

Oak Hill lecturer visits Melbourne for mission and meetings

ADELAIDE
Rev Herbert F. Willoughby, rector of St George's, Goodwood, since 1963 and due to retire in March, died last January.

rector of Gosnell — Maddington from 8th March.
Rev Charles Hamilton has joined the staff of the Society of Sacred Mission and will work in the Hollywood area.

BALLARAT
Rev Ronald O. Davis, rector of Beaufield (Perth), from 1968, has been appointed rector of Christ Church, MacArthur, from February 1.

OVERSEAS
Canon John Taylor, general secretary of the Church Missionary Society in England since 1963, has announced that he will relinquish his position by the end of this year.

NEWCASTLE
Rev Terry Frewin has been appointed to Taree.
Rev Paul Robertson, from England, has been appointed assistant minister at Hamilton.

World's worst paid journalist
A vacancy has arisen for the world's worst paid job in journalism.

SYDNEY
Canon Sidney G. Stewart, rector of St Andrew's, Roseville, from 1949-71, and living in "active retirement" at Lane Cove, died in Concord Hospital on 27th February, aged 68.

Right Rev Donald W. B. Robinson, Bishop of Parramatta, spent the first week in March fulfilling engagements in Tasmania.



Miss Susan Young

Bishop of Bendigo to retire

Right Rev. Ronald E. Richards, 65, Bishop of Bendigo since 1957, has announced that he will retire in the latter half of the year.



When eight-year-old Peter Harms, of Bendigo, lost his little plastic bus some time ago, he thought that was the end of it. His father, Rev T. P. Harms, planted a crop of carrots and the family harvested a carrotmobile last month. The carrot's root had forced itself through a hole in the roof of the toy.

NO WHEELS!
Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the great Russian writer and Nobel Prize winner, who was expelled recently from the USSR, is not so well known as a deeply religious man of the Russian Orthodox faith.

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TV SHOW "SLEAZY" SAYS DEAN SHILTON
The low moral content of some television programs was turning Australia into "a nation of peeping toms," the Dean of Sydney said recently.

Perth plans for evangelism
Plans for "Celebration 75", Perth's involvement in the Australia-wide program of evangelism for 1975, are already being implemented.

Fiji's Cathedral completed
Australians who have visited Fiji and gazed with some sadness on the long-incomplete Holy Trinity Cathedral in Suva, are in for a shock when they next visit that busy tourist port and capital of the nation.

Baptists resign from VCC
Embarrassed by the year-old intention of the Roman Catholic Church to seek membership of the Victorian Council of Churches and also by the theological viewpoints of some other member denominations, the Baptist Union of Victoria has resigned its membership of the VCC.

WCC race grants opposed
Three leading Christians of different denominations in South Africa have expressed strong disapproval of the latest race grants to be made by the World Council of Churches.

Trinity bursar to Brisbane
Mr Norman Reid, B. Comm., Th.L., bursar of Trinity Grammar School, Summer Hill, NSW, since 1969, has been appointed assistant registrar of the diocese of Brisbane.

Out of death into life

At Easter time we think of that strong prophet from Nazareth going in silent dignity to a horrifying execution. What is it about Him that grips our minds and stirs our emotions to wonder, and perhaps to dread?

His personal authoritative power? His innocence? The death of Christ, at the instigation of the Jews, at the hands of the Romans, was the murder of an innocent man. He had come with compassionate miracles which proved His power. His miracles offended many as He awoke their jealousy or broke their petty regulations. He had come with splendid other-worldly teachings and spohad come with splendid other-worldly teachings and spoken with authority. His teaching provoked many to opposition. He undermined their traditions or reproved their hypocrisy.

His authoritative power aroused such opposition that men determined to do away with Him. But His dignified innocence was just as provocative. His question "Which of you can convict me of sin?" remained unanswered. Pontius Pilate's wife had warned her husband, "Have nothing to do with that just man," while Pilate said that he could find no fault in Him.

There is a universal flaw in human nature by which men cannot bear real goodness in the lives of their fellows. It highlights their own imperfections. Their faults are exposed by the uprightness, the honesty, the courage of others. They are embarrassed and uncomfortable. This is so even among imperfect people.

How much more then is our discomfort heightened by knowledge of the life of an absolutely perfect man. We know of that life of Christ. In the first century men observed it, and it was their observation and experience of His majestic and perfect innocence that flamed within their hearts, not the flames of faith and dedication, but the flames of fury and malicious intent.

His absolute obedience to the moral law of God, His absolute faithfulness in teaching the Word of God, His demonstration of the compassionate power of God — these factors led to the death of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Sinful men killed Him. Yet in the eternal purpose of God that very death was a victory over sin. It was a triumph which, while not cancelling the sinful nature of men in their earthly lives, would effect the cancellation of guilt and the ultimate abolition of all sin from the lives of all God's people.

That is an achievement which should move us to wonder, which is only heightened by the certainty of Christ's dynamic bodily resurrection. He is risen indeed. This fact is no mere appendix tacked on to the Gospel. It is a doctrinal cornerstone on which rests assurance of immortality, the completeness and finality of the atonement, and a motivation for holy living.

The grave could not hold Jesus. We do not come through the Lenten season to Easter Day to lay wreaths on His tomb. We come to rejoice in the supremacy of God's Son over sin and death, over earthly life and eternal life. We come with praise and thanks and hope to Him.

Men still have to die, but of those who are united with Christ in His victory it is true to say that they "have passed out of death into life." (1 John 3:14).

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An Easter message from Harry Birch

THE RESURRECTION

It is said that the late Sir Edwyn Hoskyns used to begin his lectures on the Theology and Ethics of the New Testament by a study of passages about the Resurrection. At first, his students thought this was quite wrong — surely they ought to have started by examining the life words and death of Jesus first?

No, the Resurrection is the true starting place for the study of the making and meaning of the New Testament. We can go on from that to say that the meaning of the death of Christ cannot fully be understood

unless we start first at the Resurrection. This seems contrary to

Rev. H. A. Birch is a graduate of the University of Durham and of Tyndale Hall, Bristol. Before coming to the parish of Sylvania Heights, in NSW, he was for some years a proctor in the Convocation of Canterbury.

chronological thought, but nevertheless it is true.

The apostle Paul says "If you confess with your lips that Jesus

is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9), and so the very conditions of eternal salvation are dependent on belief in the raising of Jesus from the dead.

How have people tried to explain way the resurrection? The theories are extremely poor and very unconvincing. Some have described it as a myth, which is an unsatisfactory statement. Others have regarded it as a kind of survival. This was not the message of the apostles.

Their message rested upon a resurrection, not a survival. Jesus really died. He underwent the whole experience of death in all its bitterness. It was the doctrine

More on page 3

38 years' service in Iran and Egypt ends

With the death of Archdeacon David Gurney in Iran on February 27 last there came to a close 38 years of devoted service as a CMS missionary in Iran and Egypt (1930-56).

Late in 1935 the then rector of Holy Trinity, Adelaide, the Rev R. M. Filford, attended a committee meeting of the Church Missionary Society in London, and heard of the urgent need for a science master at the Stuart Memorial College (a Christian foundation in Isfahan, Iran).

He cabled to the Adelaide CMS, suggesting that Harold Cyril (David) Gurney, BSc, be challenged with this need. Mr Gurney had come from Perth a few years previously to be on the staff of the Waite Institute and was President of the CMS League of Youth. The challenge was gladly accepted, and on February 18, 1936, Mr Gurney was farewelled by the Church Missionary Society at Holy Trinity, Adelaide, and set out for his life's work in an ancient land, whose ways were as yet more of the 19th than the 20th century.

