're flexible to relate gospel to non-Christians in 1988. Services are bright, relevant & meaningful to all ages.

SALISBURY EAST (R. Saunders). Family evening service guest speaker B. Rollins ... Boys' Brigade Company has now been formed at Salisbury East ... Ladies Bible study being well attended ... Thrift Shop is completed, doing a service for the community. B. Giles co-ordinator.

BERRI (Allan Chapple). Brian Phelps conducting seminar on Cell Group Leadership as part of church's five growth program ... Church supporting Ian Adam's ministry at Barnera to about \$200/week ... Sunday School commenced March after a year in recess. Cleve Brisbane appointed as Super ... Due to failing sight treasurer Aub Kunoth resigned after 12 years service ... Helen & Alan May of Pata welcomed to fellowship.

GLENELG (Neville Bradley). Craft group recommenced 100 attending ... Happy Days celebrated first birthday ... CWF officers inducted. Jill & Roger Bawden speakers ... At Men's Fellowship Nicholas Crabb told of year in Brazil ... Visit from HCJB National President ... Good attendance annual meeting. Following luncheon six additional members elected to office ... Dedication of officers at morning service March 6 ... Leaders retreat being planned ... \$1,000 given Aborigines Board & HCJB.

DULWICH/ROSE PARK UNITED PARISH (Ted Bray, Roger Brown). Dulwich AGM approved long term extension of engagement of Roger Brown. Work of Roger & wife Judy warmly praised ... Rob Williams, 40, of Angaston UC, has accepted invitation to succeed Ted Bray who retires at end of 1988. High

praise given to sensitivity & support shown by Ted & wife Noreen towards Churches of Christ component in parish.

PORT LINCOLN (Jim Spiker). **COCKE** Club recommenced for girls & boys ... Church teas every Sunday followed by musical service once a month ... Casserole luncheon followed exciting presentation by Covenant Players to large congregation ... BBQ & planning meeting held at Ivy & Ted Bain's Tulka home ... Leisure Time averaging 70 ... AGM held. Present board members re-elected ... Michael & Carnel in Adelaide waiting for complicated back surgery.

MAGILL (T. Lawrie). Service of dedication for Elders, Deacons & Bible School teachers with Jim Keatch ... Brian Phelps commissioned as Assistant to the State Minister for 1988 ... Campolo films "You Can Make a Difference" very popular ... Successful weekend "Celebrating our Faith" with Keith Home. Dinner, concert, worship ... Harvest Thanksgiving took an urban theme this year with shopping trolleys & city/urban backdrop.

BLACK FOREST (Ron Bassett). Church recognised the ending of a very successful era when Amy Lovell passed to be with her Lord. Mrs Lovell was the only surviving foundation member of the church at Black Forest being in her 98th year ... Sunday School has resumed after a few months in recess. Attendances encouraging. Youth club has also resumed meeting fortnightly ... Visiting guest speakers Eric Petrusma (World Home Bible League) & Len Wallam (Aboriginal minister from Bunbury, WA).

MT GAMBIER (Bruce Anderson). Ron Holmes, first minister of the church, spoke at morning service end of Feb ... Church members have been in camp at Nelson ... Brian Phelps, Assistant State Minister, guest speaker & spoke on Church Growth ... High School students have formed a church group ... Tuesday Club for younger children underway ... Solo club having a very successful time, encouraging lonely single people to come together ... Church services well attended.

BRIGHTON (Neville Moore, Keith Bowes). Auxiliaries in good heart. 55 at CWF opening ... 98 at church AGM, luncheon & group discussion about church program ... Choir sang, Jim Keatch spoke at 34th anniversary ... Attendances & offerings increased ... Two Bethel classes, six study groups meeting ... Elders formulating outreach & strategies ... March 20 family am service, church picnic pm ... 78 attended film "Jesus" at Lockleys.

