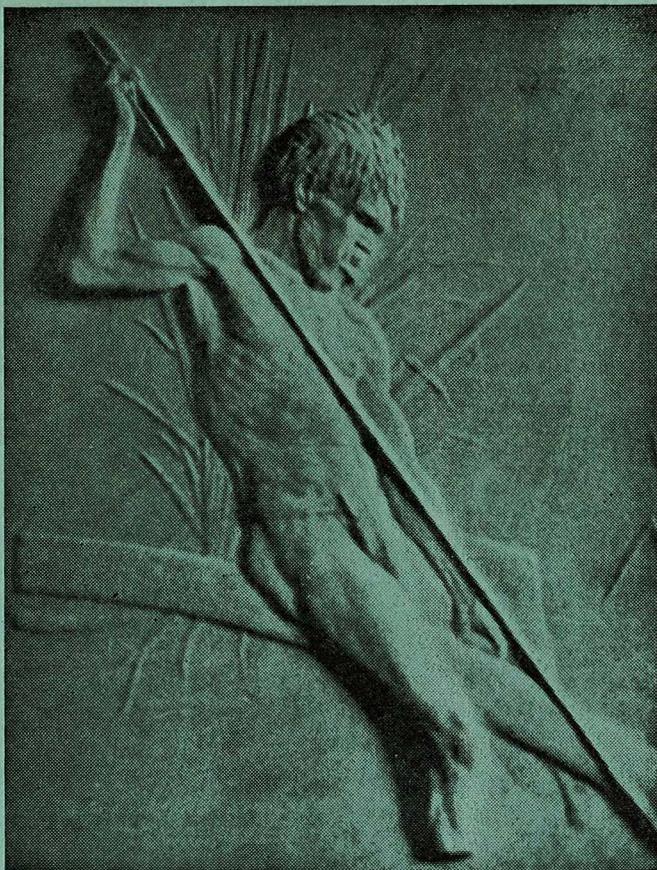


Box A 53

PRIVILEGE

and



The Sculpture of an Australian Aborigine which appears on one of the main doors of the new Public Library, Sydney.

"Sydney Sun" Photo.

RESPONSIBILITY

MOORE THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE LIBRARY



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Commonwealth Secretary*

THE REV. W. H. RAINEY B.A., F.R.G.S.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY
AUSTRALIA

1817-1944.

+

*Privilege
and
Responsibility*

Report for the year
ended 30th November,
1944.

*"Listen, O isles, unto me."
—Isaiah 49:1.*

ISSUED BY THE COMMONWEALTH
OF AUSTRALIA COUNCIL

Officers and Members of the Council, 1944

Patron:

His Excellency, General, the Rt. Hon. Lord Gowrie,
V.C., G.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.

Chairman:

Rev. A. Law, D.D. (Melbourne).

Vice-Chairman:

Mr. R. Clark (Brisbane).

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Mr. W. J. Williams, M.B.E., B.Sc. (Sydney).

Honorary Librarian:

Mr. Justice J. A. Ferguson, B.A., LL.B.

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*Mr. H. F. Prior (Perth).	The Rev. G. Tulloch (Perth).
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*Mr. W. M. Buntine, M.A. (Melbourne).	(Aust.), (Adelaide).
*Mr. W. J. Williams, M.B.E., F.C.S., B.Sc. (Sydney).	Rev. A. Law, D.D. (Melbourne).
*Mr. R. Clark (Brisbane).	Mr. R. Byrne, A.F.I.A. (Sydney).
*Mr. A. C. Powell (Hobart).	Rev. W. S. Laurie, A.F.I.A. (Brisbane).
	Dr. F. R. Tyson (Launceston).

London representatives marked with an asterisk.

Secretary of Council:

Rev. W. H. Rainey, B.A., F.R.G.S.
Office: Bible House, 95 Bathurst Street, Sydney.

Members of Staff:

Rev. E. H. Swan, Bible House, 73 Grenfell Street, Adelaide—1926.
Rev. W. E. Northey, L.Th.,
Bible House, 44 Brisbane Street, Launceston—1930.
Rev. C. E. Taylor, Bible House, 167 St. George's Terrace, Perth—1932.
Rev. A. W. Stuart, B.A., Bible House, 95 Bathurst Street, Sydney—1935.
Rev. L. H. Shakespeare, Bible House, 363 George St., Brisbane—1938.
Mr. S. R. Baker, Bible House, 241-243 Flinders Lane, Melbourne—1943.

"There then is something which the Bible means to us and can mean to the world. It has in it the power to link men together in the fellowship of the divine love by the message which it brings, upholding the highest possible moral standards in such a way that all nations as they hear this message are able to respond and accept them for their very own. That is what this Society is engaged in carrying throughout the world."

The late Archbishop of Canterbury,
at the 140th annual meeting of the
British and Foreign Bible Society.

Annual Report of the British and Foreign Bible Society, Australia.

For the Year ended 30th November, 1944.

PRIVILEGE AND RESPONSIBILITY.

A Universal Gospel.

Privilege and Responsibility—great words these which have profoundly influenced the history of mankind. You will not find them in the Bible, yet the ideas for which they stand are on almost every page. Let us take but one example—Israel, the people round which the biblical narrative centres, were privileged. They alone possessed Scriptures, containing the Law, history and poetry of the nation in its relationship to God. They were people of one Book and that spoke of an eternal pact and covenant between them and God. Such was the privilege, but there was also responsibility, for the continuance of the pact depended on their conduct. Moses made this quite clear when he said: "If thou do at all forget the Lord thy God, I testify against you this day that you shall surely perish." It is a matter of history that they failed to live up to the standard set for them and they perished as a people.

Moreover, Israel failed, not only in conduct, but in perception. They did not understand that the knowledge of the character and redemptive purposes of God brought with it the responsibility of passing on the good tidings to others. It was their rigid and limited conception of the Eternal, as the God of Israel only, that created a barrier between them and other peoples; it produced a pride and exclusiveness that was one of the principal factors in their downfall and disappearance as a nation. It is often thus; our downfall is the logical result of our sins, and not of arbitrary action.

Then Jesus Christ came. He wept over a nation dying because, while accepting the privilege, they rejected the responsibility inherent in being God's chosen people. In the midst of the most conventional element of Jewry, He revealed God, not as the monopoly of Israel, but as the Father of all men. It is the most wonderful thing of a wonderful life that our Lord, although born in a remote village far from the busy haunts of men, in an age when newspapers, cables and wireless were unknown, and the minds of men strictly regional, thought in universals. He told us that the love of God embraces the whole world, and He sent His disciples to evangelize, not only the Jews, but all nations. In

Jesus, God's purpose for the establishment of a world-wide kingdom based on love and righteousness, far as it is from realisation, became a possibility. In his last command, Christ passed on to his Church the responsibility of carrying into effect the privileges of discipleship. The same privileges and responsibilities are ours. Are we facing up to them, or shall we, too, be set aside by others more obedient to the divine command? That is the great question to which God requires an answer from our generation.