Mr Gurney's fiancée, Miss Betty Macaulay, also a council member of the CMS League of Youth, and a trained teacher, sailed early in 1937 for Iran in the days when it was a complicated journey by ship and land to reach Isfahan, where she and David were married in St. Luke's Church.

In October, 1973, the Gurneys came back to Australia after an absence of 12 years. Although Bishop Dehqani could not spare David for more than four months, they had a very happy time in the fellowship of the Church Missionary Society, and with others.

Their farewell service on February 8, 1974, in Holy Trinity, Adelaide, was an evident expression of the mutual love and appreciation which exists between the society and its missionaries however long and far may be the physical separation between them.

David made particular reference to the concerned prayer for them which is offered by the missionary prayer groups, despite the lack of personal letters from himself or Betty, which the calls upon their time did not allow them to write.

On February 16 they left

Sydney for Iran, and it came as a great shock to learn by cable from Betty that David had "passed peacefully on February 27," just 38 years since his first going out to Iran.

David Gurney's response to that first call to missionary service in 1936 was that everyone should go unless God distinctly told him to stay at home, and this was the attitude he took whenever he addressed Missionary Summer Schools, or was asked by a young person for guidance re serving abroad.

No wonder that the C.M.S. General Secretary could write to him to say that a new candidate was offering because she had felt the call of God when the challenge of Iran had been presented to her at C.M.S. Summer School by the Gurneys. This whole-hearted dedication to God's service was both the motivation and the expression of David's life.

Our outlook

Our outlook is one of this world and not of the age to come if our relation to temporal associations and ties is one of absorption to the exclusion of things eternal. — John Murray.

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AND DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST

of Plato that immortality consisted of the body dying, but the soul continuing its life. The apostolic teaching was that Jesus was raised, not that He spiritually survived.

Some critics have suggested that the disciples were seeing imaginary visions when they saw the resurrection appearances of Christ. Again, this is a weak theory. The disciples were, in fact, slow to grasp that Jesus was alive, and slow to recognise Him, but they did do so.

Others have thought that the disciples saw visions sent by God Himself — "the telegram from heaven" theory, but that it did not really happen. The critics postulate a kind of "providential falsehood." It is more credible to believe the traditional view that the body was raised and glorified.

There is also the swoon theory, that the body was stolen, and that Jesus left His body before crucifixion.

None of these are convincing. So much for the theories. What of the facts?

We have the unambiguous announcement of the New Testament that Jesus rose from the dead and was exalted as King and Lord. This is confirmed by the following facts:

1. The disciples were not anticipating the resurrection.

In spite of the prophecies by Jesus, for example, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up," the disciples did not expect the resurrection. We can therefore dismiss any view that their belief in it sprang from a projection of their own experience.

2. The existence of the church.

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What happened to change the disciples from defeated and disappointed men into those who could bid the nation repent and be baptised into the Name of Christ, and could proclaim the Crucifixion itself to be a Gospel? The historians cannot avoid this question.

3. The evidence from religious experience.  
The disciples became subject to the impact of Jesus Christ moulding their minds and hearts. In the case of Saul of Tarsus, the impact began while he was persecuting the disciples of the crucified Jesus. As we used to sing in Sunday School, "You ask me How I know He lives? He lives within my heart."

4. The evidence that Jesus appeared to the disciples.

Paul recalls it as being to Peter, to the 12, to 500 brethren at once, to James, to all the apostles and, last of all, to himself.

5. The evidence of the empty tomb.

The women found the sepulchre empty. Sin and death had been conquered by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

6. The existence of the New Testament.

It would never have been written if Jesus had not risen. Who would have wanted to record the life of a person whose career terminated in a shameful death?

7. The observance of the Lord's Day.

From the earliest times, the church observed Sunday, the day of our Lord's resurrection, instead of Saturday as a day of worship and later as the day of rest. The old Jewish custom was given up.

Paul says, "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain . . . if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins." (1 Cor. 15:14, 17.)

Saving faith is resurrection faith. The resurrection implies the cross. What is demanded is the outward confession and the inward belief in him, that he has been raised from the dead. These are the conditions of salvation. It is essential to believe that Jesus has been raised. It was the Father's purpose in raising Him — to restore others to life.

As we approach Easter, 1974, have you confessed that Jesus is Lord? Is He the Lord of your life?

Bishop Handley Moule once said: "Confession with the mouth is nothing less than the believer's open loyalty to Christ. It is no mere recitation of even the sacred Catholic Creed; which may be recited as by an automaton. It is the witness of the whole man to Christ, as his own discovered life and Lord."

It is said of the late Dr Dale of Birmingham, that he was preparing his Easter sermon when it suddenly dawned on him "Christ is risen." He paced up and down his study saying this; it transformed his ministry. Every Sunday after that he always included an Easter hymn in the service.

Having briefly examined the resurrection, we are in a position to understand more fully the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus said "I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself." (John 12:32). Without an understanding of the resurrection this statement is completely inexplicable.

Our Lord's teaching was unique in many ways. But, in particular, He constantly and boldly asserted his importance to the world, eg "I am the light of the world," "I am the bread of life," "I am the door," "A greater than Solomon is here," but He also said that "I am meek and lowly in heart."

We do not usually attach

much importance to men's estimate of themselves. But with Jesus, it is different. His divine nature is such that we accept what he says.

In John 12:32 we notice:  
1. The forecasting of the cross:

A handful of Greeks had come up to Jerusalem for the Passover — desiring to see Jesus. In that incident, Jesus sees the first sign of an abundant harvest. He recognises that he is beginning to pass out from Israel into the world.

The thought of it makes him realise what must be gone through before that influence can be established. He realises that, like the corn of wheat that falls into the ground, the condition of fruitfulness for him is death. He is already within a few hours of Gethsemane, and a few days of the cross.

Much earlier, Jesus had said "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up" (John 3:14). Later he had said "When you have lifted up the Son

of Man, then you will know that I am He" (John 8:28).

Jesus recognised the necessity of his death on the cross from the very beginning.

2. The glory of the cross:

We notice that Jesus regarded the cross of shame as exaltation or "lifting up." There was, of course, the physical lifting up on the cross. He certainly meant that, but also there was something deeper, something much more wonderful in the description. To the person in the world it was ignominy, shame, agony — the very lowest point of humiliation, but in Jesus' view it was the highest. He said "Now the hour is come when the Son of Man shall be glorified." He became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted Him" (Philippians 2:8), or "lifted him up."

3. The magnetism of the cross:  
We have all played about with magnets or iron filings at school. Magnets play an important part in some pieces of machinery. Jesus is the greatest magnet the

world has ever known. "I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself."

What is it about his death that makes it the magnet that is so powerful? Men are drawn by cords of love. They may be driven by other means, but they are drawn only by love. It was the supreme act of love because it was a death voluntarily undertaken for the world's sins. You de-magnetise Christianity if you strike out the death on the cross.

From the cross and to the cross he draws men of every race and nation. "All men" means men from every nation. This verse does not teach the deadly heresy of universalism.

It was a victory over the devil, because Jesus on the cross triumphed over the devil's whole philosophy of selfishness.

