

Mainly About People

SYDNEY
Rev J. Mills has submitted his resignation from the Parish of St John's, Campsie, as from December 15, 1976.

MELBOURNE
Sister Inez, CSC, has been appointed Examining Chaplain as from August 1, 1976.
Rev J. B. MacGlashan, from the Diocese of St Arnaud, has been appointed to Incumbency in the Parish of St Peter & St Andrew, Braybrook. Induction by Archbishop at 8 pm on Friday, October 22, 1976.

Rev J. N. MacMillan, from the Parish of Naracoorte, South Australia (Diocese of The Murray) has been appointed to Incumbency of St

Thomas', Werribee. Induction by Bishop Grant at 8 pm on October 26, 1976.
Rev F. Bedbrook has been appointed minister in charge of the parish of St Mary's South Camberwell. Also to take up part-time appointment as Australian Secretary for the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge (SPCK). Date of Commissioning to be announced.

Rev Dr G. Gaden has been appointed Chaplain to the Canterbury Fellowship as well as Stewart Lecturer in Divinity at Trinity College and Diocesan Theologian. To take effect from the end of 1976.

Rev J. T. Corrigan died on August 21, 1976. He retired in 1971.

GREEN AT CATHEDRAL

A mixture of ancient and modern in a unique Youth Service brought inspiration to a crowded cathedral on Sunday, August 15.

Canon Michael Green spoke at St Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney, to a congregation of over 1200 about the cost of discipleship.

The cathedral choir sang a modern version of the "Magnificat" and the "Nunc Dimittis" to a tune especially composed by Michael Hemans, the cathedral organist. The "Gloria" was based on a Jewish melody in which the congregation heartily joined.

The First Lesson was a dramatised version of Genesis 3 acted by members of the Andrew's Club, the cathedral's young people's organisation.

The World Singers brought the modern touch of music, involving the whole congregation, as they sang from the chancel steps.

Students of many of Sydney's church schools were present.

The Dean, the Very Reverend Lance Shilton, congratulated the congregation for finding their way into the cathedral, which was surrounded by trucks, scaffolding, screenings and concrete as Sydney Square nears completion. The sign in George Street reads, "This Cathedral Is Not Stuck In The Mud; Come In And See".

Canon Green immediately established rapport with the lively congregation. He lost no time in emphasising the cost of discipleship. He said:

"How are you going to cope with the world of which my generation has made a mess?"

"The West conducts its policies now in political life without any claim to moral considerations. Our society is morally impoverished and there is a tremendous spiritual vacuum (there's a great lack of purpose)."

"If you will come after me," says Jesus, "you'll have a bed of roses and a wonderful time." Rubbish!

"If anybody tells you that he is preaching to you the gospel of Jesus Christ and makes Jesus look like the washing powder that washes whiter; the 'one who'll give you a whale of a time', just come to him for power and joy and all these things, tell him that he's a liar."

"Jesus said, 'If any man come after me he has to deny himself and take up his cross and follow me'. To deny yourself; that means sacrifice. To take up your cross; that means shame and suffering."

"Suffering is the badge of the Christian. It was the badge of the Master. You cannot avoid it."

"Christ wants you — the whole of you. He doesn't want your decision. He wants your discipleship."

"If you're ashamed of Jesus Christ when you meet Him face to face on the day of judgment He will be ashamed of you before His Father in Heaven."

"Whatever abuses by journalists there may be occasionally been, nothing is serious enough to excuse total censorship by a government."
"The religious editors of Australia deplore the present censorship laws applying in India, the Soviet Union and most communist countries."
"They deplore the muzzling of dissent and debate within a country and the restriction of foreign correspondents."

Scripture Union "mobilises beach missions . . ."

500 at training sessions

Scripture Union (NSW), in preparation for next summer's beach missions, mobilised more than 500 young people to attend in-depth training sessions at Sans Souci on July 31.

Their enthusiastic participation made the day one of our most successful Beach Mission Workers' Training Conferences yet — "and points to a great witness and outreach for the Lord in the coming summer holidays", an SU spokesman said.

Nearly 400 experienced workers gathered for a refresher session at Sans Souci Baptist Church, where the Rev Jim Kime, principal of the Baptist Bible College and chairman of SU's Bible Reading Committee, spoke on "The Bible in the life of the worker and his ministry". His address was widely appreciated and vigorously discussed.

Meanwhile, about 120 new workers gathered nearby at



Those who attended the NSW Scripture Union training conference in Sydney on July 31 included (l to r) Phillip Morris (social worker with the Sydney Anglican Division Home Mission Society), Sue Randall and the Rev Jim Kime.

the Anglican Church for an "orientation" session.

After lunch, all the workers came together and moved into sessions dealing specifically with various age groups and special skills.

"The training received on

the day will, of course, go well beyond the 50-odd beach missions at Christmas — it will make those involved far more effective in their local church work and daily witness for years to come,"

the spokesman said. Later in the week, SU staffer Owen Shelley, who had been overall leader of the conference, flew to Brisbane to be the main speaker at a similar event there.

Salvation Army officer to tour Israel

Major Cerben Stelstra, the first Salvation Army officer in the world to be released from his duties for ecumenical work, had been invited by the Israeli Government to tour Israel in recognition of his ecumenical co-operation and fraternity with Jews, an Australian Council of Churches spokesman said this week.

Major Stelstra is Executive Secretary of the New South Wales State Council of the Australian Council of Churches.

While overseas he will visit the World Council of Churches Centre in Geneva for talks with the WCC Department on Dialogue with Other Faiths and Ideologies.

Major Stelstra had long campaigned for Christian-Jewish dialogue and was currently involved in Christian-Jewish meetings at the

Sydney Synagogue, the ACC spokesman said.

While in Israel he would make a special study of the Israeli National Reserve Bank and the economic structure of the country, "as a trained economist with considerable experience in the finance departments of the Salvation Army throughout the world."

He speaks Dutch, German, French, English, Afrikaans, Gaelic and has a working knowledge of Greek and Latin.

He has served in Germany, Belgium, Holland, Great Britain and South Africa.

His experience in South Africa has left him with strong views about the suppression of Africans under apartheid.

Ridley student to be assistant bishop

The Bishop of Central Tanganyika, Bishop Yohana Madinda, had announced the appointment of the Rev Alpha Francis Mohamed, principal of the Msalato Bible School, Dodoma, to be Assistant Bishop of the Diocese, a report from Tanzania this week said.

His consecration was held on Sunday, August 15, in the cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Dodoma, at which the archbishop of the church of the Province of Tanzania, Archbishop John Sepeku, officiated, the report said.

The Rev Alpha Mohamed, who is 35 years of age, was born at Kintinku.

After completing his secondary education at Mazengo Secondary School he entered St Philip's Theological College, Kongwa, Tanzania, where he read theology from 1965-1967.

He was ordained deacon in September 1967 and priested in November of the same year.

He has served at St Paul's Church, Mpwapwa (1968-

69), The Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Dodoma (1970-71).

During 1972 he studied at Ridley Theological College, Melbourne, Australia, and completed his Australian ThL degree.

In 1972 his appointment as principal of the Msalato Bible School was announced and he has been serving there from 1973-1976.

Following his consecration on August 15, he left for the USA where he will undertake a further 12 months' study in theology at the Protestant Episcopal Theological Seminary in Virginia from September 1.

At the completion of these studies he will return to take up his appointments as Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Central Tanganyika.

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY APPROVES RECORD BUDGET

At the meeting of Federal Council in August, the Treasurer, Mr Eric Stockton reported that the Church Missionary Society's budget for the past year had been met.