Then God, in His providence, has made us the custodians of the Holy Scriptures—the revelation of His will to mankind. The privilege is great, but so is the responsibility. What are we doing with them? They are not for us to keep for our own enjoyment, but to make known among all nations. Chiefly through the devotion of missionaries, the Bible has been translated, in whole or in part, into 1,062 languages, yet as men of science tell us, there are 3,000 languages—not including dialects which are innumerable, spoken in the world. Thus a great and difficult task lies before us. Can we rise to our responsibility?

WORLD-WIDE VISION.

Friendship and Finance.

The 140th Annual Meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society was held at the Kingsway Hall, London, on the morning of the 3rd May, 1944. Here was gathered a vast concourse of people fully alive to the Empire's privilege in possessing the Bible and to her responsibility in making it known to the world. The far-seeing character of the Report presented, the encouraging nature of the financial position and the high intellectual and spiritual level of the addresses will make the meeting memorable among recent anniversaries. The President, the Rt. Hon. the Viscount Sankey, G.B.E., etc., was in the Chair. Among those supporting him were the Archbishop Germanos, of the Greek Church, the Archdeacon of London, and the Revs. Dr. Max Warren and Dr. A. E. Garvie. A number of distinguished representatives of the Allied Governments in London honoured the meeting with their presence. The speakers were the Rev. Nathaniel Micklem, LL.D., D.D., Principal of Mansfield College, Oxford, and a Vice-President of the Society, and His Grace, the Archbishop of Canterbury, so soon to be called to his eternal rest.

The Rev. J. R. Temple, D.D., a secretary of the Society, in welcoming the many guests from the Continent, said: "During these vital war years many valued friendships have been made between this country and the Continent, friendships that will stand us in good stead in the difficult years of peace, and will be a very real asset in our common effort to rebuild a Christian

Europe. The hour of deliverance will soon strike, when the enslaved peoples of Europe will be liberated; and when that hour does strike your Committee wants to be ready to help. Two years ago your Committee inaugurated a Reconstruction Fund, knowing that heavy demands would be made upon the Society as soon as war ceases. That Reconstruction Fund, of course, is for the reconstruction and extension of work in China, and India, and Africa and other parts of the world, and yet the Committee is impressed by the tremendous urgency of the situation in Europe, and has decided to take out of that Fund £150,000.

"Now turn to finance. It is a very high privilege for me to be in the position to announce this morning that financially last year was the most wonderful year in the long and wonderful history of the Society. Never before have the contributions been so great. The income was £438,367, approximately an increase of £59,000 on the previous year. Gifts that have reached us from overseas have never been so generous as they were last year, never. From our friends in Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, gifts have been pouring in amounting to £180,000 for the world-wide work of the Society, which is an increase of £42,000."

Translation and Distribution.

"It was announced that three new languages had been added to the list in the course of the year. These were St. Matthew's Gospel in Southern Rengma, St. Mark in Sangtam, and St. Luke in Gio. The first two of these are spoken between the valley of the great river Brahmaputra and Upper Burma, in a wild expanse of forest, mountain, marsh and stream, which is, at present, one of the battlegrounds on which Indian and British troops are encountering Japanese; the latter is the language of 60,000 Africans living in the negro republic of Liberia. Thus the number of translations published by our Society now reaches 761.

"Then as to distribution, one of the great joys of the year has been to forward through Geneva to the prisoner-of-war camps, a weekly parcel of 100 Bibles and 200 New Testaments. We know how greatly these books have been appreciated. The parcels contain Scriptures in English, Greek, Hebrew, French, Afrikaans, Malagasy and West African tongues. We have continued to serve the chaplains and other Christian workers in the wide circulation of these Service Scriptures. We have not forgotten either the wounded or the sick in the hospitals.

"When the war is over, we shall, as a Society, be faced with our biggest task, and with the greatest opportunity the Society has ever known. We face it with confidence, not confidence in ourselves, but confidence in Him who has placed upon us the privilege and the responsibility of distributing the rich treasure

of His Word; confidence also in the great army of friends in this country and overseas who support the Society by their gifts and prayers."

World Unity.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, in a notable discourse on "The Bible and World Unity," said: "There is needed first the conviction that whatever Power rules the universe should be reasonable. And in the same way a strong religious government can only grow up against the background that whatever Power governs the universe is morally righteous. It is to the Bible that in fact we owe those great convictions, and it is from these great convictions that the achievements of the Western world spring.

"It is only here then that I see any hope of that foundation for a world unity which all of us must be desiring. More particularly it is the Bible which has set before us the history of the world as the arena of God's purpose of judgment. It is not meaningless, this struggle in which we are engaged for righteousness, whether it takes the form of war, as it does with us just now, or of that conception of that far better sort of means to set forward all that is good and check the development of what is bad. It is not meaningless, as it would have seemed to a great many Greek philosophers, and as it seems to a great many of the Hindu philosophers, who present the ultimate reality as existing in a serene detachment quite untroubled by such things. Now this is a field in which God Himself is at work, for which He has a purpose, in which He invites our co-operation—a field in which all progress consists in gradual conformity to His will, and whatever leads us away from His will is the reverse of progress. And so it applies to us a standpoint by which we can be judged."

THE COMMONWEALTH COUNCIL.

The Patron of the Bible Society in Australia, the Rt. Hon. Lord Gowrie, V.C., P.C., G.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., after a long and distinguished period of service as Governor-General, has now returned to England. His Majesty, the King, was graciously pleased to confer an Earldom on Lord Gowrie on the occasion of his retirement.

It speaks well for the improved situation, both within and without Australia, that it was possible for the whole Commonwealth Council to meet this year. The gathering took place in Melbourne on the 2nd and 3rd of March. All the Council members were present except the new State representative for Queensland, the Rev. W. S. Iaurie, A.F.I.A. The State Secretaries also attended and their presence was much appreciated.

There was only one change in the composition of the Council in the course of the year. Mr. H. J. Solomon, B.A., LL.B., the London representative for Tasmania, who is now with the R.A.A.F., was replaced by Mr. A. C. Powell, the Tasmanian manager of the T. & G. Company. We thank the retiring member for his service and we wish the new member every blessing in his new sphere of activity.