Without the resurrection then, there would have been no drawing power of Christ on the cross. Jesus said, "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:44). This is the victory of Easter.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN



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# Notes and Comments

## Seminaries to merge in USA

Following the trend for the rationalising and merging of the theological colleges in England, a significant merger is planned for the North East of the US by the Protestant Episcopal Church.

A physical merger is planned for the Philadelphia Divinity School and the Episcopal Theological School in Cambridge, Mass. The General Theological Seminary in New York is to remain an independent but co-operating member of the consortium which is now to be responsible for theological training in the north east.

The new institution from the merger will be known as the Episcopal Divinity School. If we really had the will and the desire to offer candidates for our ministry a reasonable standard of training, Australia could be the next part of the Anglican communion to merge or close some of its feebly struggling institutions with their full-time teaching staff of one or even none.

## End of an old regular

Bible Crossword No 77 in our issue of March 7 was the last of its tribe.

The first was published on August 7, 1969. Over those years we have had letters of appreciation from all over Australia and beyond, telling us how both readers and their children have

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enjoyed doing them just for the exercise of being obliged to look up their bibles.

Our thanks are given to a civil engineer who has wide Christian interests who made them up, typed them out and did the black and white drawings that went with each. It was a ministry of love.

Incidentally, with our permission they were used by religious newspapers in New Zealand and England.

## A grievous infliction

Dr Thomas Reed, Archbishop of Adelaide, writes with some acerbity in his diocesan letter that he has often been tempted, after a service, to remind the clergyman "That he has no right whatever to inflict a rigmarole about meetings of clubs, guilds, classes, societies, meetings, invitations to barbecues... upon his people in the midst of their worship."

We have been tempted to think that this boring Sunday performance was being widely replaced by the weekly bulletin which Archbishop Reed also favours. Probably it is not as widespread as we think.

Anglican clergy of all ages still appear to be victims of the widespread ignorance of what are the basics of communication.

It is fatal to imagine that you only have to use certain words with a certain intention and you have then got that intention across to your hearers. The regular reciters of weekly notices are out of touch with Prayer Book requirements and also with the principles of communication. On this latter score, our sixteenth century reformers knew more about worship as they knew more about people.

## England to keep 1662

England's General Synod after long controversy has decided to retain as both a permitted use and as one criterion by which standards of doctrine may be judged, the present Book of Common Prayer (1662).

Synod finally passed a few weeks ago the Worship and Doctrine which, if approved by parliament, will give the Church of England complete control of the ordering of both its doctrine and forms of worship.

Strong opposition to the original measure came from evangelicals and other churchmen because it was felt to oust the present Prayer Book from its position as the safeguard of sound doctrine.

The measure as finally passed by the synod was seen as a means of meeting most of this opposition and also of avoiding some of the criticisms that it is bound to meet from members of both houses of parliament.

The position of both the Book

of Common Prayer and the Thirty Nine Articles is completely safeguarded in clause four of the Constitution of the Church of England in Australia where it is stated as a "ruling principle" that we "retain and approve" the Prayer Book and Articles.

The same clause also directs that the Book of Common Prayer and the Thirty Nine Articles "be regarded as the authorised standard of worship and doctrine in this Church and no alteration in or permitted variations from the services or Articles therein contained shall contravene any principle of doctrine or worship laid down in such standard."

## WCC race grants again

The World Council of Churches maintains itself steadily on its disaster course by another large money grant to 29 organisations, mostly in Africa, said to be combating racism.

While some of these organisations, particularly FRELIMO, is using men and money to murder helpless black Africans, the form that this financial aid takes continues to be a gratuitous affront to large numbers of Christians everywhere.

The WCC admits that finally it has no control over how the money is spent and, it must accept some responsibility for meeting violence with further violence and bloodshed.

So far, the WCC has ignored world Christian pleas to halt this policy. The Archbishop of Canterbury has spoken out against it many times. The latest to join issue with the WCC is Bishop Alphaeus Zulu of South Africa who is one of the presi-

## HYMNS AND HARMONY

"When Satan wants to enter a church, the choir is the easiest door." Cruel, but alas, often too true!

Assuming that we have a choir, keen and spiritual, we ought to make the most of the good fortune.

It was John Wesley (overshadowed musically by Charles, but an author and translator of hymns in his own right) who penned the following: A Word to Choirs.

1. Sing all. See that you join with the congregation as frequently as you can. Let not a slight degree of weakness or weariness hinder you. If it is a cross to you, take it up, and you will find a blessing.

2. Sing lustily and with a good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of its being heard, than when you sung the lays of Satan.

3. Sing modestly. Do not bawl so as to be heard above, or distinct from, the rest of the congregation, that you may destroy the harmony; but strive to unite your voices together so as to make one clear melodious sound.

4. Sing in time. What ever time is sung, be sure to keep with it. Do not run before nor stay behind it; but attend closely to the leading voices, and move therewith as exactly as you can. And take care you sing not too slow. This drawing way naturally steals on all who are lazy; and it is high time to drive it out from among us, and sing all our tunes just as quick as we did at first.

5. Above all. Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing Him more than yourself or any other creature. In order to do this, attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your heart is not carried away with the sound, but offered to God continually. So shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve, of here, and reward when He cometh in the clouds of heaven.

—DESCANT

dents of the WCC. He said that he was "surprised and disappointed" at the decision of the WCC executive made at a meeting in East Germany in February.

A WCC meeting in East Germany might be expected to play to the Communist gallery and in this instance, it played very loudly. It never raises a voice against Communist colonialism and expansionism and religious oppres-

sion. It is only sensitive, it seems, to the defects of Western nations.

Earlier race grants had included money for Australian Aborigines. One might be pardoned for wondering whose money was used to buy the gun and ammunition used by Aborigines to invade a Federal Government Department in Canberra recently and detain senior officials for some hours.

## Scripture Union at Sydney Show

In an effort to communicate the gospel this Easter, the Scripture Union is erecting a multi-media walk-through exhibition at the Sydney Royal Show.

"These people, by and large, are living without God. But, at Easter, when people are possibly thinking about the death and resurrection of Christ, we have an excellent opportunity to present the gospel in this imaginative way."



An artist's impression of the Show stand.

The exhibition is directed specifically at children. It will be called a "Jungle Safari" and is based on the popular Jungle Doctor series written by Dr Paul White and published by the Scripture Union's ANZEA.

Inside the exhibition, children (and their parents) will be able to go on "safari" with an audio-visual, slides and displays, to help them discover the secret treasures of the Bible through SU's Bible Reading Aids.

An attractive and economical "Jungle Doctor Safari Survival Kit" will be on sale. Contents include a snake that really crawls, a hippo mask, a mobile Jungle Doctor Game and comic and sample copies of "Key" and "Quest" Notes.

Situated in the Manufacturers' Hall, the exhibition will be manned by a team of volunteers who will be dressed in appropriate explorers' costumes.

It will be open for the full duration of the Show with the exception of Good Friday and Sundays.

Norm Bennett, NSW general secretary, said that over one million men, women and children will visit the Sydney Royal Show.

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(Phone 871 6050/871 7443,  
a.h.s., Doug Jones 871 2714,  
Peter Shipway 871 1229).



## A centenary at Rozelle

SIR—May I seek the courtesy of your columns to make known to any who may be interested, that 1974 is the centenary year of St Thomas' Church, at Rozelle, and that celebrations to mark this occasion are being planned for the weekend of 25th-26th May.

We are most anxious to hear of any past parishioners who would like to share in our celebrations.