At the same time, Mr Stockton presented the new budget for 1976-77 which was estimated at \$950,000.

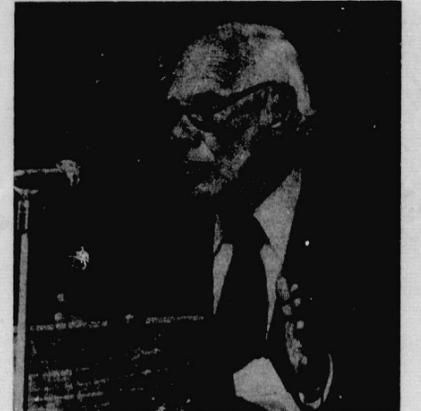
CMS is committed to send out trained personnel at the invitation of churches around the world to serve in partnership with them in Christian work.

All this includes training personnel at home, equipping them, financing their travel, supporting them through language study and maintaining them in their work.

Some newly-trained missionaries will make history for CMS by going to Iran Jaya, the newest area of CMS involvement, at the invitation of the Evangelical Christian Church of Iran Jaya. Others will go to Pakistan, Africa

and North Australia in 1976-77.

The money to sustain this work comes from CMS members: those who give generously and regularly. The Society thanks God for the many people who by their prayers and giving, are committed to God's mission to the world.



Malcolm Muggeridge

Memorial Lecture to be given by Muggeridge

Malcolm Muggeridge believes that the ostensible guardians of our laws, constitutional liberties and religious faith are doing a better "dismantling" job than professional subversives, anarchists and atheists.

He will make this claim during his delivery of the Olivier Beguin Memorial Lecture for the Bible Society in Australia. The lecture will be given in Canberra, Sydney, Adelaide and Melbourne in October.

Muggeridge believes there may be a "death-wish" at work in the heart of civilisation. He sees bankers as promoting the inflation which will ruin them, educationalists seeking to create the moral and intellectual chaos which will nullify their professional purposes, moralists cutting away the roots of all morality and theologians systematically dismantling the structure of belief they exist to expound and promote.

The quest for power, for affluence and for knowledge is seen as a cul-de-sac with no earthly means of egress.

Through this gloomy picture he sees the Bible as more than ever relevant and containing words of everlasting truth.

Title of the Bible Society Lecture is "The Authority and Relevance of the Bible in the Modern World". This is the third such annual lecture. The lecture series was established in honour of the late Olivier Beguin, General Secretary of the United Bible Societies from 1949 to 1972.

The lectures aim to highlight the positive values for faith and life that are to be drawn from the Scriptures.

Muggeridge will deliver the lecture on the following dates and at these venues: Canberra, Canberra Theatre, October 7; Sydney, Pitt Street Congregational Church, October 12; Adelaide, The Festival Theatre, October 13; Melbourne, The Dallas Brooks Hall, October 15.

ARCHBISHOP OF SYDNEY LAUNCHES OVERSEAS RELIEF FUND APPEAL



The Archbishop of Sydney Sir Marcus Loane

The Archbishop of Sydney, Sir Marcus Loane, has called for funds to assist needy people affected by disasters, wars, and famine.

In connection with the launching of the Archbishop of Sydney's Overseas Relief Fund, to be held throughout the month of September, Archbishop Loane said:

"In recent months the media seem to have brought into our living rooms more disasters than the world has seen for years. There have been earthquakes in China, the Philippines and Iran Jaya; the searing civil war in Lebanon is destroying countless homes and people week by week; terrorists in Ireland continue their relentless campaign; riots in Southern Africa threaten to erupt into open warfare; and Rhodesia is under graver threat than ever."

"The world is in a terrible mess, and much of it is man-made. Yet there are innocent victims: children and adults who are bystanders but who

get caught up in the spreading effects of disaster."

"It is for the relief of such people that the Archbishop of Sydney's Overseas Relief Fund exists. Through missionaries and Christian agencies with whom I keep in touch, I have been able to distribute immediately, at least small grants to alleviate suffering in various tragedy-stricken parts of the world."

"The Overseas Relief Fund has, since it began in 1971, distributed \$110,000. I suppose one could call that a drop in the bucket of world need. Or one could think of it in terms of houses provided for the homeless, blankets for the cold, and thousands of meals for deprived children." Donations may be sent to: Archbishop's Overseas Relief Fund, St Andrew's House, Sydney Square, NSW, 2000.



- On and off the record — by David Hewetson — Pages 2 & 3.
- Psychiatric persecution in the USSR — Page 3.
- Women in the community — by Frieda Brown — Pages 4 & 5.
- Book reviews — Peter Jensen on Exorcism — Page 6.
- An innocent abroad — by Donald Howard — Page 7.

Death of Mao Tse-tung

The death of Mao Tse-tung takes from the scene all but the last of the great figures who played a major role in the events leading up to and including the Second World War.

In recent times men such as Chiang Kai-shek, Haile Selassie, General Franco have passed away. Only Emperor Hirohito of Japan remains of the World War II political or national leaders.

Mao's death has been met with world-wide tributes in recognition of his singular place in history as the seem willing to refer to those aspects of his character that in other men

In the midst of this avalanche of praise, few if any seem willing to refer to those aspects of character that in other men we find most repulsive. He is acclaimed as the one who unified his nation and mobilised it into an instrument of his will — Adolf Hitler did the same thing in Germany. He is acclaimed as the one who brought his country from feudalism to the very brink of industrial and technological maturity — Joseph Stalin did the same in Russia.

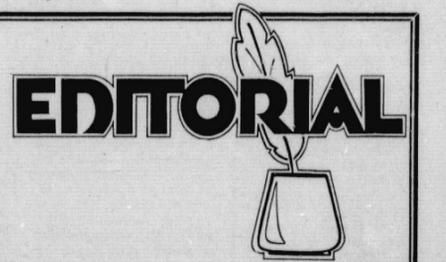
Such unqualified praise as has been showered on him at the news of his death might be appropriate if man lived by bread alone, if material, economic, political or military achievements constituted the true measure of achievement. But what of the cost?

Such material advances have been at the expense of millions of his countrymen who were allegedly of a different class or viewpoint — they were liquidated. In Hitler's or Stalin's case such wholesale massacre is grounds for condemnation. Why not with Mao?

Progress has been made in China but at the cost of personal liberty in that country, the most elementary freedoms we enjoy are unknown or forgotten in China today. To question or threaten them here is heresy, why is it not for Mao?

What of the church in China. If Mao is to take the credit for the re-birth of China, he must also take the blame for the apparent destruction of the Christian church there.

At no time did the Chairman repudiate his aims of violent world revolution — in fact his doctrine of wars



of national liberation became the model for the conflicts in Indo-China and parts of present-day Africa.

Whatever be the quality of his leadership and vision, whatever be his intellectual attainment as philosopher and revolutionary, the simple fact remains that he spawned a movement that has denied freedom to hundreds of millions of human beings and imposed a physical, mental and spiritual slavery on them instead. One thing is certain — if history will not judge him aright, the Lord God will.

PRAYER BOOK

*From page 1

The progress report announces that a further round of Provincial Conferences to consider the contents of the proposed Prayer Book will be held across Australia in October this year. This follows a series of similar conferences last April-May.

It also announces that the Liturgical Commission will continue to receive criticisms and proposed amendments almost until the General Synod. It will then place before the Synod its own list of recommended amendments to the Book.

ROLF HARRIS WORKS WORLD VISION

Australian entertainer Rolf Harris has a new television programme produced by a church-supported aid organisation.