QLD

TWEED HEADS/COOLANGATTA (Richard Oakes). 20-30 young people attend weekly youth program. Leaders Rance Salan & Rod Cameron ... Bible studies theme 'Old Testament Giants'. Five groups now operating ... Feb 28 'day of Faith' in lieu of faith promise. \$5,500 given in cash & promises towards support of Schultz's in Vanuatu. 'Polynesian Party' planned to raise more funds for this purpose.

BONGEEN (B.M. Nowitzke). Church rejoicing over eight decisions & baptisms ... Don Pedler re-elected as Elder ... Worship service Feb 14 had to be cancelled because of flood ... Good representation at Western Districts Fellowship at Chinchilla. Minister spoke at afternoon rally ... Ladies participated in World Day of Prayer service at Cecil Plains & held coffee morning & street stall ... Visit to ten pin bowling enjoyed.

SUNNYBANK (Mark Willis). 1987 saw continued growth with six primary confessions & baptisms. Two were baptised during 'Celebration '88' weekend ... Chapel constructed over a period of eight months. The fellowship & support we all had as we built our chapel was worth the time and effort spent ... Average attendances up as are offerings ... Home groups going well with the addition of another this year.

CALOUNDRA (J. Weldon). Roof on building, interior progressing. Assistance from other areas greatly appreciated. Interest free loans (on call) to ICA, specified for Caloundra building, urgently needed for continuation of program ... S. Roberts & S. Templeton, Carlingford College stu-

dents, speakers during holidays ... February quarterly meeting discussed outreach & BriCal ... Five CWF members enjoyed Womens' Camp ... Adventure Hour & clubs recommenced.

TAS

HUON COMMUNITY (Steve Warwick, Jeff Gray). Large crowds gathered at Huon River for recent baptisms following a BBQ after church ... Youth Club continues to grow at Huonville with some from Geeveston also meeting after school on Fridays ... A number involved in six week Lenten studies organised by Inter-Church Council & led by Jeff ... Good numbers present at World Day of Prayer meetings at Geeveston, Huonville & Cygnet. **ULVERSTONE (Tom & Ruth Edge).** New ministry team finding their way into the church & community life ... Weekly focus is family worship incorporating Children's Church on Sunday mornings ... Family picnic on Labour day most enjoyable ... Officers meeting with Don Smith was valued experience ... Mid-week home fellowship studying Ephesians ... Vernon & Sandra Byard & family transferred in from Chinchilla, Qld.

LAUNCESTON (Gordon Stirling). CWF "Day on the Farm" (of the Dunstons) raised \$220 for COB new campus ... Two baptisms on March 13 & re-consecration at evening service led by young people on "When the Going gets Tough", which included a dramatic presentation of the book of Job & interviews with Colin Cripps & Joan Smith on how they coped when the going for them was tough ... Andrew Armstrong voted best Tas. apprentice in his trade & third best in Australia.

The Ecumenical Coalition on Third World Tourism, based in Bangkok, has begun a 3 year study on child prostitution in Asia. Executive Secretary, Dr Kason Srisang, described it as "rape with money", one of the extreme forms of modern tourism's human exploitation.

VIC

DANDENONG (P. Pitts, M. Esbensen, F. Rees). David Perkin & David Rees entering COB as full-time students ... Group of 21 commencing Bethel Bible study ... Church preparing to distribute New Testaments in Operation Good News '88 ... Elizabeth Ritchie baptised ... Congratulations to associate pastor Fred Rees on engagement to May Reid of Tootgarook.

TOOTGAROOK (M. Glezendanner). January services well attended with many visitors ... Speakers Conf. Pres. & R. McKenzie, A. Pigdon while minister on two weeks vacation ... Open Door has use of Rye community bus to bring shut-ins to their get-together day ... Women's Bible study resumed after break with new members ... Church sorry to lose good workers Norm & Audrey Fisher who have moved to Frankston.

GLEN WAVERLEY (Ron Elbourne, Lindsay Croxford, Doug Fitzpatrick). Church encouraged by high attendances maintained during Jan. services ... Meaningful Christian focus held in am service on theme "Celebration of a Nation" ... Church is completing College for Christians studies on Church Growth principles being led by senior minister on "The Church ... On the Way". These lead into Home Sharing Fellowships ... Recent artists/groups - Trudy Skilbeck, "Beyond Reason", "Three in One".