People who know of such folk, or who are interested in being with us ourselves, may receive further information by writing to the church wardens, P.O. Box 26, Rozelle, 2039, or by ringing the rectory, 82 1072.

A. M. McLaughlin, rector,  
Rozelle, NSW.

## Time to call a halt to State aid

SIR — Recently a copy of "Sunday Mail" of Britain was received in this office. A leading feature by Mr Cliff Hanley headed "Why split Scotland?" dealt with the evil effect of having separate schools for Roman Catholic and non-denominational (government) schools for all other children.

Mr Hanley asks, "Do we have to keep a system which keeps two communities apart?"

The Chairman of the Renfrewshire Education Committee, Mr Wm. McKeekin, accused the Roman Catholic Church of becoming "the universal enemy of progress in education."

He declared, "It was narrow and single-minded of having a pathological fear of innovation and was driven by an irrational fear that any reduction in its control over Catholic schools would be magnified a thousandfold in its influence over individual Catholics."

This same situation exists in Northern Ireland and general opinion believes this is the prime cause of continued antagonistic attitudes between people in that land, and that if all children went to common schools the situation would be eliminated in a school generation.

We believe that State Aid to

separatist schools (90 per cent of which are controlled by the Roman Catholic Church) is sowing the seeds of division amongst the people of Australia, and if perpetuated by the Federal and State Governments will lead to deep bitterness and antagonisms.

We already have examples of sectarian stand-over tactics where the Roman Catholic Church is now in a position to threaten mass closures of its school if more aid is not forthcoming from the public purse. State Aid was re-introduced ten years ago at a time when separatist schools were gradually losing their pupils which were being rightly accommodated in the Community Government School system. There were no talks then of further segregating the community by establishing migrant schools for Greeks, Japanese, etc.

However, due entirely to State Aid we now have a school for Japanese children in New South Wales, and talk in Victoria of establishing schools for Greek children. The Hare Krishna and Scientologists also are considering establishing separate schools for their children — all due to State Aid!

Our country is being divided on religious, ethnic and social grounds due to the Government's policy of State Aid, which is greatly damaging the only education system which unites all children regardless of race, colour or creed under one roof — the Community Government School system.

If this policy continues it may well be that the Community Government Schools will deteriorate into a system catering only for the "rejects" who do not measure up to the religious, ethical or social standards of separatist non-government schools.

In America the Government is aiming to break down racial barriers between black and white by establishing integrated schools, whereas in Australia we are

# Letters

TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words.

following the examples of Scotland and Northern Ireland, by watching various communities insist on separating their people through separatist school systems, assisted by State Aid.

In the interests of the generations to come, this division of the people should halt.

J. Morris,  
Grand Secretary,  
Loyal Orange Institution  
of Victoria,  
Melbourne.

## Opposition to rationalising theological education

SIR — As a regular reader permit me to comment on your editorial, "The need to rationalise theological education" of March 7.

It was a very great indiscretion for your paper which goes out from Sydney and is so widely circulated throughout our Commonwealth to set out to promote Moore College against other colleges in other States.

Your article could only stir up bitter antagonism against the Church in Sydney at a time when all the resources should be used for building up and helping other places. The first thing the Church in Sydney will need to do is promote goodwill and not cause further divisions.

It is not the churchmanship or biblical scholarship and high academic standards with which people quarrel with the diocese of Sydney but their attitude to other people and at Moore College, the total disregard for the rights of others.

M. STYLES,  
Dulwich, SA

## The case for keeping St John's, Morpeth, in existence

SIR — Your editorial of March 7th in certain respects, for the sake of the record, needs some amendment.

It suggests that St John's College, Morpeth at present, while there is no Warden, has a "tiny staff" of only two. Among the eight clergy actually resident at St John's, there are three who teach, the Vice-Warden, the Tutor, and the shop Winter who is

college chaplain until the appointment of a new Warden. Dr Colebourne, the Greek lecturer, is also a member of staff and has been resident at St John's for many years.

The post of Warden has been advertised, as required by ordinance, in newspapers here and overseas, and in the one national Anglican paper in which all sections of the Australian Church are represented.

The appointment of a Warden is the responsibility not only of Bishop Shevill but of the whole College Council (which now includes representatives of the Church outside Newcastle diocese). I myself would not be disappointed to see the appointment of a man with "Haggerston-type fervour" if you are referring to the evangelical enthusiasm and loyalty to the Church of England which characterised the well-known Haggerston parishes in London's East End.

This is not the time to "gracefully end St John's troubled history." Its history, like that of the Church, has sometimes been troubled. As one who has been a lecturer at St John's for four years, and a former Vice-Warden, I am aware of that.

But there has always been also much for which to thank God — in the past and today, and the college's continued existence is justified by the fact that it is a happy Christian community, not only a college (and we surely need more such communities in our Church), and because it continues to represent a breadth of Christian tradition which is not evident in Moore College.

This year 14 men have entered college, and students come from the dioceses of Melbourne, Bathurst, Bunbury, Grafton, New Guinea, Riverina, Tasmania and Newcastle (with two independents). Among them are evangelicals, catholics, liberals and pentecostals. On the staff are men of catholic, evangelical and liberal outlook.

There may well be a need to re-organise our colleges though many consider some of the changes and planned changes in the UK unwise. I regret, for example, the closing of Kelham or the fact that my old college, St Chad's, in the University of Durham, with a fine tradition of training men for the priesthood, no longer does so.

Certainly, a more impartial analysis than that given in your editorial is needed.

John Bunyan,  
Christ Church Cathedral,  
Newcastle.

(ED NOTE: The editorial in question was referring to full-time staff.)

BY the way, there's one man being heard by nominators every few weeks who are blissfully unaware that he may be resigning altogether. We can't spill the beans, but some judicious homework by those looking for a new recruit would save them some trouble. Then again, his preaching is edifying, so they don't show a loss.

## Off the Record

IT'S about time more care was exercised with hymns at public functions. Three times recently we've sung John Newton's "Glorious Things," only to find grace emptied of its efficacy in the final verse. Newton wrote, "Saviour SINCE of Zion's city I, through grace, a member am." Our sheets (each a Sydney diocesan production) had replaced "since" with "if," as do a few modern hymn books. God's grace is irreplaceable. It destroys man's disposition to resist. It does not drag man to Christ against his will, but changes his heart so that, in the words of the Westminster Confession, man "comes most freely, being made willing by His grace." There is no "if" about it. Newton knew this; so should we.

A clerical acquaintance entered a Christian bookshop in a capital city. What better place to buy material for a recently converted lass? He found what he wanted; then found his pocket as bare as the celebrated closet of a certain Mrs Hubbard. He asked to have the order charged to his account. Not so simple — the rules stipulate a minimum of \$2.

Fair enough under ordinary circumstances, but his time (like his money) was short, so he pleaded an exceptional case. But it was no dough, no go. He stressed that refusal would deprive a new Christian of urgently needed help in Bible reading. But he went without, and so did she. The shop has some lovely texts on the wall, too.

OTHER days, other ways, J. O. F. Murray once mentioned a reversal of ideas regarding the resurrection. The Corinthians accepted the fact, but denied the principle. Today the principle is admitted and the fact denied.

I think it was Henry Ward Beecher who once said church pews were packed with bald-headed sinners whose complaint was caused by the truth hitting them on the head only to bounce to the row behind. Today's pews are rarely packed with anybody. Does the problem centre on the pew or the pulpit? We're preparing a quiz on preachers, and readers' answers will be published — no names, no pack drill. To be fair, we later intend asking preachers what they think of those who sit at their feet.