Harris will co-star with a Korean Children's Choir in an hour-long special produced for World Vision of Australia.

The same organisation this year organised a 40-hour

Pictured at Left The Young World Singers

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MOTHERS' UNION PLANS FOR CHILD-CARE WEEK

During Child-Care Week — September 19-26 — The Mothers' Union of the Diocese of Sydney will seek to bring home the special needs of children to its 2000 members throughout Sydney.

Already the Mothers' Union is heavily involved in the care of children through its various activities.

The Mothers' Union now visits thousands of new mothers throughout Sydney hospitals, offering assistance and providing them with helpful Christian literature on bringing the love of Christ into the home.

The "tea and sympathy" service at Sydney Courts, where Mothers' Union members provide tea and biscuits and show concern for parents and children waiting for their case to be heard, has now "caught on" throughout Australia and Mothers' Unions in various parts of the nation have now formed "Tea and Sympathy" groups.

Because of the increase in the divorce rate (there are now 1,000 divorces each week in Australia), the Mothers' Union is seeking to promote conditions in Australia which are favourable to stable family life, through hundreds of Mothers' groups throughout Sydney, by means of discussion groups, sharing and caring, understanding, visiting, using a Christian basis in all their outreach.

On the practical level, members support play groups, provide finance for counselling and printing of Christian literature and are aware of the need of child care in crisis situations and

"1,000 divorces each week in Australia"

helping those whose family life has met with adversity.

Mrs D. W. B. Robinson, president said: "Our priority, is the task of educating people in the Christian values of real stable family life, happy homes are where Christ is in control."

"The aim of the Mothers' Union is to strengthen Christian Family Life as we feel this is the ultimate need for our nation."

FAREWELL SERVICE

A Service to commission and farewell two missionary families will be held at St Phillip's Caringbah on September 26th, 1976 at 10.45 am.

Those leaving are Mr and Mrs Michael Hore, going to linguistic work in North Australia and Rev and Mrs John Thew, who are going to Pakistan.

Both families will be missionaries with the Church Missionary Society.



ON & OFF THE RECORD

BY DAVID HEWETSON

"TOO LOW, SWEET CHARIOT"

In the daily avalanche that pours out of the letter box, I recently received a brochure advertising the film "The Outer Space Connection".

Its particular virtue, I was assured, is that it "extends the mind-stunning theories first expressed in 'Chariots of the Gods'."

Well, I certainly agree that there are mind-stunning theories in "Chariots".

I was stunned to think that any intelligent person was supposed to swallow it. But I was more stunned to find that so many did, especially amongst the otherwise sceptical High School generation.

The impact of "Chariots" was so immense in fact that it obviously fell into very well prepared ground. And that bears a little examination for would-be communicators of the Gospel.

Ad Astra and Half Bake

"Chariots" and its now quite numerous ilk were recently dubbed "fiction science" by a reviewer in "Time".

By comparison with science-fiction this new genre came into vogue during the early '50s when the USA in particular was overtaken by mass UFO "sightings". The modern mind began to be conditioned to the possibility of the kind of (or otherwise) space visitors, whether as little green men or in a more anonymous and sinister mode. Underlying the UFO mystique was the conviction that the messengers from the skies came from a higher civilisation which had outgrown war and violence, and they bore the timely warning that man must do likewise or perish.

In fact the psychologist Carl Jung said that the "sightings" were psychic projections of man's hope for the existence of a higher power in a frightening and chaotic world.

Erich von Daniken (the author of "Chariots") and now a lot of others have obviously capitalised on this. As "Time" puns: "They peddle an old cosmological recipe — simply ad astra, mix feverishly and half bake."

But in doing so they give some very interesting indicators to modern man's attitude to religion.

Men in crisis sometimes look for a new faith or a new variant of an old one, and this has actually happened a number of times in history.

For example the millenarian cults of Mediaeval Europe, the Mahdiya of the Sudan, some of the new religions of the third world, and the cargo cults of the Pacific.

As a matter of fact, Peter Lawrence the anthropologist includes the flying saucer cults with these in his book "Road Belong Cargo". (Melbourne Uni Press 1967.)

The Gods and the Goods

Men who feel threatened sometimes also feel that their old creeds cannot cope with the new crisis. They grasp desperately at some of the lineaments of the new world that threatens them and try to fashion these into a modern and appropriate faith.

In New Guinea, for example, the cargo cults express the dissatisfaction of the indigene at his status in colonial society. He can only improve it by laying hold of cargo (the status symbol) and since his old culture came from the gods, they — or new ones — will deliver the goods if he finds the right ritual. He junks or reshapes his old beliefs, and continually modifies them as the cargo fails to eventuate.

For him, religion, as it has been for many, is partly a mystical "technology" for the production of material goods and the stabilisation of society.

It explains his world and gives him a way of getting the most out of it. But if a new world comes upon him he needs new myths and new religious techniques in order to cope.

A Faith that fits

Religion to the worshippers of Baal was much the same. And the Israelites coming into the new and sophisticated society of Canaan must have found it very beguiling.

They faced the crisis of life in an agricultural setting after the old life of the nomad, and of living in towns and cities after simply being part of a tribe.

It was tempting to think that the "appropriate" fertility gods of those who were at home in the new world should replace (or modify) the God who had led them on the long desert marches. But they found him "jealous" of the truth about himself, resistant to modification, much more "at home" in Canaan than the myths he eventually replaced. Baal is now only of academic interest, but the Lord continues to establish his name in every part of the world.

To return to fiction science. It is curious that von Daniken uses the analogy of the cargo cults to launch his book. Simple Islanders were so impressed by the American invasion during the war, he says, that they set up a cult to explain it.

• To page 3

Clamp down on Bible

A growing world-wide clamp-down on bible distribution has prompted the British and Foreign Bible Society to call for "all-out prayer support" to re-establish work in the affected countries.

Mr John Dean, the United Bible Societies' World Service Officer based in London, writes in the Society newspaper *World in Action*: "There seem to be more places closed to the Word of God at present for one reason or another than at any time since World War Two."

Mr Dean reports that the Bible Societies are developing special strategies to meet the spiritual needs in these so-called "closed" areas without breaking the law. "We are looking particularly for developments of the work in the Islamic world," he says.

But, the newspaper continues, "the fact is that trouble-spots are springing up everywhere."

In Africa a number of countries are closed to Gospel distribution. In Algeria the Bible Shop was closed by the Government some months ago because the Society was distributing scripture in Kabyle, a tribal language, and the Government is keen to establish Arabic as the national language.

A number of African countries have traditionally been closed to the Gospel, including Libya and Mauritania, while in Angola the former Bible Society secretary was Portuguese and had to leave the country on independence. But negotiations are going on to reopen the work under Angolan leadership.

Europe also has a number of areas where Gospel work is tough, if not impossible, reports *World in Action*. No work has been carried out in Albania since the Second World War. In the Soviet

CORRECTION

Owing to a typographical error a sentence in the NSW *Casino Story* in the September 2 issue was incorrect. It should have read: He (Mr Wran) had not decided whether it (the enquiry) would proceed on the premise that there would be casinos, and the enquiry would be introduced. OR whether the enquiry would be on the question of whether there should be Legalised Casinos.

There are hopes that the work may be re-established. No word has been heard of former Khmer Bible Society secretary, Son Sone, for more than a year, although another worker in the area has managed to get out a message saying that they are doing what they can to keep the operation going.

In the Americas, Cuba has been a closed country since the Castro regime took over, although small quantities of scriptures have entered the country with permission.