An outstanding feature of the gathering was the unanimous decision that the Council should, with the consent of London, extend its operations to Papua, New Guinea and the Islands of the Pacific. It will now be our duty, in collaboration with Headquarters, to provide the Scriptures, to publish new translations, and to undertake colportage work, where necessary, in this area and elsewhere as may be subsequently arranged.

PRINTING BY THE COMMONWEALTH COUNCIL.

During the year 1944 the following printing was undertaken by the Commonwealth Council in Sydney.

1. Ten thousand copies of "Mightier than the Sword," the London Popular Report. This is a reprint and consists of 90 pages. This was supplied to New Zealand as well as Australia.

2. Eight thousand copies of "The Words and the World." This is the Annual Report of the Commonwealth Council, together with that of the States.

3. Fifty-seven thousand copies of a four-page leaflet entitled "Australia's Responsibility." This popular production includes a map of Australia and the Pacific, prepared by Miss Mary Abel, now a member of the English deputation staff of the Bible Society.

A new edition of "Australia's Responsibility," with the statistics brought up to date, will appear early in 1945.

4. Ten thousand copies of a four-page leaflet entitled "The Bible and World Unity." This pamphlet reproduces the speech given by the late Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Temple, at the 140th Annual Meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society held in London on May 1st, 1944. The portrait of the Archbishop appears on the front page.

POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION.

The wisdom of those who, even in the dark days of defeat, realising by faith that new and tremendous privileges and responsibilities would face the Bible Society after the war, decided to open a Post-War Reconstruction Fund, has been fully manifest. Indeed, the opportunities of more abundant service to which we looked forward, are facing us now. Huge stocks of Scriptures

are being printed so that immediately the door opens there may be no delay in recommencing work in liberated countries. The need of Europe has become increasingly apparent. Dr. Temple announced at the Annual Meeting, to which reference has already been made, that £150,000 will be taken from this Fund and used in Europe. Orders have been placed in Sweden, where the paper shortage is less acute than elsewhere, for 95,000 Bibles and 250,000 Testaments. These books will be sent to France, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Greece, Rumania, Estonia and Latvia. This, however, is but a beginning; the initial effort must be sustained if permanent results are to be achieved. Then we must not forget China, India and Africa, with their huge population. And Japan? Surely the only hope for peace in the Pacific is to make Japan Christian. Her "mission" to bring the world into subjection to the "Son of Heaven," must give place to a determination to bring all men to the knowledge of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Scriptures must be poured into Japan and every Japanese given the opportunity to see the Christ as he is portrayed in the Four Gospels.

In 1941 the Commonwealth Council of the Bible Society decided to help the Parent Society by opening its own "Post-War Reconstruction Fund." Money has come in generously. During 1944 the sum of £1,078 6s. was received, bringing the total collected for this purpose to £5,817 16s. 1d. The Fund is still open and donations will be gratefully acknowledged.

COMMONWEALTH LIBRARY.

The valuable collection of Bibles bequeathed to the Library by the late Mr. Frederick Weir, once Depot manager of the Sydney Bible House, to which reference was made in the 1943 Report, has now been received and catalogued. The bequest consists of 60 volumes which include such gems as Francois Estienne's version of the French Bible, published in Geneva in 1567; Beza's third edition of the Greek New Testament, published in 1589; a Latin New Testament, with Greek Index, printed at Cambridge in 1640; copies of the famous "Breeches" and "Girdle" Bibles published respectively in 1585 and 1773, and a Hexapla New Testament, which, besides the Greek, contains the text of the Wicliff, Tyndale, Cranmer, Geneva, Rhemish and Authorised versions.

The bequest, which was on exhibition at the Sydney Bible House Library during November, was referred to by the principal Commonwealth and State religious papers.

Other books received by the Library were the New Testament in Moribo, donated by the Australian Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; Old Testament stories and Psalms, with Hymns and Ritual, in Arunta, presented by the Finke River Mission; and a French New Testament, Ostervald version, published in 1840, given by Mrs. T. Howard Smith of West Beaconsfield, Victoria.

Gifts of Scriptures, especially in Australian and Pacific versions, will be gladly received and acknowledged by the Commonwealth Secretary.

A striking example of the use of the Commonwealth Library was afforded during the course of the year. The Japanese invasion of Burma caused the evacuation of our Staff to India. The Secretary, the Rev. Harold C. Willans, B.A., was anxious to reprint certain versions now, so that there might be supplies in hand to recommence work in the various provinces of Burma as they were re-occupied by the Allies. The difficulty, however, lay in the fact that our stock was in Rangoon and certain versions which it was desirable to reprint, were unobtainable in India. In the hope of securing copies of the missing books, Mr. Willans sent out an S.O.S. making known his needs. The Commonwealth Library was able to supply a Burmese New Testament, edition of 1909, and a Pwo Karen St. Matthew, edition 1922. The books were safely received in Madras, where the Burma Agency has its temporary headquarters, and gratefully acknowledged.

TASMANIA—125th ANNIVERSARY OF THE AUXILIARY.

At the invitation of the Committee of the Tasmania Auxiliary the Treasurer of the Commonwealth Council and the Commonwealth Secretary were invited to visit Tasmania to take part in a series of meetings arranged to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the Auxiliary. They gladly did so and remained in Tasmania from the 4th to the 22nd May. In collaboration with the State Secretary, well-organised gatherings were addressed at Hobart, Launceston, Queenstown, Davenport, Sheffield and Burnie.

The most important meeting was probably that held in the Hobart Town Hall with H.E. Sir Ernest Clark, G.C.M.G., etc., the Patron, in the Chair. Both delegates spoke at the meeting. In the course of his speech, the Rev. W. H. Rainey, who had been asked to deal with the historical side of the Society's work in Tasmania, reminded us that "The Tasmania Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society can claim to be the oldest religious society in the island. Within three years of the foundation of the Parent Society in London supplies of Scriptures were sent to Van Dieman's Land. It was not, however, until the 9th May, 1819, that the auxiliary was actually founded. The Chairman of the first meeting was Lieut.-Governor Sorell, and the principal speaker the Rev. R. Knopwood, M.A., the Chaplain who accompanied the original expedition under Lieut.-Colonel Collins. There were 117 persons present and the collection came to £312 1s. 6d. A commentator speaking of the foundations of the new Auxiliary said: 'Not only did the institution unite all sects, but it was the first instance of friendly co-operation between the emigrant and emancipist classes.'

"The annual report of the Parent Society for the following year in hailing the formation of the Auxiliary, reveals how remote and inhospitable a country Van Dieman's Land seemed to the people of England at that time. It reads: 'Your Committee cannot record the progress of an Auxiliary established in so remote a portion of the world, and from a population from which so little encouragement was apparently to be expected, without acknowledging the gracious interposition of Divine Providence, and taking courage as to the event of your Society's labours in the most hopeless regions of the globe.'