BY the way, there's one man being heard by nominators every few weeks who are blissfully unaware that he may be resigning altogether. We can't spill the beans, but some judicious homework by those looking for a new recruit would save them some trouble. Then again, his preaching is edifying, so they don't show a loss.

— The Needle.

## Sydney MU on Human Rights Bill

The Mothers' Union of the diocese of Sydney has written to the Prime Minister, Mr Whitlam, to express its concern regarding the Human Rights Bill.

The letter read:

"On behalf of the Mothers' Union, diocese of Sydney, I write to express our concern at the Human Rights Bill to be introduced into the Australian Parliament.

"We were pleased however, that Senator Lionel Murphy had agreed to review the Bill and make some alterations.

"We were particularly concerned that Article 18 of the Covenant, in the context of stating that all people have a right to freedom of thought, conscience or religion, and that parents have a right to instruct or arrange for the instruction of their children in accordance with their religious and moral convictions, be included in the Bill.

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**Crossword prize**

A book prize for the final Bible Crossword No 77 has been posted to Mrs L. Bloomfield of Oak Flats, NSW.

**The problem of churches behind the Iron Curtain**

(Grand Rapids) A committee of the Reformed churches in the Netherlands (GKN) submitted a report on the situation of the church in Eastern Europe. The report was prompted by the question whether or not to support the controversial activities of Dr. R. Wurmbrand. Its scope, however, was much broader, namely, how can we better realize our unity with brothers and sisters in Eastern Europe.

The report began by analysing the atheistic character of the Marxist State which would wipe out religion because it robs man of the will to realise all his potential here and now. In order to stop the church's influence in the schools and society, Russia has set up a State commission to regulate the church.

This commission was adopted by all Eastern European countries, although it tends to function more leniently in these countries (except in Albania). The commission appoints lead-

ers, gives permission to establish congregations, build churches, and hold meetings. It also controls theological education.

Through this commission the State often attempts to incite discord and suspicion among the leaders, and between the leaders and their constituencies. For example, by arbitrarily withholding travelling visas from some and granting it to others, it causes the one to suspect the other of collaboration and compromise. In this connection, the report points out that Wurmbrand's propaganda against the leaders of the official churches plays into the hands of the State.

The report questions Wurmbrand's claim regarding an extensive, organised underground church. Such a church, or rather, a number of Christian households, do exist in Albania, North Korea, and China, because the church is not tolerated at all in those countries. In Russia the Initiativniki have separated themselves from the official Union of Baptists and have thereby become illegal, as have various sects such as the Jehovah's Witnesses.

Many Christians belong to the

dissidents and in Russia find themselves imprisoned for activities hostile to the State. However, in Eastern Europe there is no indication of large-scale persecution, the report claims.

By his underground activities, which the State regards subversive, Wurmbrand, the report continues, threatens to endanger all Christians in the communist countries. Moreover, the whole process of smuggling literature may be unnecessary, since it is still possible to send literature through official channels.

The report also points out that the diaconal agencies of the Protestant churches can use the eastern European Commission which co-ordinates aid to churches and Christians in communist lands restoring churches and pastorates, purchasing theological literature, and giving financial assistance to preachers.

The report also counselled the churches of the West to be careful in their criticism of leaders of eastern European churches since it is hard to know in what kind of situation the leaders find themselves. (RES NE).

**Books Help for children**

**THE BIBLE FOR CHILDREN:** Bridget Hadaway and Jean Atcheson, Octopus Books, London, 1973. 304 pages, \$4.95.

This well produced, finely illustrated book is designed for young readers of seven years or so and upwards and presents a broad range of biblical material in story form covering both the Old and New Testaments.

In the way that children's books must it strives only for very general impressions but the stories are interesting in their selection and simply presented. The selection is also comprehensive and there are no major omissions. It may have been more helpful, however, if reference had been made to the biblical sections from which the stories had been selected. A book of this character ought to be an adjunct to and not a substitute for, the Scriptures.

W. J. Dumbrell.

**SHORT NOTICES**

**ROMANS, A Revolutionary Manifesto** by Lycurgus M. Starkey. Abingdon, 1973. 128 pages, \$2.48. Dr Starkey shows how the letter that revolutionised the thinking of Luther, Wesley and Barth can do this for Christians today. **BRIGHT WIND OF THE SPIRIT, Pentecostalism Today** by Steve Durasoff. Hodder, 1973. 277 pages, \$6.25.

190 pages, \$1.35. Alfred and Rose Bosshardt were taken prisoners by the Chinese Communists together with Arnolis Hayman and this is the Bosshardts' story. Arnolis Hayman was eventually released and with his wife and family, returned to Australia. Hayman was ordained in Sydney as were his

two sons. One is now Federal secretary of the BCA.

**EVERY DAY WITH WILLIAM BARCLAY**, ed. Denis Duncan. Hodder, 1973. 285 pages, \$6.80. A companion volume to "Through the year with William Barclay." A brief, homely meditation for every day of the year. **THE TRIUMPH OF PASTOR SON** by Yong Choon Ahn. InterVarsity Press, 1973. 96 pages, UK 35p. Pastor Son, a Korean, was imprisoned by the Japanese and later the Chinese

Communists for his faith. A fine testimony.

**TIME TO RUN**, Bethany Fellowship, 1973. 135 pages. The Allan Sloane screenplay made into a Dimension paperback. One of the finest Christian films and the book tells its story. **TRUMPETS OF THE LORD** by Bramwell Booth. Hodder Christian Paperbacks, 366 pages, \$1.65. Daily readings from the great Salvationist selected by Catherine Bramwell-Booth.

**Key Books**

ACR'S REVIEW EDITOR INTRODUCES IMPORTANT NEW TITLES:

**YOUTHQUAKE** by Kenneth Leech. Sheldon Press, London, 1973. 246 pages, 62p. Kenneth Leech is an angry young Anglo-Catholic clergyman who is radical, anti-establishment and inclined to be somewhat hysterical about what he calls the hysterical attacks of Festival of Light people on the permissive society. Nevertheless, if you can forget about his many blind-spots, you will certainly learn more about the counter-culture of the past decade or so than you would from any other book to appear lately. It covers the whole youth scene from the drug cult to the Jesus Movement with the world of LSD, the occult, the deviates, mystics, eastern cultists, the communes and the underground in between. **HODDER and Stoughton paperback edition, 1974. 224 pages, 62p.** **GUILT AND GRACE** by Paul Tournier. Hodder published the first English version of this very useful pastoral guide in 1962. It is published as a psychological study but it is all the more helpful for all that as it does more than any other readily accessible volume to reveal the many hidden facets of guilt which may elude all but the most experienced pastors. Tournier is able to show quite clearly the difference between false or neurotic guilt and real guilt as the Bible understands it. Pastors can be fatally unaware of the great damage which false guilt does to some people who come to them for pastoral help. This book is most valuable if we will fully grasp the workings of both guilt and grace. **SALVATION** by Ernest F. Kevan. Evangelical Press paper back ed. 1973, 128 pages, UK40p. This is a very fine study of the whole doctrine of salvation by the late principal of London Bible College who was a thoroughgoing biblical scholar and an evangelical of very great stature. His 20 years (1946-66) at the College left their mark and these eight chapters, which were the basis for College lectures, will help us understand why. While current theology is wallowing in the morass of secular ideas on salvation, we have available here, at a reasonable price, a sound Biblical perspective on the whole question.