World in Action declares that in spite of the setbacks "the long arm of prayer can reach even into these areas and the United Bible Societies are calling on Christians to join them in prayer that national leadership the world over will realise the value of scripture and that even those areas closed for many years will have their doors opened by the power of God."

Church Times

PRESBYTERIANS JOIN UNIONS FOR NON-ALIGNED POLICY

The Church and Nation committee of the Presbyterian Church in Victoria has joined with a group of left wing trade unions and politicians to "endorse" a conference on an independent Australian foreign policy.

The committee will provide the only official denominational backing for the conference.

Others supporting it include Dr Jim Cairns and a number of Labor senators. Trade union "endorsements" include the Waterside Workers' Federation, the Australian Metal Workers' Union and the Victorian branch of the Federal Miscellaneous Workers' Union.

Aim of the conference, which is sponsored by the Congress for International Disarmament, is to examine Australia's foreign, military and resources policies, and the alternative of an independent and non-aligned stance.

A spokesman for the Church and Nation committee, the Rev Alan Hardie, said he was personally aware of the risk of the church being identified with the political left through its support for the conference, which will be held in Melbourne, October 1-3.

Mr Hardie, who is on the preparatory group of the conference, said he saw the

conference's aims as "very much in line with decisions of the Victorian Presbyterian Assembly in recent years."

Other churches were asked by conference organisers for endorsements, and declined — although other church people and Christian groups (such as Pax Christi) are involved. Aust Pres Life

ISLANDER MEETS THE QUEEN

The first Torres Strait woman ever to visit England represented the Diocese of Carpentaria at the recent Mother's Union Centenary Celebrations in London.

She is Mrs Lena Passi, wife of Archdeacon Passi, who is currently Precursor of the cathedral Rockhampton.

Mrs Passi is also the first Torres Strait islander to have been presented to the Queen.

Bishop Hunt called on the Church to "give women their full human and ecclesiastical rights. It is a shame that the Body of Christ must engage in debate over principles as elemental as that."

Bishop Hunt appealed to Methodists to "move beyond preoccupation with theological bickering. We must rekindle that original ardour which caused John Wesley to leap on the back of his horse and ride out to save England and the World."

CEN

Mrs Lena Passi

Religious feelings sign of 'mental illness' in the USSR

"More details about a young member of the Orthodox Church who is being held in a Soviet mental hospital because of his faith had reached Keston College (the Centre for the Study of Religion and Communism)," the English "Church Times" reported last week.

"I am kept with seriously ill people, who are tied to their beds because of their violent behaviour. I have to listen to their wild howling, and these surroundings, and also the effect of the medicines, are oppressing me."

"The attitude of the doctors has an even more oppressive effect on me. "Completely ignorant of everything concerning religion, they insistently try to convince me that my religious feelings are a mental illness..."

Mr Bourdeaux says that Argentov's parents are, in his own words, "militant atheists". However, they have taken their son's part, only to be met by a blank wall of refusals and denials, as the open letter to Kuroedov reported:

"S. M. Degtyarev (the doctor in charge of Argentov) refused to acquit the parents with the documentary basis for the enforced hospitalisation of his son, claiming that these documents were a professional secret."

"To the parents' assertions that their son was healthy he replied that, not being professionals in the field of psychiatry, they could not understand their son's illness."

"In the psychiatric clinic the parents were told that their son had voluntarily agreed to go to hospital, which Argentov himself categorically denies."

According to Mr Bourdeaux, the authors of the Appeal to Public Opinion (copies of which have been sent to Soviet bodies and to Dr Philip Potter, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches) are themselves under threat.

One of his doctors told Argentov that all those who had signed the "anti-Soviet" Appeal would be sent to prison.

Reproduction of a photo of Alexander Argentov, said to have been taken by friends last month in the grounds of a Moscow mental hospital.

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ON & OFF THE RECORD

• From page 2

Just so mankind visited and indeed fathered (from apes) by astronauts created religion as an explanation. "Was God an astronaut?" says the blurb. And incredibly some seem to think so. Ironically the facts are the very reverse of von Daniken's theory.

The same kind of thing that produced the cargo cults did not produce the Bible. It produced "The Chariots of the Gods" instead! And after 30 million copies sold we know who has the cargo.

Rumanian church "restive under totalitarianism"

(Grand Rapids) USA — There is unrest among the Baptists in Rumania. Since 1973 the church has experienced a great renewal; so many new members have been drawn to the church that many congregations are having problems accommodating them.

The church was apparently shaken awake by the famous letter of Josif Ton, a pastor and teacher at the seminary in Bucharest.

In his 1973 letter he repudiated a number of limitations imposed on the church of the state as being in conflict with Scripture as well as with the socialist constitution of Rumania.

Ton's letter inspired the membership to take a more forceful stance towards the authority of the state.

This new mood was shown in their impatience with the present central leadership of the church.

This leadership is chosen by representatives elected by various regional gatherings. In the elections held last year almost all of the present central leadership lost their seats.

However, after the fact, the central leadership created a new regulation for

such regional elections and declared the already held elections invalid.

It was supported in this by the state secretary of religion.

The authorities also rejected a delegate who was chosen in place of the old secretary general and appointed the latter to take his place.

The man who was anticipated to become the new chairman was also rejected as unfit.

The ministerial association of Bucharest, of which Josif Ton is a member, has accused the old leadership of using totalitarian methods to achieve its ends.

It warned that if they do not cease with their unlawful action, they will have to be deposed by the people of the church for their sinful way of life.

— RES News

SHOULD BISHOPS BE TRAINED FOR ROLE?

The recent Commission on Ministry consulted the bishops of the Australian church about whether there was a need for some training to help bishops carry out some aspects of their ministry more effectively.

Most of the bishops felt that some training was needed, and some of them supported the idea of a training course for bishops and bishops-elect, tailored to the needs of those taking part.

As a result of this consultation with bishops, the Commission will recommend that the General Synod ask the Primate to suggest to the Bishops' Conference that the conference appoint one or more persons to prepare a course of training to help bishops-elect and new bishops, and to serve as an

in-service refresher-course for other bishops.

Among other things, the Commission will also make some recommendations regarding clergy stipends and clergy tenure.

It will recommend that "surplice fees" (payments made at weddings, funerals and baptisms) should be paid into parish revenue or a discretionary fund rather than be added to the priest's personal income.

It will also recommend that the General Synod advise all diocesan synods to ensure that in each diocese the minimum stipend (possibly with increments for years of service) be paid in all parishes, regardless of their financial standing, and that adequate allowances be paid to the clergy for travelling and entertainment.

On clergy tenure, the Commission will recommend that the General Synod commend to diocesan bishops the practice of ensuring that an incumbent consults his bishop and parish wardens (or an appropriate parish body) after the fifth year of his incumbency concerning wishes for his future ministry, and thereafter every two years during which he remains in that position.

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Inflation eats into Clergy superannuation

Sir, The onrush of inflation continues to depreciate our currency and with it the effectiveness of all fixed incomes. The majority of investment-superannuation funds now provide but fractional supplement to the government Social Security Pension for a couple; the Diocesan a smaller one. This means, in effect that the prospective standard of living for our diocesan veterans, clerical and lay, will be very little above the minimum.

Our clergy in particular are, by nature of their calling and circumstances unable to accumulate other provision, and in many cases have not acquired a home. Similarly they are relatively handicapped in post retirement employment.

The Board of the Sydney Diocesan Superannuation Fund is not empowered to effect any major alteration in the administration of the fund, and has recently declined to recommend any revision of the basis of diocesan provision for our aged personnel; there is therefore no present prospect of improvement on the fund's standard as above indicated. This amounts to a serious reproach to our church.