"The reading of the early records of the Society in Tasmania gives the strong and distinct impression of a body of men and women ardently devoted to the spread of the Bible in their land. Moreover the liberality of the early settlers was marvellous, we read of Campelltown with 750 people contributing £33 14s.; Ross, with 500, giving £84; and Greenponds, with a population of 500, giving £22 10s.

"With such generous supporters it is easy to see that Tasmania was soon able, not only to provide for her own needs, but to do her part in the world-wide work of the Parent Society. India China, Abyssinia and the Islands of the Pacific all received generous support and £100 was sent towards the building of the new Bible House in London."

Mr. Williams, who dealt with the future, said that he looked forward to an increasingly large sphere of co-operation by the Tasmania Auxiliary in the world-wide work of the Bible Society.

DIAMOND JUBILEE OF THE WEST AUSTRALIA AUXILIARY.

A special Souvenir Jubilee Report has been issued by the Auxiliary and may be obtained from the Secretary. The following has been taken from an abridged report by the Rev. Charles E. Taylor:

The result of the activities of the West Australia Auxiliary in this its Diamond Jubilee year gives great cause for rejoicing and thankfulness to God for what has been accomplished. It has been the best year in the Society's history. For the first time in this Auxiliary the income from contributions has exceeded £2,000. It was unfortunate that the Jubilee Annual meeting fell on probably the wettest day of the year—August 10th. Torrential rains, however, did not prevent an average attendance gathering for the meeting at Trinity Church. Had the weather been favourable there doubtless would have been a full Church. The Salvation Army choristers provided the choral items and led the singing—Maylands and Leederville corps combining for the occasion. The

platform was a most interesting one—the Chairman being the Ven. Archdeacon L. W. Parry, M.A., Th.Soc., son of Bishop Parry, the first president of the Auxiliary (1884), and the expression of thanks was moved by Mr. W. G. Randall, a grandson of the late Hon. George Randall, M.L.C., another original member and treasurer of the Auxiliary from 1884 to 1902. The participation of these two descendants of very honoured forbears gave much pleasure to the Society's supporters.

The address given by the principal speaker was also outstandingly good. It was by the rector of Christ Church, Claremont, the Rev. Brian Macdonald, the former padre of the 2/28th Battalion of the A.I.F. The padre told us of his experiences in the army, of the distribution of Testaments made to his battalion, and gave telling illustrations of the value of the work of the Society. He said as a result of his observations and associations with large numbers of men he could say with conviction that the troops were fundamentally religious. The men were most responsive to religion and he often found them reading the Testaments which he was able to distribute from the Bible Society. It was not unusual for the men to suggest a short Bible study "to go into a chapter." It was regretted that this wonderful address was not delivered to a much larger audience and that it could not be broadcast. The time available for broadcasting could only provide for the Chairman's address—a vocal item and a summary of the report by the State Secretary. The broadcasting of a portion of the annual meeting in recent years has been greatly appreciated by the members of country Branches and the venture has been amply justified."

The Commonwealth Council wishes the West Australia Auxiliary every blessing as it goes forward to even greater things under the capable and energetic leadership of the Rev. Charles E. Taylor.

CIRCULATION.

Issues by the Commonwealth Council.

The following table shows the issues by the Commonwealth Council to the 30th November, 1944. In addition, 2,000 Paamese New Testaments, 10,000 Malay New Testaments are now in the Press, 4,000 New Britain New Testaments and 1,000 Vaturanga Gospels and Acts.

Country	Language	Portion	Copies
Australia (Arnhem Land)	Gunwinggu	St. Mark and 1st Epistle of St. John	1,000
Australia (N.W. Western Aust.)	Worora	St. Mark's Gospel and St. Luke's Gospel	500
Papua	Suau (Dau)	Four Gospels	2,000
Solomon Islands	Rennel	St. Mark's Gospel	1,000
New Hebrides	Ambrym	St. John's Gospel	1,000

During the year under review, the Commonwealth Office has had correspondence concerning 31 languages. They are given here in alphabetical order: Aranda, Bogutu, Dobu, English (Basic), Florida (Gela), Fijian, Guadalcanar (Vaturanga), Gunwinggu, Kiwai, Kapauku (Ekari), Lonwolwol (Ambrym), Mwala (Lau, Saa, Malu), Mota, Motu, Malay, Moribo, New Britain (Blanche Bay), Orokolo, Pitjantjatjara, Roro, Rarotonga, San Cristoval (Arosi), Saaui, Samoan, Tongan, Toaripi, Tahitian, Ulawa and Worora.

CIRCULATION BY THE STATES.

The following table shows the circulation by the State Auxiliaries. The figures show a decrease of 773 copies over the previous year. This is not due to a decrease of interest in the Scriptures, but to our inability to supply all orders in full. While there has been nothing like a famine of the Word of God, yet it is true that we could have doubled our circulation had more books been available. The shortage of paper and transport difficulties still hamper us.

State	Testaments			Totals		
	Bibles	Portions	1944	1943	1942	
Queensland	4,063	20,266	5,268	29,597	35,224	40,345
New South Wales	8,758	25,704	35,157	69,619	70,932	72,721
Victoria	9,153	31,486	12,137	52,776	49,874	51,011
Tasmania	2,114	1,938	1,685	5,737	5,845	5,067
South Australia	4,499	4,634	11,067	20,200	11,101	17,439
Western Australia	1,976	4,368	1,837	8,181	13,907	12,436
	30,563	88,396	67,151	186,110	186,883	199,019

THE SERVICE TESTAMENT FUND.

With the outbreak of War the Bible Society set out on a great Crusade. It decided to endeavour to place a New Testament in the hands of every service man and woman throughout the Empire. This was done also in Allied countries when they wished to have them—for instance, 300,000 copies were given free to French and Belgian troops before the collapse. Altogether more than 3,000,000 copies have been distributed. The American Bible Society has also had a wide distribution among service personnel.

As will be seen by the following table, the total number circulated by our society in Australia and the adjacent islands is 354,659. The average cost of these Testaments is 8d. each, thus £11,822 has been spent in this fine missionary endeavour. The work is still continuing and donations will be thankfully acknowledged.

DISTRIBUTION OF SERVICE TESTAMENTS BY STATES.

State	1944	Since Opening of Fund to Date
Queensland	16,986	88,369
New South Wales	22,085	129,230
Victoria	8,478	88,193
Tasmania	330	11,330
South Australia	1,744	11,665
Western Australia	2,138	25,872
	51,761	354,659

Many fine testimonies to the effectiveness of this distribution have been received, from which we cull the following:

"I've Still Got It, Sir."