**Valuable Paperback**

**A TODAY SORT OF EVANGELISM**, John Poulton, Lutterworth, 1972 paperback, 93 pages, 95c.

This is a small paperback which is worth reading by all who are interested in evangelism. The author calls our attention to the fact that in all communication, and therefore in communication of the gospel, it is essential to understand the person to whom we wish to communicate. This he attempts to do in the early chapters of the book. A

chapter on evangelistic preaching is timely, as is his reminder that true evangelism takes place in the context of relationship. The reviewer felt that often much of what was described as evangelism was really pre-evangelism — but valuable for all that.

John Chapman

**JESUS IS ALIVE & WELL** by Owen and Pederson. Lutterworth, 1973. 125 pages, \$1.05.

This book should be on every

bookshelf. Here is christian doctrine given in the most racy, readable and exciting manner possible. The chapters are prefaced with copies of "Jesus" posters and besides going through the main creedal statements the book deals with prayer, conversion and witnessing and ecumenism. It could be very useful in discussion groups for young and older people.

A few US expressions may irritate, and perhaps the authors should more correctly state that the Spirit of Jesus, rather than Jesus, lives in people's hearts. But — a good book, none the less.

Geoffrey Hayles.

**Senator Murphy keeps them happy**

"Much of what the new Australian Government has achieved and attempted is right along the humanist path, especially those reforms instituted by Lionel Murphy. We have a lot to be grateful for. Senator Murphy has started out on divorce law reform, has moved into the field of civil liberties in an organised way, and has attempted necessary trade practice reforms. We have also had real progress in homosexual law reform. Many ministers are humanistically inclined and if we do not agree with Education Minister Beazley's State Aid policy, at least it is being offered on a 'needs basis'."

Editorial — The Australian Humanist, December, 1973.

**Oxford professor to visit Morpeth**

Professor George D. Kilpatrick, who is at present Professor of Exegesis of Holy Scripture at Oxford, has accepted the Bishop of Newcastle's invitation to come as visiting lecturer to St. John's College, Morpeth, for the Trinity and Michaelmas terms of 1975.

The professor graduated with first class honours in classics from the University of London in 1932 and then became a scholar of Oriol College, Oxford, later gaining a B.D. and D.D. He became a fellow of Queen's College, Oxford in 1949.

Amongst his better known publications are: — "The Origins of the Gospel according to St Matthew," 1946, "The Trial of Jesus," 1953, and "The Remaking of the Liturgy," 1957.

It is hoped that this will be the beginning of a program for St. John's College which will bring overseas scholars to share their wisdom with the Australian Church on an annual basis.

**The Word and Life**  
D. B. KNOX

**Repentance**

Repentance is not a term that occurs often in modern language because the notion is not very congenial to us.

We have dialogue and we have discussion groups, and we have group therapy for self understanding, but the suggestion that repentance is what we need does not often find expression in modern life. This is an indication of how far removed we are from Bible ideas.

We need to reflect on how deep repentance is in our own thinking about Christianity or in the messages heard on Sundays in church. Repentance is essential.

But what does repentance mean? What was involved when Jesus called those religious and good-living Jews to repentance? Or when John the Baptist and the apostles did the same? They were calling them to a radical change of mind not merely to an improvement here or there, or to be sorry for this or that or fault but they were calling them to a complete turn-around of attitude with regard to God and with regard to God's relation to the world.

Firstly, we are called to a repentance towards God, to a recognition that God is sovereign in the world.

He is its creator. Nothing happens apart from him, not even a sparrow falls to the ground, or an ant walks over a leaf in the forests of the Amazon.

Furthermore, we are called to recognise God's loving and righteous providence in the events which happen. The God who controls even the flowers of the fields and provides the food for the birds of the air, is the God in Whom we are to trust and to honour by trusting in our daily life. Trust is action, not merely pious thoughts. This involves obedience.

Secondly, we are called upon to change our world view and this will mean a change of values.

**Voltaire's view**

If there had been in England only one religion, its despotism would have been fearful. If there had been two religions, they would have cut each other's throat. But as there are thirty, they live peacefully and happily. — Voltaire.

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**Commission condemns Solzhenitsyn's banishment**

The International Affairs Commission of the Church of England General Synod has condemned the banishment of Alexander Solzhenitsyn from Russia.

The ten man commission of Soviet experts and clergy, chaired by Bishop C. A. Warren of Canberra, made the following statement: "The arrest and banishment of Alexander Solzhenitsyn are to be condemned as a further grievous step in the official campaign to silence all domestic critics of violations of human rights in the USSR. Such violations, which should be condemn-

ed by Christians wherever they occur, are particularly abhorrent in a country of the size and power of the USSR, especially one which claims to have pioneered a more humane and morally superior form of society.

"In recent years Soviet writers, scholars, and other citizens who have attempted to employ rights ostensibly guaranteed to them under Soviet law to seek redress of the legitimate grievances of religious, ethnic and other groups and to expose abuses of power by the authorities have been increasingly subjected to repressive measures ranging from dismissal from their jobs and banishment to remote areas to incarceration in prisons, labour camps or psychiatric hospitals. Denied the right to express their views at home, some, like Solzhenitsyn, have been driven to publishing them abroad, and this has provoked further harsh punishments.

"We are particularly concerned at the plight of Soviet Christians who, despite mitigation of the extreme harassment of a few years back, are still treated as second-class citizens, denied opportunities of advancement, subjected individually and collectively to constant pressure and placed under restrictions that make the normal expression of their religion impossible. Soviet Jews and other religious groups are similarly treated, and official campaigns against Zionism have acquired disturbing overtones of anti-semitism. We commend the steps taken by the Soviet Government to-

wards the reduction of international tension and increased economic, scientific and cultural co-operation with other countries, believing these to be vital for world peace and the well-being of humanity. We are concerned, however, that the Soviet authorities are contributing to an atmosphere inimical to detente and co-operation by continued grievous violations of the rights of their own citizens."

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Arthur Deane goes to London post



Africa where the A.E.F. is operating and has made a study of traditional African religions.

The International Office of the Africa Evangelical Fellowship has announced the appointment of the Rev. Arthur Deane, of Sydney (pictured) as its first International Secretary.

Mr Deane is at present Principal of the Sydney Missionary and Bible College in the Sydney suburb of Crofton. He is a graduate of Moore Theological College and the Universities of Sydney and London and is a Baptist minister.

He is expected to take up his new appointment in the latter part of this year and will be based at the new international headquarters of the A.E.F. in London.

The position of International Secretary was created at the International Conference of the A.E.F. (formerly known as the South Africa General Mission)

CANBERRA & GOULBURN

On Sunday, April 21, Bishop Warren proposes to ordain deacon Mr Eric Wright and Mr Robert Willson. Mr Wright has served as a layman in the parish of the Good Shepherd (A.C.T.), and Mr Willson, who was formerly a Presbyterian minister, recently joined St John's, Wagga.

GIPPSLAND

Ven Ray E. Elliot, Archdeacon of South Gippsland and rector of Foster since 1971, has been appointed dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, Sale, from February.

On Sunday, February 17, the Bishop of Gippsland ordained Rev Keith South to the priesthood in St Paul's Cathedral, Sale.

Rev Allan Huggins, rector of Orbst since 1972, began his dual role as diocesan education officer and presenter at St Paul's Cathedral in March.