It has become quite clear that inflation, like droughts, is a recurrent, unpredictable and incalculable menace to all investment activity; it nullifies the prognostication of the actuaries.

To obviate the menace of inflation we must make an entirely new approach to superannuation provision. As such need not call for contribution appreciably greater than the present from the three parties, personnel, parishes and diocese our clergy will be in order to ask that an alternative be fully investigated by an unbiased authority.

For various reasons commercial concerns and institutions are unsuited to a "Pay-as-we-go" scheme; and they may be terminated. Government has been cited as the only body capable of conducting such a method of superannuation provision; the Social Security Service is such.

On the contrary the writer contends that the church, unique in its perpetuity and

LETTERS

cohesion of personnel, and in particular the majority Anglican Church in Australia is in a more secure position to conduct such type of provision than governments, with their unpredictable policies and increasing tendency to socialistic conformity. Our respect for our clergy and diocesan personnel surely calls us to assume somewhat above this level; only a concerted lay movement with one hopes, clerical support can initiate a new approach to this problem, it is already overdue.

Triplicate contributions (as above) to a fund on only temporary investment, for distribution within one/three years of receipt will use the funds while they retain most of their "real" value.

S. M. GOARD,
Willoughby.

Let your light shine

Sir, One of the most magnificent and humbling pictures of Christians as drawn by Jesus is recorded in Matthew: "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid."

(Notice the crescendo) "Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house." (Here comes the breath-taking climax) "Let YOUR light shine before men . . ." We all know the verse — or do we? Anglicans throughout the world, Sunday by Sunday, hear "Let your light so shine as unto men . . ." or it might as well be that.

The whole beautiful passage has utterly lost its meaning while we rummage round in handbags or pockets for our collection money. In a small church the other day, the clergyman absent-mindedly forgot his usual

drone "Let your light so shine" and the churchwarden needed a poke from his wife before he realised he'd missed out on his "get the plate" cue and wasn't collecting the money.

I'm not objecting to taking up the collection, but surely we don't have to desecrate the word of God — indeed, what are related as the actual words of Jesus — in order to do so.

Our prayer book even gives us other (more suitable) suggestions for an appropriate text. Could we have a drive by readers of this paper, at least, for such use and restore to its context and its wide, full, wonderful meaning, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

(MRS) D. MacLAURIN,
Cremorne, NSW.

Armidale Synod

Sir, Armidale Synod consists of a House of Laity and a House of Clergy.

Your item on the election of a bishop (ACR, 19.8.76) refers to the "Upper and Lower Houses". Which is which?

CHARLES MARRETT
Walcha

ACL CONFERENCE ON REFORMATION

Rev Maurice Betteridge the Federal Secretary of CMS, who took his Master's degree in Reformation Theology, will be the chief speaker at a Reformation Conference on "The Place of the 39 Articles in Today's Church", arranged by the Conference Committee of the Anglican Church League for Friday 29th October, 1976 at 8 pm.

The Conference will be held in St Mary's Parish Hall, Brays Rd, Concord North. After Mr Betteridge has

presented his paper, certain issues will be raised by Dr Peter O'Brien from Moore Theological College, who will enter into dialogue and open up the subject for questions and discussion from those present.

"The subject should hold interest for many with the proposed new Prayer Book soon to be produced containing the 39 Articles, because of the insistence of the Diocese of Sydney," Rev Gordon Robinson, Convenor of the Conference said.

Conference centre \$200,000 complex plan for Islington

Bishop Trevor Huddleston recently laid four cornerstones for a 200,000 pounds neighbourhood centre at St Mary's Islington, the Rev Don Howard said in a recent letter from England.

The building is adjacent to the parish hall built to accommodate the Islington Conference.

Construction workers found pottery fragments and also an old well during their excavations for the foundations.

Bishop Huddleston, the Bishop of Stepney, was invited by the Vicar of St Mary's, Preliminary Peter Johnston.

The bishop said the building was symbolic of the concern of the living church at St Mary's for the community in the area.



The Vicar of Islington, Presendery Peter Johnston.

Mr Johnston said the first phase would consist of games and meeting hall and a gallery and club room.

The second phase would provide various rooms and a caretaker's flat.

"Activities will include club for retired people and facilities for children," Mr Johnston said.

"The first phase will cater mainly for young people." He said that the decision to proceed with such an ambitious plan had been made only after prayer by members of the congregation.

CATHEDRAL ADDRESS BY FRIEDA BROWN ON ROLE OF LAW

Mrs Frieda Brown, chairman of the Australian Festival of Light, at a recent talk on "Women in the Community" claimed that some Christians were not concerned in maintaining society's laws.

Speaking at Sydney's St Andrew's Cathedral, Mrs Brown gave five reasons why she said Christians were not maintaining these laws — particularly those which supported the family as the basic unit of society.

Mrs Brown, MA (Oxon), aged 44, and a mother of four, is the Festival's main spokesman on women's issues.

She listed the five reasons why some Christians were not supporting these basic laws as: 1. Some Christians have not understood the teachings of the Word of God which says that God's rule of behaviour is for all people whom God has created and not only for Christians.

Our Laws in Australia are based on the Judaeo-Christian ethic, as for example, stealing and murder.

But in sexual matters, a great many Christians seem to think that these eternal truths do not apply to people who are not committed Christians.

In fact, I often get more help from good family people who would not call themselves Christians, but whose God-given conscience tells them how foolish it is to encourage permissiveness, both for the individual's sake and for society generally.

2. Some Christians, particularly young Christians involved in personal evangelism, say that no one, especially sexual deviants,

3. Some Christians wish to appear trendy and want to be seen to be supporting the latest ideas currently taught in our places of tertiary education.

The Humanists seem to be dominant in this scene at the moment.

For example, in the second-year Welfare Work course at Sydney Technical College, it is alleged that a lecturer said that society needs to change and to stop treating incest as taboo.

One has to be a mature student to stand up to the authority figure of the teacher in this situation.

4. Some Christians are persuaded by the arguments of the Humanists because they seem to be more loving than the Christian in their attitude to other people.

should appear to be attacked even if this is done in the process of lobbying Parliament to keep our country's laws as close as possible to the divine Law.

I would reject this advice because I take my strategy solely from the Word of God which says: "Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them . . . when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible."

"Therefore it is said: 'Awake O sleeper and arise from the dead and Christ shall give you light.'" Ephesians 5:11-14.

Here Scripture tells us that a wide expose of sin, far from impeding evangelism, leads to personal conversion to Christ.

I too thought that they had the highest motives until I took part in one TV debate on the family.

For example, on the Mike Willissee programme on sex education, a Christian doctor did not seem to understand the reason for the law against carnal knowledge for girls under 16.

It is to protect the girl from herself and from men until she is mature enough to make her own decision.

It is her support against her own lack of wisdom until her mental development catches up with her physical maturity.

The difficulty here is that the Marxists hardly ever identify themselves as such, but nevertheless they continue to attack the family and one can only recognize them by the kind of argument they use.

I recall that Marx says in his "Capital" of 1867: "The family and its components will vanish when capital vanishes."

Abolition of the family! Even the extreme radicals hold up their hands in horror when they speak of this shameful Communist proposal.

It seemed to be that there were some typical Marxist arguments used in a radio programme.

It was said, and evidence was produced, that mothers went out to work only for greed, lured out by the advertisements of the capitalist society in which we live.

Therefore the children were not cared for and so the family life broke down.

This breakdown of the nuclear family is traced back then solely to the greed of the capitalist society.