A Y.M.C.A. officer writes: "A few weeks ago one of the lads who passed through my hands in the old training battalion days of 1940 was admitted to this hospital. I made contact with him and the first thing he said when I visited him was: 'I've still got it, sir.' And with a light in his eye and a bright smile on his face he handed me his old copy of the Testament, which he had carried with him through two years battlefront experience overseas. He said he did not know what he would have done without it. It was his little friend in the lonely hours, and a solid help before he went into action. He left this camp in 1940 without any Christian convictions, but the little book I handed him prior to his embarkation had won him to Christ. I turned the pages and they were well thumb marked. The little Testament had done its job, and in the words of this soldier: 'It kept me straight.'"

A Hospital Chaplain's Thrill.

A hospital Chaplain writes: "I have a grand work and a great opportunity. I never want to get used to the thrill which I experience when a soldier looks up from his sick-bed and sees the handful of New Testaments which are ever with me on my journeys through the wards, and asks: 'Chaplain, are you giving those away? May I have one?' That is a great moment. And I may say it is not a rare happening in the work."

Theological Society in a Prison-camp.

Prisoners of war are not forgotten and Scriptures continually go forth to them. A lady writes: "On the 9th October you sent 50 Testaments to my son, a prisoner of war in Italy. He is a Chaplain and says: 'They are tremendously welcome and will be

wonderfully used, for we are sadly hampered in our theological work through the shortage of Bibles. You can have little conception of the amazing opportunities there are in a camp like this. The first thing men need after turning to God is a New Testament, and I've had to say, not once or twice, but dozens of times: "I'm sorry, but I haven't got one," now I can say: "Here is one." Our theological society grows, we have over 36 members. Eleven candidates are training for Holy Orders."

Darken Ship.

A naval Chaplain writes to our partners of the American Bible Society: "At sunset comes the order 'Darken ship!' From that moment until sunrise, not a pinpoint of light must show. Within the darkened ship, as she steams through the night in convoy, red lights cause eerie shadows. So it is no surprise to come upon a sailor with his blanket drawn up over his head reading the New Testament by the light of a flashlight. To the Chaplain comes a steward's mate nurtured in his boyhood home Church timidly asking for a New Testament at 9 o'clock at night. Or, here is an electrician's mate, big and rough, by appearance the last one on shipboard you would suspect, asking for his copy. Or, idling with the lookout on a gun platform, as we steam somewhere in the vast space of the ocean, in a sudden and embarrassed burst of confidence, another seaman tugs his worn copy of the New Testament from his dungarees for me to see. This was his father's in the last war; the tattered covers are khaki. He inherits the work of some Chaplain from a quarter of a century ago."

THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY.

During the year the Rev. W. H. Rainey visited Tasmania, Central and South Australia, and Victoria, as well as travelling in New South Wales. In all, 242 meetings were held—24 in Tasmania, 15 in South and Central Australia, 54 in Victoria and 149, not all Bible Society, in New South Wales. Besides these, 9 radio talks were given and 33 articles written for the religious press, some of which were reprinted in England, New Zealand and Canada.

An outstanding event, from the point of view of the Commonwealth Secretary, was his visit to Central Australia, when about four thousand miles were covered by plane, train and motor-lorry. "Some of the time," he writes, "we were four hundred miles from the railway and about half that distance from the nearest house. For six nights, when no house was available, we slept round the camp-fire. Going to bed was a simple business, we were already wearing, besides our usual clothes, an additional set of under-clothing, a pullover and a cardigan, to these we added an overcoat

and then got under the blankets. In spite of this abundant covering we still felt the cold and rose several times to throw fresh wood on the fire.

"Mission Stations at Oodnadatta, Ernabella, Alice Springs and Hermannsburg were visited. At Ernabella we were warmly welcomed by the Superintendent, the Rev. J. R. B. Love, M.A., M.C. Mr. Love is well known in missionary circles as the translator of the Gospels into Worora, a language of north-western Western Australia. St. Mark and St. Luke were published by the Bible Society in 1930 and 1943 respectively. Now this intrepid missionary is once more engaged in translation work and has just completed a draft of St. Mark in Pitjantjatjara. Portions of the Old Testament have also been prepared—we have the Ten Commandments before us as we write. Mr. Ronald M. Trudinger, B.A., who has prepared a Grammar of the Pitjantjatjara language, believes 'that in various dialectical modifications it is spoken over a wider area in Australia than any other Aboriginal language.'

"Alice Springs is a well-laid-out little town of 500 inhabitants. There is plenty of water and so the gardens surrounding the bungalows are refreshingly green. Three denominations are working there—the Church of England, Methodist and Lutheran. The Anglican padre, the Rev. L. Smith, with whom we were to travel 300 miles later on our journey, runs a hostel for the daughters of local station owners attending the Commonwealth school; the Methodist have two good men, the Revs. Noble and Brand, and fine premises where on two occasions we addressed about 400 soldiers; and the Lutherans have a Church under an Aboriginal pastor, where we addressed 40 Aruntas in khaki.

"Two days later, in the company of Pastor Gross, whose guests we were to be, we set out for the Lutheran Mission at Hermannsburg, 70 miles distant. After covering about 30 miles we came to Jay Creek, a sacred place to the Aruntas as it is connected with the legends that form the background of native life. The Church had been damaged in a cyclone but about one hundred natives gathered in the open air to receive us. Some had come from long distances. For years their missionaries had told them about the Bible Society and now for the first time they were to see one of its representatives. At their head was their blind evangelist, Moses, a venerable figure who for many years has kept the torch of Christianity alight in their midst. He has memorised large portions of the Psalms and Gospels and recites them when making his pastoral visits.

"Sunday was a memorable day. In the morning we preached to about 300 Aruntas in the Chapel. Then in the afternoon 100 of us had a picnic on the Finke River. Do not imagine us sitting on the grassy banks of a flowing river; remember that we are in the desiccated heart of Australia. There is no water—for fifty

weeks of the year the Finke is a river only in name, for the other two it might be a roaring torrent; there is no grass on its banks, only sand.

"The complete New Testament was translated into Arunta by one of the great pioneers, the Rev. C. F. Strehlow. The Four Gospels were published by our Society in 1925. The remainder of the Testament is being revised and prepared for publication by Mr. Strehlow's son; we brought away with us the portion comprised between Acts and Philemon."