MELBOURNE

Rev Peter H. Chesterton, incumbent of Carrum/Seaford since 1970, has been appointed incumbent of Armadale with Hawksburn from May 28. In February, Mr Chesterton was appointed examining chaplain to the Archbishop of Melbourne.

Rev Harold J. Thom, incumbent of St Barnabas, Balwyn, since 1961, will be inducted to St Margaret's, Caulfield, on May 30.

Rev John Davies, incumbent of the parochial district of Dromana, Rosebud and McCrae, since 1960, has resigned as from May 31.

Rev James Townsend, retired since 1961, died on February 17.

Rev Walter Backholer, retired since 1933, died on March 3.

ROCKHAMPTON

Rev J. Donald Bleakley, presenter at St John's Cathedral, Brisbane, since 1965, is now training as a hospital chaplain and has come to Rockhampton for a year's practical experience. He is attached to St Luke's, Wandal.

Mr Norman Wastall is now on the staff of St Luke's, Wandal, as a lay assistant in training for the ministry.

SYDNEY

Rev S. Noel Paddison, rector of Christ Church, Spinelwood, since 1955, died on March 11.

Rev Keith Gowan, rector of St Luke's, Miranda, since 1968, died on March 13, after a long illness.

Rev Alan E. Hamilton, curate at St John's, Beecroft, since 1971, has been appointed curate-in-charge of the provisional parish of St Thomas, South Granville.

Rev Robert A. Jones, curate at St Alban's, Lindfield, since 1972, has been appointed curate at St Clement's, Mosman.

Rev Ken LeHuray, rector of Holy Trinity, Kingsford, since 1963, has been appointed rural dean of Randwick from May 1.

Rev Harold Hinton is now located with

the Christian Literature Crusade in Papua New Guinea. His address is P.O. Box 1136, Boroko, PNG.

Rev Fred Waulmaker, assistant State Secretary since 1973, has been appointed State Secretary in NSW for ABM.

Rev Tom Halls, curate at Holy Trinity, Peakhurst, since 1972, has been appointed curate-in-charge of St Phil's, McCullum's Hill, from April 4.

THE MURRAY

Canon Irvine J. Scott, rector of St John's, Murray Bridge, since 1970 and registrar of the diocese of the Murray since 1970, has been appointed archdeacon of the diocese. He replaces Archdeacon Lionel R. Lenthall, who is now rector of Broadview, Adelaide.

Rev William A. Goodes, rector of Mount Barker since December, 1971, and Rural Dean of Strathalbyn, has been appointed a canon of the diocese.

Mr E. G. Bottroff, a synodman and churchwarden in the parish of Mannum and a diocesan councillor, has been appointed the first lay canon of the diocese.

WILLOCHRA

Archdeacon Frederick C. Bastian, rector of St John's, Maitland, since 1963, and archdeacon of York Peninsula since 1968, has been appointed archdeacon of Eyre Peninsula. He will also be rector of Cummins/Tumby Bay. Archdeacon Bastian will replace Rev John Kinman, rector of Cummins/Tumby Bay since 1967, who left Eyre Peninsula in September, 1973, for the parish of Bordertown (The Murray).

Rev John Morley, rector of Kadina since 1968, will be leaving Kadina after Easter.

GOULBURN CENTENARY



Some thousands from all over the diocese of Canberra and Goulburn gathered at St Saviour's Cathedral, Goulburn on Sunday, March 17 for the centenary celebrations. Dr Geoffrey Sambell, Archbishop of Perth was the special preacher.

ENQUIRY INTO THE STATUS OF WOMEN

An inquiry into the Status of Women in the Church was announced in Sydney this month by Mrs Sabine Willis.

Women from all denominations have been invited to make submissions. The executive body of each denomination has been asked to state the official policy of that denomination towards women.

The enquiry was established by the Commission on the Status of Women of the Australian Council of Churches (N.S.W.) and has appointed Mrs Willis as Director.

Mrs Willis said she believes this is the first such enquiry into the role of women in the church in Australia. There are strong indications that women are questioning their traditional role in all areas, which of course must include the churches. Women make up the majority of active congregations, and the Commission is interested to hear from all of them.

It is anticipated that the enquiry will be completed by the end of May, 1974 and that the final report will be published later in the year.

New course draws leaders

More than 85 young people crowded into the C.M.S. Cafeteria on the evening of March 5, to attend the first lectures of the Sydney Youth Department's 1974 Leadership Training Course.

The evening was marked by an awareness of the seriousness of leadership responsibilities, attentiveness to the well qualified lecturers, and involvement in group work. Further discussion was provoked by stimulating questions from those present.

One of the most significant facts is that those attending the course represent not less than 46 parishes! They have come from places as far afield as Palm Beach, Engadine, Mt. Colah and

\$1500 for Disaster Fund

Forty-five young people of St Aidan's, Longueville, NSW, raised \$1500 recently to help flood victims.

They held a Walkathon and raised this large amount and sent it in to the National Home Mission Fund.

The fund has raised \$15,000 so far and sent it to relieve victims of the recent disastrous floods in Queensland and NSW.

Show concern at F.O.L. 7 April

The Sydney organisers of the Festival of Light want thousands of people to assemble in Hyde Park on Sunday, April 7, at 2 p.m., to demonstrate their concern over the dangers of moral pollution.

Special speakers will include the Hon Mr Milton Morris, Minister for Transport; the Very Rev Lance Shilton, Dean of Sydney; Dr Tom Connolly of St Patrick's College, Dr John Court of the University of Adelaide and the Rev Gordon Powell of Scott's Church, Melbourne.

Music will be provided from 1 pm onwards by the "Family" folk group from Brisbane, the

held in Johannesburg in September last year.

The appointment is the result of an election process involving all A.E.F. missionaries and all members of the Councils in each of the sending countries: Britain, Canada, USA, South Africa and Australia.

The A.E.F. has about 350 missionaries working in Zambia, Malawi, Swaziland, Rhodesia, Angola, South-West Africa and the Indian Ocean islands of Reunion and Mauritius, of these, 13 are Australians.

The final ballot of the election was taken during February and the result was announced on March 15.

Mr Deane has been associated with the Australian Council of the A.E.F. for the past 15 years. He has served as Chairman and as Overseas Secretary and is at present its vice-chairman.

He has a first-hand knowledge of the various fields in Southern

Dural. Such a diversity clearly demonstrates the need for a regional training program orientated towards specific local requirements, an area in which the Youth Department is presently experimenting.

In commenting, the Youth Director, Rev Terry Dein, said "We have been tremendously encouraged by the response to this course, and impressed by the enthusiasm of those enrolled. It is clear that there is a great need in the area of leadership training and the Youth Department is seeking to meet this need to the very best of its ability."

Scripture Union's enlarged budget

"We can't do it, but we accept anyway" was the response of one of the delegates to the recent weekend Council Meeting of Scripture Union's Federal Council.

The steep rise in promised giving to the burgeoning SU work in South East Asia was made in the belief that Australian Christians will increase their giving to missionary work in keeping with their inflating wages. S.U.'s Asian budget desperately needs this extra money this year if it is to meet the challenges that Christians in Asia have asked us to help with.