We were told that there was a much purer way of life in a commune, where there was not much need to go outside that society for one's material needs.

My answer to them was not to commend greed at all. I wanted to build up the

"God's rule of behaviour is for all people and not only for Christians"

Although she said she would not give the pill to a 13-year-old girl whose mother requested it, went on to say that she would like to have seen the girl having a steady relationship before the mother came in requesting it.

Why should the frequency of carnal knowledge make it any less criminal? The doctor seems to have been duped by the humanist into thinking that regular intercourse by a 13-year-old girl in a so-called "loving" relationship was acceptable whereas a single incident, or a number of single incidents was not.

The only answer is God's answer: "He that commits fornication sins against his own body." 1 Cor 6:18.

5. Some Christians are persuaded by the arguments of the Humanists because they seem to be more loving than the Christian in their attitude to other people.

• To page 5



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This is a reprint from "The Manly Daily", Sydney, entitled "Sick of it all", and said to have been "published originally in an American newspaper".

"The Daily" featured this as a recent editorial with the comment: "In large measure, it expresses the sentiments of a lot of us. It is entitled 'A Letter From A Lot Of Us'."

The item was sent to "The Record" with the notation of "You might like to print this", from a well-wisher.

Cathedral Address by Frieda Brown

• From page 4

God-given unit of the family.

I commended the increased family allowances that the mother has just received, which will encourage many mothers to stay at home and care for their children.

I did not have occasion to produce my evidence that the majority of women go out to work for economic necessity.

I also tried to prick the bubble of the commune which is often such a transient experiment.

I was interested to hear later that this programme was listened to in at least one tertiary educational institution and that every question and answer was expected to be recorded by the students.

Thus a potentially large number of young people are getting the Marxist line on the family in what I, for one, thought was a housewives' talk-back programme.

In conclusion, I am the first to acknowledge that the God-given unit of the family needs the support and protection of our governments to meet economic and social changes.

May I give a plea here to a Christian to be very careful which group of people you give your support to.

Think through your position very carefully. Examine the long-term principles of the group.

You may find superficial similarities to your own view, but, are you basically ideologically similar?

For example, I was very concerned when a group of young Christian women in March 1975 joined the Women's Liberation March.

Where does she get all those good ideas for her class?



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ANTI-CASINO RALLY

The Council of Churches will hold a rally to protest against the decision of the NEW Government to legalise casinos.

It will be held at the Lyceum Theatre, Pitt Street, on September 26th, 1976 at 3 pm.

The speakers will be: Bishop Clive Kerle, Rev Keith Watson, President of the Baptist Union in NSW, Mrs Thorburn, Mr Jim McCrudden a leading lawyer and Rev Alan Walker of the Central Methodist Mission.

The Secretary of the Council of Churches said that the churches had not conceded the battle, despite what Mr Wan had said, and this rally is the first of a series of actions aimed at stopping the legalisation of casinos.



ADELAIDE
Rev A. W. Cheesman has resigned from Tea Tree Gully as from October 31st this year, to become Rector of Mitcham with Torrens Park.

SYDNEY
Rev W. Newmarch, Master at the King's School, has been appointed Archdeacon of Parramatta and Camden, effective from the beginning of next year.

"Sick of it all . . ."

"There are those who claim ours is a 'sick' society; that our country is sick; that we are sick. Well, maybe they're right. I submit that I'm sick . . . and maybe you are, too."

"I am sick of being told that religion is the opiate of the people, but marijuana should be legalised."

"I am sick of being told that pornography is the right of the free Press, but freedom of the Press does not include being able to read the Bible on school grounds."

"I am sick of pot-smoking entertainers deluging me with their condemnation of my moral standards on late-night television."

"I am sick of being told that policemen are mad dogs who should not have guns — but that criminals who use guns to rob, maim and murder should be understood and helped back to society."

"I am sick of not being able to take my family to a movie unless I want to have them exposed to nudity, homosexuality and the glorification of narcotics."

"I am sick of riots, marches, protests, demonstrations, confrontations, and other mob temper tantrums of people intellectually incapable of working within the system."

"I am sick of those who say I owe them this or that because of the sins of my forefathers — when I have looked down both ends of a gun barrel to defend their rights, liberties and families."

"I am sick of cynical attitudes towards patriotism. I am sick of politicians with no backbone. I am sick of permissiveness. I am sick of the dirty and foul-mouthed."

I am sick of the decline of personal honesty, personal integrity and human sincerity.

"Most of all, though, I am sick of being told I'm sick. I'm sick of being told my country is sick. Fully 50 per cent of the people on earth would willingly trade places with the most deprived, the most underprivileged among us."

"Yes, I may be sick, but if I am only sick I can get well. I can also help my society get well — and help my country get well."

"Take note, all of you, you will not find me throwing a rock or a bomb; you will not find me under a placard, you will not see me take to the streets; you will not find me ranting to wild-eyed mobs."

"But you will find me at work, paying taxes, serving in the community where I live."

"You will also find me expressing my anger and indignation to elected officials. You will find me speaking out in support of those officials, institutions and personalities who contribute to the elevation of society and not its destruction."

"You will find me contributing my time, money and personal influence to helping churches, hospitals, charities and other establishments which have shown the true spirit of this country's determination to ease pain, suffering, eliminate hunger and generate brotherhood."

"But, most of all, you'll find me at the polling place. There — if you listen — you can hear the thunder of the common man. There, all of us can cast our vote — for a country where people can walk the streets without fear."

LATEST PICTURE OF GEORGI VINS



The Russian church leader, Georgi Vins, who is serving five years' sentence in a labour camp in Eastern Siberia for his religious activities, was granted a visit by his family in July. During the visit his mother was allowed to take this photograph of him — the first since his arrest in 1974.

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Primates Consultation examines role of mission in Australia

The second Primate's Consultation, meeting in Melbourne September 7-8, 1976, agreed to recommend that the Anglican Church of Australia should give close attention in the years 1977-81 to defining and committing itself to mission within Australia.

The Primate, the Most Rev Frak Woods, called to the Consultation eighteen persons representing all sections of General Synod, its Standing Committee, its Board, Commissions and Committees.

Advance papers were prepared by the Primate (on Ecumenical Relationships), by Bishop C. A. Warren (on the role of Standing Committee), by Archbishop G. T. Sambell (on Projections for the future), by Bishop G. B. Mison (on Partners in Mission) and the Rev A. C. Nichols (on Communicating within the National Church).

Meeting in the Melbourne diocesan retreat house at Cheltenham, the eighteen invited persons discussed and debated issues raised in the advance papers. Most were present at the first Primate's Consultation in Canberra in September, 1975.

Those present were: the Primate (chairman), Bishops C. A. Warren, M. Thomas, G. B. Mison, J. Grant, J. Grindrod, G. Delbridge, D. Garnsey, Mother Faith CHN, Deaconess M. Rodgers, the Rev Doug Brown SSM, The Revs P. J. Hollingworth, R. Butters, A. Baxter, T. Hayman, M. Betteridge, A. C. Nichols, and Mr J. G. Denton.

Issues debated included: • Whether the Standing Committee of General Synod could take initiative and leadership in the Church's mission; • How a "Partners in Mission" consultation or series of consultations could permeate the Australian Church; • Whether a General Synod office should be

located in Canberra because it is the national capital;

• How a communications flow around the national church can be improved;

• To what extent resources and skills in the Church can be best exploited to develop the work of General Synod Commissions such as Social Responsibilities and International Affairs;

• The possibility of regional conferences prior to the General Synod to discuss matters of principle which will be discussed at the Synod;

• The nature of conciliar fellowship as expounded by the World Council of Churches, and relationships with such denominations as the United Church.