The very successful campaign in Victoria centred round Bible Society Sunday. This is always an important event and the Staff, as well as a number of voluntary workers, were busily engaged. The Commonwealth Secretary had three engagements. In the morning he preached at Ivanhoe Methodist Church. This is one of the most important suburban Methodist Churches, and is situated in an area that responds well to the Bible Society appeal. In the afternoon he lectured on "The Re-birth of France" at Wesley P.S.A., and the whole service was broadcast. This is a fine opportunity to address fine seen and unseen audiences and we much appreciate the opportunity given us by the Rev. Irvine Benson, D.D. Correspondence shows that the message was heard and appreciated over a wide area. In the evening Mr. Rainey preached to a large congregation at St. Paul's Cathedral, where the offertory, both morning and evening, was given to the Society. The music at the Cathedral, under the direction of Dr. Floyd, is always very helpful and does much to attract the public.

In closing this Report of another record year, we desire in the name of the Commonwealth Council to thank all who have taken any part whatsoever in the work. We thank the State Secretaries and the members of their Staffs, without whose loyal co-operation success would have been impossible, and the army of voluntary workers, both men and women, without whose support the Bible Society could not carry on. May God bless you all and may your sense of privilege and responsibility deepen as the years go by.

W. H. RAINEY.

PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF INCOME.

STATE	Sales	General Contributions	Legacies	Service Testament	Post-War Recon-struction
Queensland	£3,592	2,986	100	288	67
New South Wales	6,229	10,126	152	848	4
Victoria	6,367	9,824	8,452	242	1,000
Tasmania	868	1,497	444	20	—
South Australia	1,299	3,642	491	100	—
Western Australia	1,029	2,044	—	173	8
	£19,384	30,119	9,639	1,671	1,078

COMMONWEALTH COUNCIL CASH STATEMENT.

For the Year Ending 30th November, 1944.

RECEIPTS.	PAYMENTS.
Balance in hand as per last Cash A/c.	Remitted to London—
Amount received from State Auxiliaries—	English
Queensland	Exchange
New South Wales	Salaries and Expenses, State Secretaries
Victoria	Expended on behalf of London
Tasmania	Expenses, Annual Meeting of Commonwealth Council
South Australia	Salaries and Expenses, Commonwealth Office
West Australia	Printing of Scriptures
Sundry Donations for New Translations and Bank Interest	Printing of Annual Reports, Posters, etc.
	Telephone, Postage and General Expenses ...
	Youth Work, Tasmania and West Australia
	Balance at Bank
	£44,825 19 3
674 19 0	34,275 0 2
4,369 5 1	3,324 12 6
11,388 15 2	2,258 4 5
19,869 8 9	329 17 10
2,050 18 9	287 10 4
3,596 16 11	383 11 6
2,454 15 4	575 14 2
421 0 3	147 17 8
£44,825 19 3	90 0 0
	3,153 10 8

(Signed) W. J. WILLIAMS, M.B.E., B.Sc.

Hon. Treasurer.

19th January, 1945.

Examined and found correct.

(Signed) CARRUTHERS, FARRAM & CO.,

Chartered Accountants (Aust.), Auditors.

SUMMARY OF STATE REPORTS.

It has been customary to publish the State reports bound up with that of the Commonwealth. Under this system some delay was unavoidable as the figures for the whole of Australia could not be issued until those from all the States had been received in Sydney, and, it usually happened, for one reason or another, that some of them were delayed. Moreover, even when the report was printed, owing to inter-State priorities, there was often a further delay before they arrived at their destination. This was felt not to be in the best interest of the work and so the new system, which is already in vogue in Canada, was adopted. The States will now publish their own report independently, but a summary of their activities will be included in the Commonwealth Report.

Queensland Auxiliary

Bible House:

363 George Street, Brisbane.

General Secretary:

The Rev. L. H. Shakespeare.

Patron:

H.E. Colonel the Rt. Hon. Sir Leslie Orme Wilson, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,
C.M.G., D.S.O., Governor of Queensland.

President:

The Most Rev. Reginald Halse, M.A., D.D., Archbishop of Brisbane.

Hon. Treasurer:

The Rev. W. G. Laurie, A.F.I.A.

Hon. Solicitor:

Mr. F. T. Cross.

Deputation Agent:

Mr. Eric Milne.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual public meeting was held in the Albert Street Methodist Church on Friday, July 7, 1944. The speaker was the Rev. J. W. Tomkinson of the China Inland Mission, who spoke on "The Unchanging Word in Changing China." In the course of his address Mr. Tomkinson gave some vivid illustrations of the conquest the Old Book is making in China. The Chair was taken by the President of the Methodist Conference, the Rev. Arthur Lewis. The Baptist Tabernacle Choir, together with Mrs. J. Pearson Harrison, provided the music.

THE BRANCHES.

The work of the 31 Branches has been very encouraging. The Branch which has been most successful is the Brisbane Women's Auxiliary. The target set was £500; this was attained and passed, a total of £530 being raised. The year's result was very largely due to Miss D. Henderson who has acted as Bible-woman. This indefatigable worker spoke at 99 meetings in the course of the year. The Auxiliary's sub-branches at Albion, Hamilton, Rockhampton and Toowoomba have also rendered splendid assistance.

INCOME.

The Rev. W. S. Laurie, the Hon. Treasurer, whose work is very much appreciated, was able to report an Income of £6,488 13s. This was made up as follows: General Account, £2,509 14s. 1d.; Service Testaments, £287 15s. 10d.; Scriptures, £3,110 4s. 2d.; and Special Funds, £580 18s. 10d.

CIRCULATION.

The circulation for the year reached 29,597 books. This includes 1,361 Scriptures in 61 foreign languages, as well as 12 portions in Braille for the blind. This represents a decrease of 5,627 volumes over the previous year. This is not due to any decrease in demand for the Bible, but to lack of supplies owing to transport difficulties.

THE MESSAGE ON THE AIR.

We are sorry to report that there is only one Bible Society session on the Air at the moment. This is "The Session of the Sower," at 4 IP, Ipswich. The session "For Every Land" at 4 ZR, Roma, was in continuance until September last. We are hopeful that this will be ultimately reinstated. We should like to thank all those who have helped in this work. Lieut. McLachan, of the Salvation Army in Roma, has been responsible for the session on 4 ZR, and Mr. Noel Harvey with his band of helpers at 4 IP, Ipswich, receives our heartiest thanks.

New South Wales Auxiliary

Bible House, 95 Bathurst Street, Sydney.

General Secretary:

The Rev. A. W. Stuart, B.A.

Patron:

H.E. the Governor of New South Wales, the Lord Wakehurst, K.C.M.G.

President:

The Most Rev. H. W. K. Mowl, D.D., Archbishop of Sydney.

Vice-Presidents:

Mr. W. J. Williams, M.B.E., B.Sc., F.C.S.; Mr. Justice J. A. Ferguson, B.A., LL.B.; Mr. James Stevenson.