- Asian projects for 1974 include:
• The support of a new staff-worker in the Philippines: Mr Aureliano Tan.
• A Bible Reading Promotion worker in Thailand.
• Support for Miss Pham Thi Son in Vietnam and for a new staff worker Mr Nyuven Van Nang based in Danang.
• A staff worker and SU Centre in Tonga and in Fiji.
Most Australian State SU Councils are currently facing deficits caused essentially by the large increase in clerical award rates.
Only 9 per cent of SU's income comes from bookshops and SU. Notes, the remaining 91 per cent is dependent on donations and is used for SU's work with children and youth in Australia as well as the donations for SU work in Asia.

Church Record

ANGLICAN ELDERSHIP EXPERIMENTS

Several Sydney Anglican congregations are experimenting with eldership plans operating on biblical principles.

One of the first is St Paul's, Wentworthville, where the scheme has been operating factually for 12 months.

The minister, the Rev Brian Johnson, said last week that the decision was made after one year's study of eldership and pastoral care by the combined church committees of the parish.

"Because it was so different from the traditional Anglican form, there had to be a lot of teaching and discussion to look at the idea objectively," Mr Johnson said.

He said that while younger members of the congregation were enthusiastic, older ones had some reservations.

SECRET BALLOT

The first move had been to ascertain what men in the church appeared capable of performing the work of pastoral care and teaching.

"Aware of the dangers of setting ourselves up as judge and jury, we first worked out principles, then listed all the men who attend church," said Mr Johnson.

"A secret ballot was then conducted with each committee member given a list of the men. One tick was placed next to the name of anyone considered to be potential elder material, and two ticks for those thought to be already practising as one. I placed myself on the list."

Mr Johnson said that nine people were selected all with a high degree of unanimity.

These continued to do what had been done in the past, except that they were now meeting monthly. At these meetings they sought to train themselves, to increase their ability in pastoral care and to share together.

The elders had a lot of responsibility and Mr Johnson said he would be very hesitant to exercise "any monolithic authority" if their desires were different to his.

"BETTER THAN THE OLD SYSTEM"

At St Peter's, Burwood East, two successive vestry meetings have voted not to have a parish council, after a congregational meeting over a year ago when the principles of eldership were discussed.

There are at present seven elders and no limit has been placed on the number. The general qualification is that elders should have obvious pastoral gifts, be over 25 years old, have been members of the congregation for at least six months, and be married.

Election is by written nomination by any two members of the congregation, who hand their nomination to the elders.

If these accept the nomination, the person is then approached. If he agrees to stand, his name is read out to the congregation on two successive Sundays.

During the course of some lectures in a department at Sydney University last year, reference was made to Erich von Daniken and his divine chariots. The lecturer was amazed to discover later what a high proportion of the students fully accepted this nonsensical theory, despite the fact that they were of greater intelligence and educational attainments than the average person in the community.

Fewer students today might believe in Erich von Daniken, because of the many, widely publicised criticisms of his theory. But other errors will take its place — perhaps occultism, or Satanism. Or perhaps the error may take a more sophisticated, pseudo-scientific form. But there is bound to be error where truth is absent. In the words ascribed to G. K. Chesterton:

"When people cease to believe in God, they do not believe in nothing; they believe in anything."

Multiplying education and knowledge obviously does not solve the problem. It merely metamorphoses it. Few university graduates, one would think, would become Armstrongites or Jehovah's Witnesses; but many might find Buddhism and other forms of pantheism, or plain old-fashioned agnosticism, attractive. The spirit of error influences different

responsibility within the congregation.

"Second, because a set number is elected, this may result in those without spiritual discernment being elected to fill the number, or those with such qualities being left off because of insufficient vacancies.

"We have a long way to go, but consider this system scriptural and as working better than the old."

QUALIFICATIONS

Members saw two basic objections to the parish council system," said Mr Howard.

"First, by tradition, parish councillors rarely saw themselves as having spiritual

Australian religious press at Lausanne

Australian religious media will be well represented at the International Congress on World Evangelisation (July 16-25, Switzerland), and will cable daily reports to all media outlets in Australia.

Four Australians have accepted invitations from Mr Warwick Olsan, the Congress's Communications Director, to join the Congress Press Staff. They are Bishop Gerald Muffin (Anglican) of Melbourne, who will be liaison between Congress participants and media representatives; Mr Barry Berryman (Congregationalist) of Sydney, who will be production manager of the Congress daily newspaper; the Rev Richard Wrightson (Methodist) of Tamworth, news editor of the daily newspaper; and the Rev Alan Nichols (Anglican) of Sydney, who will undertake special writing assignments.

Among other media representatives who will be covering the Congress are: Mr Eric Daley (New Life); Mr Gerald Davis (Church Scene); the Rev Rex Meyer (Church Record); and Mr Clifford Warne and Mr Stewart Mudge (Church of England Television Society).

It is expected that as many as 300 secular and religious media people will be in Lausanne, Switzerland, for the 10-day Congress.

Media coverage is likely to highlight radical contributions from Latin American participants; the contribution of Dr Billy Graham; the small group consultations on evangelising particular problem areas and across cultural and language barriers; and the extent to which Third World participants are able to influence the thinking of Western representatives.

EDITORIAL

The Spirit of Truth and the Spirit of Error

During the course of some lectures in a department at Sydney University last year, reference was made to Erich von Daniken and his divine chariots. The lecturer was amazed to discover later what a high proportion of the students fully accepted this nonsensical theory, despite the fact that they were of greater intelligence and educational attainments than the average person in the community.

people in different ways — ways that depend on background, mentality, social and intellectual interests, etc. But people are bound to be influenced and led astray by that spirit unless they are protected by the Holy Spirit, the spirit of truth.

One of the gifts of God to His children for which they should be most thankful is the power of spiritual discernment through the Holy Spirit. They can know the truth about God, the world, and themselves through the Scriptures as interpreted to them by the spirit. This is the divine preservative against spiritual error.

God does not promise to keep Christians miraculously from errors in arithmetic, or reveal the mysteries of physics in visions of the night. Our natural intelligence is given to us so that we can acquire knowledge of the natural universe, and one of the ways in which such knowledge grows is by erroneous assumptions and hypotheses being corrected after further thought or consideration.

But in spiritual matters the child of God can confidently expect to be kept safe by God the Holy Spirit from fundamental error.

As Christians we have a duty to the multitudes around us who are erring from the

Off the Record

VERSATILITY? How's this! A performer from the stage show "Godspell" later obtained a role in the TV series, 96. That's not all. He's now been featured as a male pin-up in a women's mag. All things to all men?

OUR comment on hymns and their use (abuse?) has brought to light a list of hymns banned by one Sydney rector. At a recent diocesan doc, he pointed out a line from one of them after we had sung it with gusto:

"His powerful blood did once atone, And now it pleads before the throne."

Does it? Our forgiveness rests on our Lord's finished work.

THREE separate couples from three dioceses have told me of being knocked back when they asked for their bans to be read. Why this dislike of a pleasant custom? Congregations like to share the young folks' joy, and they're reminded that they do have a say in the conduct of local church affairs. Perhaps this latter is the reason for reticent silence. After all, to have someone objecting, even on valid grounds, might be construed as an attack upon monolithic ministerial authority. My prayer book says: "Banns . . . must be published in the Church . . ." Well?

DOCTORED doctrine is not confined to hymns. Acts 13:48 reads, "... as many as were ordained to eternal life believed." At least, that's the gist of most translations. Now we have a volume called "The Living Bible," which reads, "As many as wanted eternal life believed." True, there are two footnotes to satisfy all tastes; but it's the main reading that carries the weight. For those who have purchased a copy, check Romans 8:29 against a reliable version.

The Needle.

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