It was reported to the Consultation that a "Partners in Mission" consultation was being planned for Australia by the Missionary and Ecumenical Council. It will probably be held early 1978, and will draw on understandings gained from the Anglican Consultative Council held in Trinidad earlier this year. Such provincial consultations have been held throughout the Anglican Communion. This consultation, in the opinion of Consultation Members was designed to clarify the nature of the mission facing the Australian Church, and to offer goals for the years 1977-81 for General Synod and the whole of the Church.

A number of recommendations were drawn up for the Standing Committee of General Synod and for the Missionary and Ecumenical Council. These will be considered at their next meetings in October, 1976 and February, 1977 respectively.

"Child Care" Luncheon

The woman who is affectionately known as the uncrowned "Queen of Tasmania", will be the special guest speaker at the Child Care Week Mother of the Year luncheon in Sydney.

She is Dame Enid Lyons, the first woman member of the House of Representatives, and the first woman Cabinet Minister of the Commonwealth parliament.

The luncheon will be held at the Boulevard Hotel, William Street, Sydney, on Thursday, September 23, at 12.30 pm.

At seventy-nine years of age, Dame Enid is an active traveller and public speaker.

She is the widow of the former Premier of Tasmania and Prime Minister of Australia, Joseph Lyons. She was awarded the GBE (Dame Grand Cross of the British Empire) in 1937, the only other Australian to share this honour being Dame Pattie Menzies, in 1954.

After her retirement from politics in 1951 she was a metropolitan newspaper columnist, a member of the Australian Broadcasting Commission, a professional broadcaster with a national network, and was offered her own television show by the late Sir Frank Packer.

Her distinguished and colourful career and her role as housewife and mother of 12, places Dame Enid in a suitable position from which to comment on the values of contemporary Australian society.

Dame Enid has grave doubts about the wisdom of the total sexual knowledge that today is being imparted to children.

"It seems to rob childhood of one of its rights, one of its

NEGS to retain independence

No plans to join with "Tas"



The New England Girls' School, (NEGS) Armidale, about 1900. The School's founder, Miss Florence Green is on the verandah, near the entrance of "Akaroa", the first building erected for the school, around 1895.

The Synod of the Diocese of Armidale last May passed a resolution requesting that Diocesan Council "promote to the 1978 Synod" an ordinance providing for the independent incorporation of the New England Girls' School (NEGS) exclusively as a girls' school in the secondary department, a report from NEGS said this week.

"This resolution should therefore dispel rumours and speculation that NEGS and TAS (The Armidale School — for boys) will amalgamate.

"NEGS is in a strong financial position, and during its 81 years of providing education for girls in isolated areas, has never been in danger of closing.

"On the contrary, thanks to the astute financial management of its council, (and in particular of Canon Dickens, Messrs H. H. Cordingley and L. P. Dutton), it has weathered two world

wars and the great depression, as well as financially aiding TAS and the Diocese.

Mr Cordingley is the great-uncle of the present honorary treasurer of the school council, Mrs Sylvia Grigg, who is both an old girl and a chartered accountant.

Miss Florence Green founded NEGS in 1895 and until 1907 ran it as a private venture school. When she left Armidale in

books were (for most of the 68 years) written up in the registry office.

At the end of 1974, however, the nexus with the diocese was broken and for the first time in its history the school has a full-time bursar — Mr Bert Dixon, A.A.S.A.

Its administrative centre is now situated in "Akaroa" (pictured above), the first building erected by Miss Green on the four acres she purchased in 1895.

Muggeridge to promote Festival



Mr Muggeridge

"Those who watched the brilliance of Malcolm Muggeridge in his successful encounter with Norman Gunston on ABC television recently will look forward to seeing and hearing Mr Muggeridge in person during his visit to Australia in October."

The Australian Festival of Light said in a report this week.

Mr Barry Sinclair, chairman of the Arrangements Committee for the Hyde Park "Family Celebration" on Sunday, October 10, reported that planning was well under way and at least 10,000 people would give an address, supported by other civic and church leaders.

These addresses would be followed by the "Call to the Nation" and march through the city streets to the Domain.

Mr Sinclair said: "The entertainment includes

Archbishop Coggan is heretic — Lefebvre

Rebel French Catholic Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre on Sunday defied Pope Paul and conducted a Latin mass in the sports hall crowded with 6000 worshippers.

The Archbishop attacked both the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Donald Coggan, during the service. Dr Coggan, he said, "is a heretic, and it is regrettable that the Vatican is not treating him like one."

He added: "I oppose ecumenical dialogue started with other Christian churches by the Catholic Church. So far as a Catholic is concerned the only thing to be done with a Protestant or an Anglican is to try and convert them."

In Rome, Pope Paul called on pilgrims to join prayers for "concord, union and peace within our Church." He said Christ sought a Church as "one and universal", a communion of followers of the same teaching. CEN

CALL TO NATION AT THE DOMAIN

Parking would be at a premium in the vicinity of Hyde Park and the NSW Police has suggested that interested people from various groups in Sydney suburbs should together arrange their own bus group and so reduce the expected heavy traffic load.

Special areas for buses would be set aside to allow the shortest possible walk to Hyde Park.

"Mrs Kitty Muggeridge will be assured of a warm welcome by women representing community groups and all Christian churches, when she visits Sydney in October with her husband Malcolm, the famous author and journalist," the Festival of Light said.

A women's coffee morning would be held at the Menzies Hotel on Saturday, October 9. (Entry was restricted to those receiving invitations.)

Mrs Muggeridge, who has been married for 49 years and describes herself as a "wife, mother and proud grand-

mother of nine young Christians," would speak about the family and its indispensability, especially in a society like ours.

Mrs Muggeridge is herself a writer and collaborated in producing a book about her aunt, Beatrice Webb.

Death of Lutheran Theologian

The death occurred in Adelaide on August 8, of Dr Herman Sasse, a distinguished Lutheran theologian, who was living in retirement.

Although in his eighties, Dr Sasse had latterly been working on a book on Inspiration.

His wife predeceased him, and at this time of bereavement the sympathy of Christian friends around the world will be extended to members of the family.

CROSS-CARRYING PASTOR FOR AUSTRALIA

The Rev Arthur Blessitt, a Baptist pastor from Miami, Florida, USA, who literally "carries his cross" as part of his evangelistic ministry throughout the world, arrived in Sydney on September 6.

His cross is a 12 foot, 90 pounds dismantable symbol, and he has already crossed

North America, Europe and Africa walking 12,500 miles through 27 countries.

"I carry the cross on foot all the way sharing Christ personally with individuals along the road and having rallies in the cities when I arrive," Blessitt said recently.

"These rallies have been from a few hundred up to 100,000 in various parts of the world," he added.

The evangelist works completely with the local Christians in the country he visits. He travels with his wife and five children. They precede him driving and pulling a caravan.

When he walks through a

certain city or town Blessitt generally returns immediately to the places he has walked through for city-wide rallies.

"I plan to carry the cross from Brisbane to Adelaide during a period of three or four months, maybe longer," he said.

For several years Blessitt has exercised a ministry on the Sunset Strip in Hollywood, California, where hundreds were led to faith in Christ through his unusual ministry.

He will make his way through the Middle East to Britain for major crusades early next year and plans to return to America for the summer of 1977.

State Governor is patron of Family Celebration

One of the most unique events in our recent national history will occur on Sunday, 10th October at 2 pm in Sydney's Hyde Park, when thousands of Australians share in a "Family Celebration" and renewed "Call to the Nation".