Hon. Treasurer:

Mr. R. Byrne, A.F.I.A.

Hon. Clerical Secretary:

Canon R. B. Robinson, L.Th.

Hon. Solicitor:

Mr. S. C. Tweeddale, B.A., LL.B.

Hon. Medical Officer:

Dr. H. Maynard Rennie, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P., M.R.A.C.P.

Hon. Auditors:

Messrs. Carruthers, Farram & Co., Chartered Accountants.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting took place in the Central Baptist Church, Sydney, on the 19th May, at 7.45 p.m., with the President, the Archbishop of Sydney, in the Chair. Addresses were given by the Rev. J. R. B. Love, M.C., D.C.M., M.A., on "Translating the Scriptures for the Aborigines," and by Dr. Charles I. McLaren on "Eleven Weeks in a Japanese Police Cell."

BIBLE SOCIETY SUNDAY.

August 27, 1944, was observed as Bible Sunday throughout the State. On this occasion all the ministers in New South Wales were asked by letter to preach on the work of the Bible Society and to arrange for offerings. While the total received, £137, is the best for five years, there is much room for improvement. Ministers

may render helpful service by preaching on Bible Society activities and arranging for offerings on Sunday, August 26th, 1945.

INCOME.

The Income for the year reached £10,498, an increase over the previous year of £785. During the last ten years receipts have risen from £4,706.

CIRCULATION.

The circulation for the year was 69,619 books in 73 different languages.

SCRIPTURE GRANTS.

Gifts of Scriptures were made for hospital and general distribution, also to the Newcastle City Mission, the Sydney Evangelistic Crusade and the Aborigines Inland Mission. The Rawson Institute receives a steady supply of Testaments and Gospels for our merchant seamen entering the port, and also for foreign sailors. The Chaplains come into personal contact with the seamen and are thus able to do effective colportage work. One hundred Japanese Gospels were given for distribution among Japanese internees.

THE SYDNEY LADIES' BRANCH.

The Branch, under the leadership of Mrs. A. W. Stuart, has maintained prayerful and financial interest. Miss C. Fraser acted as Secretary. Mrs. I. N. Lean, the Honorary Treasurer, reports an income of £47, which has been allocated to the support of four Bible-women in India.

Victoria Auxiliary

Bible House:

241-243 Flinders Lane, Melbourne.

General Secretary:

Mr. S. R. Baker.

Patron:

H.E. Major-General Sir Winston J. Dugan, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.,
Governor of Victoria.

President:

The Most Rev. Dr. J. J. Booth, M.C., B.A., Th.L., Archbishop of
Melbourne.

Hon. Treasurer:

Mr. F. C. Fitchett, LL.M.

Hon. Auditors:

Mr. J. L. Balfour-Melville, C.A. Aust., and Messrs. Hooke &
Graham, C.A. Aust.

Hon. Secretaries:

Rev. E. Denton Fethers (Corresponding), Mr. E. Lesson (Minute).

Hon. Solicitors:

Messrs. Martin & Martin.

A MEMORABLE WEEK.

February 27th to March 5th was an outstanding week in the Victoria work of the Bible Society. First, the annual meetings of the Commonwealth Council were held in Melbourne. All State Secretaries were present, together with two delegates from each Capital city. Plans were laid down for the extension of the work in the Pacific. Secondly, the annual meetings of the Victorian Auxiliary were held—a record number of delegates being present. The Archbishop of Melbourne presided over both gatherings and expressed his pleasure at the advancement of the work. Thirdly, the supreme inspiration of the week was the annual public demonstration of the Melbourne Auxiliary, held in the Melbourne Town Hall, when 3,000 people pledged themselves to read the Bible daily and to support the work of the Bible Society. Memorable addresses were delivered by the Archbishop of Melbourne and the Commonwealth Secretary. A most impressive pageant, featuring the distributing of Testaments to the Troops, was conducted by

the Archbishop—in which men of the Services, emerging from a tent on the platform, were handed a New Testament by Chaplain-General T. C. Rentoul. Each man then spoke of the value the New Testament had been to him while on active service.

BIBLE SOCIETY HELPERS' ASSOCIATION.

For the sixth annual meeting the Helpers were the guests of the Welsh Church. The function was held in St. David's Hall and a delightful programme was presented by the Welsh Choir, including a Mary Jones pageant conducted by the Rev. R. Caradoc-Hughes. There was a large attendance and the annual report, presented by the Secretary, Mr. S. J. Farr, was enthusiastically received.

INCOME.

The Victoria Auxiliary is able to show an increase in both Contributions and Legacies, indeed, both constitute a record, the former reaching £9,341, 18s. 8d. and the latter £8,452 2s. 1d.

CIRCULATION.

The circulation was 9,153 Bibles, 13,486 Testaments and 12,137 Portions, a total of 52,776 books, an increase over the previous year of 2,902 volumes.

Tasmania Auxiliary

Bible House:

44 Brisbane Street, Launceston.

General Secretary:

The Rev. W. E. Northey, L.Th.

Patron:

H.E. Sir Ernest Clark, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., C.B.E., Governor of Tasmania.

President:

The Rt. Rev. G. F. Cranswick, B.A., Bishop of Tasmania.

Deputy-President:

The Rev. Canon W. Greenwood.

Hon. Treasurer:

Dr. F. Rowland Tyson.

Hon. Auditor:

Mr. A. E. Garrott, F.C.A. (Aust.).

Hon. Solicitors:

Dr. F. Roland Tyson, Mr. H. J. Solomon, B.A., LL.B., Mr. W. D. Weston, LL.B.

ANNUAL MEETINGS.

These have been referred to in the section of the Report dealing with the 125th anniversary of the Tasmanian Auxiliary.

INCOME.

The total Income for the year was £2,895 10s., as against £1,900 3s. 4d. for 1943, an increase of £995 6s. 8d.

CIRCULATION.

The circulation for the year was 2,114 Bibles, 1,938 New Testaments and 1,685 Portions, a total of 5,737 books. This is 108 copies less than the previous year. Many more books could have been sold but stocks were low. For some months of the year we were without any of the lower-priced Bibles. Nevertheless, owing to the increased sale of highly-priced books, there was an increase of £174 5s. 10d. under this heading.

PATRON.