THE PATCH (Glynthea Finger). During minister's vacation Vic Berry & Ian Tippett were speakers ... Special services are being held leading up to Easter period ... Sunday School resumes after school holidays ... David Rees welcomed as student minister. He will be involved mainly with the youth group ... Evening services to be held on the last Sunday of each month ... \$273 has been sent to overseas aid COCOA ... Services are well attended.

ORMOND (G. Stibbe). Worship services now commencing 10 am, at least until end April. Sunday school children taking part in first segment ... Mrs Tippett fondly farewelled before leaving to live at Dareton ... Special meeting

passed minor alterations to church constitution ... Bible study, prayer groups, auxiliaries, clubs commenced new year ... YAF had barbecue at manse. Committee formed. Looking to needs of the

future of the church.

British drama group Hal-lucinations Theatre Company cancelled a controversial play about

a member of the royal family contracting AIDS after 4 of the 5 cast members became Christians.

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Fund-Raising Dinner a Huge Success.



Clive Ward, Gordon Moyes, Sir Geoffrey Foot and Phyl Davls at dinner.

Clive Ward (Vic.Tas. President) and Phyl Davls (Vic.-Tas.CWF President) hosted a special dinner at Dallas Brooks Hall on February 19 in support of the New Campus Campaign for the College of the Bible. Sir Geoffrey Foot, Chairman of the Campaign chaired the program which included outstanding music by Geoff and Lynne Ollver and Group (Brian Jacques and Kevin and Liz Baxter).

Sir Geoffrey, Dr Bill Tabbernee (Principal) and third year COB student, Mike Foland, gave details of the new campus and its importance for the training of future ministers and Dr Gordon Moyes (Superintendent of Wesley Central Mission, Sydney) spoke passionately about how his training at COB had prepared him for his wide-ranging ministry. He spurred on all 450 present to an even greater commitment to do their part in making the vision of a new campus become a reality.

The amount given and pledged (including interest-free loans) on the night was \$127,873, making the total raised thus far almost \$400,000 towards the target of \$1,000,000 by the end of 1988 for Stage 1 of the building

program.

An encouraging dimension of the evening was the number of churches who indicated that they were involved or going to be involved, in a project to sponsor part of the new campus.

Anonymous Donation

The College of the Bible Faculty and staff would like to express appreciation to the person who left an envelope under the College door containing \$100 to assist students in need of help with their College fees.

— Ken Clinton
Deputy Principal

"The Christian Century" selects a Religious Newsmaker of the year. This describes the person whose religious activities during the year received the most attention and had the most widespread and lasting influence on US society. Their 1987 nominee is Pat Robertson, the television evangelist who is running for the Republican nomination for President of the USA.

THE LAST WORD

A saint is one who makes goodness attractive.

—Laurence Housman

I asked a neighbour's 4 year old son, "Would you like a cat?" "No," he replied. "My Mummy doesn't like cats, and won't let them into the house." "And how about Daddy?" I asked. "Oh, she'll let him in all right."

★★★★★

Letter to Dear Abby: "Since I am a clergyman with 43 years' experience, I'd like to offer this suggestion to the inexperienced young minister who didn't know how to handle a very bold woman in his congregation who had designs on him.

Whenever I noticed a romantic twinkle in the eye of a woman in my congregation, I always checked to make sure it wasn't caused by a reflection from the gleam in my own."

★★★★★

Sunday School teacher: "What do you think the 'land flowing with milk and honey' will be like?" Student: "Sticky!"

★★★★★

I adore television; if you close your eyes, it's almost as good as radio.

— Pierre-Jean Vaillard

★★★★★

Some people are no good at counting calories and they have the figures to prove it.

★★★★★

On an expressway a toll collector, walking back to his booth with a cup of coffee, stopped to let a car pass through and watched in amazement as the driver smiled warmly at him and dropped his money into his coffee.

★★★★★



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