It will be the first time a mass citizens' rally has been held which is not a protest against any particular social or moral issue.

It is not a wowers' rally, but simply a positive celebration of family life.

It is a sincere attempt to get people of goodwill to discover and share in what we all hold in common.

The "Family Celebration" under the patronage of the Governor of NSW, Sir Roden Cutler, VC, will incorporate a renewed Call to the Nation as part of the ongoing positive campaign by the Festival of Light and other positive community organisations to mobilise wholesome public opinion.

The main guest speaker will be Malcolm Muggeridge, noted author, journalist and broadcaster — a genuine multi-media personality. Mr Muggeridge has summed up the choices facing our western civilisation in these striking terms: "So, without God, we were left with a choice of megalomania or erotomania; the clenched fist or the phallus, Nietzsche or Sade, Hitler or D. H. Lawrence."

Various community leaders will also share in the "Family Celebration", such as James Cardinal Freeman, who will develop the theme of "life" — "recognising the dignity of all men and women and the sanctity of life as the gift of God, the Creator."

The NSW Minister of Health, the Hon Kevin Steuart, M.L.A., will speak on the theme of the "family" — "acknowledging the family as the basic and natural unit of society, entitled to the support and protection of society and the state", in accordance with the United Nations' Declaration.

Dame Monica Gallagher, NSW President of the Catholic Women's League, will speak on the positive aspects of womanhood and motherhood.

An atmosphere of joyful celebration under the chairmanship of the Hon Milton Morris, M.L.A., will be created by filling the sky with thousands of birds and coloured balloons, together with bright music of youthful folk groups.

Thousands of colourful banners and posters will decorate the park on various positive themes — "The Family that prays and plays together, stays together."

An exciting backdrop will be provided by the largest known Australian flag in existence — 30ft by 15ft!

Three national songs will be sung during the Celebration — "Advance Australia Fair", "God Save the Queen" and "God Bless Australia" to the tune of Waltzing Matilda.

A major feature will be the presentation of a renewed "Call to the Nation" on the 25th Anniversary of the first Call in 1951.

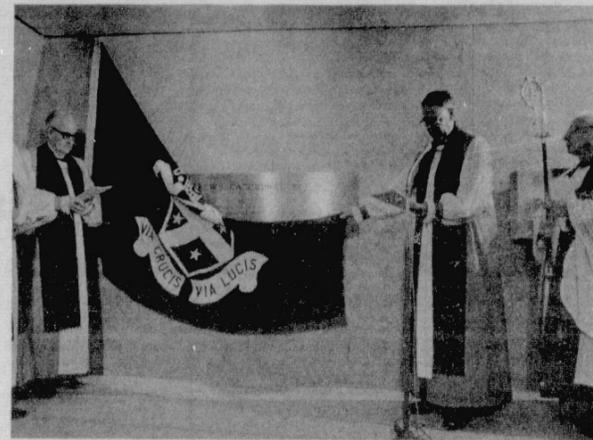
The new Call to all Australians will be issued under the personal sponsorship and authority of the Signatories and not under the name of any particular organisation or church.

The Signatories include representatives of all sections of our Australian life, such as Dame Enid Lyons (Women), Air Marshal Sir John McCauley (Services), Cardinal James Freeman (Catholic Church), Dr Harry Windsor (Medical), Mr Kim Beazley, MHR (Labour), Sir Walter Scott (Industry), Sir Colin Hines (Returned Servicemen), Mr Jim Begg (Waterside Worker), Rabbi Raymond Apple — (Jewish Community), etc.

The Call itself will be read by a prominent Australian in Hyde Park and at similar capital city rallies throughout Australia.

The "Family Celebration" and "Call to the Nation" are not directly concerned with any specific social issues such as "Casinos" which will be

• To page 8



The Archbishop unveils the Commemorative Plaque.

Cathedral School opened

Over 1700 people on Sunday, September 19th, overflowed from St Andrew's Cathedral into the adjacent Chapter House at the Service to mark the entry into St Andrew's House, the new location for the 91 years old St Andrew's Cathedral School.

New Bishop for Armidale

At the conclusion of the Service in the Cathedral while the "Te Deum" was being sung by the outstanding Cathedral Choir, the Archbishop, Sir Marcus Loane was escorted by Dean Lance Shilton, Chairman of the School Council, the Chaplain of the School, the Reverend

Alex Abbotsmith and the Senior Lay Canon, Mr T. A. B. Dakin and the School Captain, Marcus Perks, as well as Bishop A. J. Dain and Bishop J. K. Reid, outside the Cathedral, across Sydney Square to the entrance of the School.

• To page 2



- On and off the record — by David Hewetson — Page 2.
- Letters to the editor — Page 3.
- Call to the nation — by Jim Cameron, MLA — Page 3.
- Home Mission Society 120th anniversary — Pages 4 & 5.
- Book reviews — Page 6.
- An innocent abroad — by Donald Howard — Page 7.
- Final article on the letters to the seven Churches — by Rev Gordon Robinson — Page 7.

EDITORIAL

October could be an important month for the future of Australia. A series of meetings (sponsored by the Festival of Light), media appearances and personal interviews by Malcolm Muggeridge hold out the prospect of widespread community discussion of fundamental moral questions.

Since becoming a Christian Malcolm Muggeridge has turned his considerable analytical and literary skills to the exposure of the deep-seated problems facing western society and its capacity for self destruction by internal decay. In homes, offices, factories, clubs, schools and churches, opportunities will present themselves for Christians to put before ordinary people the biblical claims of holy and righteous living.

Coinciding with Muggeridge's visit will be a Call to the Nation. This will be a document signed by leading citizens, which will call on Australians to turn back from the selfish slide of hedonism and embrace values and actions that express a commitment to what is good, what is holy, what is beautiful.

If these public meetings and The Call to the Nation do succeed in focusing public attention on such matters, it

will be a wonderful opportunity to advocate the Christian way of life, which is the best way of life for all men.

To embark on a campaign such as The Festival of Light is full of dangers. Of necessity it will involve conflict where political allegiances are strained. This is not a matter of choice, but a regrettable fact of life, since the decisions have of politicians such a direct effect on community standards. Furthermore, such a campaign involves conflict with the more disreputable elements of society, bringing with it the constant threat of intimidation, slander and ridicule. The brunt of this pressure has been born personally by the director of FOL, the Rev Fred Nile. He has been prepared to enter into debate and confrontation with people who are committed to the furtherance of every kind of evil and who see their vested interests threatened by FOL's attacks. This has involved a high degree of courage and dedication. Christians who themselves are unwilling or unable to enter into these battles, could express their support into through their prayers and donations.

It is often alleged that campaigns such as the FOL are

too narrow. "Why don't they direct their energies to the wider questions of social justice, poverty and welfare?" Of course the same criticism could be turned the other way, why don't the voluntary welfare agencies, etc, take an interest in the associated moral questions that often give rise to welfare problems? Clearly, specialising in one area does not imply lack of concern for the other. But unless some people concentrate their energies, the overall impact will be too weak to bring about any change.

It is worth remembering that the Bible expresses an interest in righteousness and justice. Both are facets of the same thing. The campaigns for social justice without a commitment to personal righteousness will soon degenerate into bureaucratic programs hardly touching the real needs. Commitment to personal righteousness without concern for its social outworkings would be irrelevant.

We urge all readers to throw their support behind both the Muggeridge meetings and The Call to the Nation. By these and other steps we can help to make this land a better place in which to live.