Having in mind that their Majesties the King and Queen, being loyal lovers of God's Word, had linked themselves with the Society's interest as Joint Patrons, an appointment was arranged by the Hobart Branch President and Secretary for a small deputation to meet H.E. Sir Ernest Clark on Monday morning, May 8th, the very same day, 125 years ago, when the first Lieutenant-Governor of Tasmania presided at a meeting in Hobart. The small deputation consisted of the Acting Commonwealth Secretary, the Rev. W. H. Rainey, B.A., F.R.G.S., Mr. Willis J. Williams, M.B.E., B.Sc., and the General Secretary, the Rev. W. E. Northey, L.Th. We were most cordially received and delighted with the deep interest which His Excellency displayed in the Bible itself and the work of the Society. Many searching questions were asked relating to the general activities of the Society, both in Tasmania and beyond; as well as matters relating to the modern versions of the Bible in English. When asked to become Patron of the Auxiliary, Sir Ernest graciously consented, adding that he considered himself to be honoured because of the humane service the Society was doing.

PRESIDENT.

The Rt. Rev. G. F. Cranswick, B.A., Bishop of Tasmania, has consented to be our new President. The Bishop is no stranger to the work of the Bible Society. After a wide experience of the mission field in India, of Church life in Great Britain and intimate association with the Parent Society His Lordship comes to us as "a man sent from God.

South Australia Auxiliary

Bible House:

73 Grenfell Street, Adelaide.

General Secretary:

The Rev. E. H. Swan.

President:

The Hon. Mr. Justice Richards, LL.D.

Vice-Presidents:

The heads of all the Protestant Churches in South Australia, Mr. Stow Smith, the Rev. J. H. Sexton, Mr. W. T. Rofe.

Hon. Treasurer:

Mr. T. H. Elder, A.I.C.A.

Auditors:

Messrs. Annells, Tilley & Hunwick, Chartered Accountants.

INCOME.

The Auxiliary is able once again to report a record financial year. The total receipts were £5,633 9s. 2d. There was an increase of over £700 in Free Contributions.

CIRCULATION.

There was, moreover, a splendid increase in the number of copies of the Scriptures circulated. They were 4,499 Bibles, 4,798 Testaments and 11,067 Portions, a total of 20,343 books, an increase of 9,263 over the previous year. Four hundred and three books were circulated in 25 languages other than English, these included Aranda, Dieri and Narrinyeri for Australian aboriginals. During the 99 years of its life the South Australia Auxiliary has circulated no less than 1,273,720 copies of the Scriptures.

SERVICE TESTAMENTS.

The good work of circulating New Testaments free among members of the services continues, but on a lesser scale than formerly. This is but natural as troops are gradually moving further North; moreover, most of them have already been supplied. The number distributed this year reached 1,744.

FREE GRANTS.

During the year 1,998 books were given free to Institutions and to individual Christian workers. There has been a steady demand for Scriptures in State schools. Children receiving religious instruction are encouraged to buy their own books and are given a generous discount, but copies are given free when required. One worker who specialises in services among school children writes: "The generous grants of Gospels and New Testaments that have been received from your Society have been a great help to us in our work at the public schools. These gifts have been carefully distributed and have proved most valuable in encouraging the reading of the Word."

ARANDA TESTAMENT.

Once more we make mention of our hopes for the publication of the complete New Testament in Arunta. There are only nine more books to complete the revision, namely those from the Epistle to the Hebrews to the Book of Revelation. Further gifts have come to us this year and the Aranda Testament Fund has now reached £279 19s. 5d. Other sums are also in hand in other States. We commend this fund to the generosity of our friends, for the debt of Australia to the aboriginals does not diminish. In the war against Japan our Australian natives are playing a full and valiant part.

Western Australia Auxiliary

Bible House:

167 St. George's Terrace, Perth.

General Secretary:

The Rev. Charles E. Taylor.

President:

The Most Reverend Dr. F. H. Le Fanu, M.A., Primate of Australia.

Vice-President:

The Rev. George Tulloch.

Hon. Treasurer:

Mr. H. F. Prior.

Hon. Solicitor:

Messrs. Darbyshire & Gillett.

Hon. Auditors:

Messrs. Galloway & Ockerby, Chartered Accountants.

INCOME.

The result of the activities of the Western Australia Auxiliary in this its Diamond Jubilee year gives great cause for rejoicing and thankfulness. It has been the best year in the Auxiliary's history. For the first time the Income from Contributions has exceeded £2,000. Total receipts under this heading reached £2,052 15s. In addition receipts from sales amounted to £1,028 11s. 1d.

CIRCULATION.

The circulation of Scriptures reached 8,181 copies. This is a decrease of 5,726 when compared with the previous year. This does not mean that there is a decreased interest in the Scriptures, but that stocks have not permitted supplying all orders in full. Transportation is still a great problem.

BROADCASTING.

Publicity by broadcasting has been maintained during the year by monthly broadcasts on Sunday evenings by the courtesy of the Whitford Broadcasting network. Most of the talks have been

given by the Secretary, but occasionally by special speakers. A talk of very special merit was given in May by the Rev. H. A. Brown, B.A., an L.M.S. missionary from Maru, in the Gulf of Papua. The talk was entitled "Experiences of a missionary translator." It was altogether such a worthy contribution that the W.A. Auxiliary decided to publish it as a leaflet.

BRANCHES AND ORGANISATION.

The annual visitation of the Branches and Women's Auxiliaries involves much travelling, most of which has been done by the Secretary. However, our assistant, Mr. A. E. Barker, late of Fiji, following a severe operation, recovered sufficiently to be the deputation to Bridgetown, Busselton and Bunbury. Mrs. B. Jones, our assistant organiser, also journeyed to the country, and following the visit of the Secretary, went to Harvey and formed a new Women's Auxiliary. Mrs. Jones also paid visits to Waroona for a women's meeting and then to Collie, where she spoke to a large well-organised meeting in the Noyes Hall.

During the year a promising new Branch was formed at Gosnells. The officers and members of these new branches are heartily welcomed to the fellowship of the Bible Society helpers.

BIBLE SOCIETY SUNDAY.

The co-operation of many ministers in observing Bible Society Sunday has been much appreciated. This year it was on August 27th. A special leaflet was prepared by the Secretary entitled: "Not Your's But Our's—Which?" Special prayers suitable to the occasion were issued to ministers for their use on that Sunday. In addition to the Broadcasts to young people, the State Secretary was also granted space by the A.B.C.

*With heartiest thanks to all voluntary helpers,
whose devoted and efficient service has alone made
possible a successful year's work.*

THE STAFF.

A SOLEMN PLEDGE

Believing with His Majesty that for centuries the reading of the English Bible has been a wholesome and strengthening influence in our national life, and that it behoves us in these momentous days to turn with renewed faith to this Divine Source of comfort and inspiration, WE HEREBY PLEDGE ourselves to read the Bible intelligently every day, and put its teaching into practice in our daily lives. We also promise to rally round the British and Foreign Bible Society, and help it in its great purpose of translating the Scriptures into all languages, for all men, everywhere.

WILL YOU SIGN IT?