

CLERGY-DOCTOR CONFERENCE

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Adelaide, August 29

The second national Clergy-Doctor Conference was held here from August 11 to 14. There were more than a hundred members of the conference from almost every State in Australia. Those attending were almost equally divided between medical practitioners and ministers of religion.

Resident members of the conference lived at two of the university colleges in North Adelaide. Lincoln College and Aquinas College, and the general sessions were held in the R.M.A. Hall, Newland House, North Adelaide.

The general title of the conference was "Health and the Community".

A wide range of subjects, such as Training for Health Nurses in the Community, Mental Health, and the Community and Clerical Pastoral Education for the Parish Ministers, were covered by the speakers.

The president of the Adelaide Medical-Clerical Group, Father B. Bishop, welcomed the members at the opening of the conference.

The chairman of the conference was Professor B. Hertz, Michael Professor of Medicine in the University of Adelaide. The programme of the conference was Chairman Pope Lacey, which was given under the auspices of the South Australian Association for Mental Health. This lecture was given in the Bonham Hall of the University of Adelaide by Dr. Howard J. Clinebell, who is professor of Pastoral Counselling in the Southern Californian School of Theology, Los Angeles, U.S.A., and who was one of the main speakers at the conference.

Dr. Clinebell has served in Methodist Churches in Indiana, Illinois and New York.

He has also been a Hospital Chaplain and a Director of Pastoral Counselling Centres. Dr. Clinebell is the author of well-known books "Understanding and Counselling the Alcoholic" and "Mental Health through Christian Community".

He is visiting Australia at the invitation of the clergy-doctor groups in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide.

A special guest of the conference was the Reverend A. C. Oommen, who is Senior Chaplain and Head of the Religious work Department at the Christian Medical College Hospital, Vellore, South India.

Mr. Oommen was born in Kerala of Syrian Christian parents. He graduated in Science from Kerala University, Trivandrum, South India.

He subsequently graduated B.D. from Serampore College (near Calcutta) and then worked for two years among the hills and strays.

He then had three years in the Ministry of Special Services. Mission and subsequently was in the staff of the Student Christian Movement in India.

He worked in refugee camps

SCHOOL PLAYS

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Melbourne, August 29

During Education Week, parents of girls in the Junior School of Ivanhoe Girls Grammar School were invited to a presentation of short plays prepared as class subjects.

Each teacher was producer of the play presented by the girls of her own form.

Plays were staged in the hall of the nearby Knox Presbyterian Church. On Tuesday afternoon, August 30, the girls of the first three forms held the stage; the remaining three forms presented their dramatic plays on the Thursday afternoon.

Many parents attended.

at the time of India's partition. After this he went to Uganda at the invitation of the Anglican Church to do inter-racial work.

He was subsequently ordained in the Anglican Church of Uganda and was on the staff of the Theological College, Kampala, in Kampala.

He subsequently returned to Kerala and worked among the backward peoples.

He has been in his present position at Vellore for the past two years. He has recently conducted the first school for hospital chaplains to be held in India, and initiated a recent mission to the medical college led by Bishop Leslie Newbigin, Bishop of Madras.

Mr. Oommen has been invited to visit Australia for two months to gain experience in the field of hospital chaplaincy and clergy-doctor co-operation.

The Reverend A. C. Oommen of South India taking to a young patient at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Woodville, South Australia.

NEW THRUSTS IN PRACTICAL THEOLOGY MADE IN BRISBANE

FROM A CORRESPONDENT

Brisbane, August 29

An exciting new venture in Clinical Pastoral Training on an inter-denominational basis took place in Brisbane this month.

The first in a series of seminars in the nine-day course included junior clergy and theological students from four denominations.

There were thirteen Presbyterians, six Methodists, five Anglicans and a representative from the Congregationalists.

The course supervisors were the Rev. M. R. Lee (Presbyterian), and the Reverend David Darré, Vice-Principal, S. Francis College.

The course was conducted in clinical pastoral training which is a training for the Presbyterian ministry, the Theological Hall of Emmanuel College, Brisbane, for the past two years.

This year, for the first time, other denominations were invited to participate.

The local Clergy-Doctor Group has been influential in encouraging this co-operation.

Four and a half days of the course were spent at S. Andrew's Hospital and one at S. Francis College. The remaining three and a half days were spent at the Brisbane Special Hospital, Goodna, near Brisbane.

The purpose of the course was to enable the trainees to examine the elements in pastoral ministry to people in crisis situations. The course was conducted by a specialist professional person in the form of a supervised group discussion of the cases presented by students; ward visitation and the writing of case notes.

A BALANCE

This provided a balance between the theory and the practice of clinical and general pastoral ministry.

One feature which was greatly appreciated by all who took part was the ecumenical nature of the course.

A spirit of fellowship and inter-denominational co-operation was fostered.

The realisation was shared that the future of the pastoral ministry in Australia is drawn from the One Source of Revelation, Love.

A further highlight was the opportunity given to hear Dr. How-

ard Clinebell, an American authority in the field of pastoral counselling, well known for his studies in the pastoral ministry to the alcoholic.

HOSPITAL LECTURES

Professor Clinebell, visiting Australia under the auspices of the Clergy-Doctor Group of Australia, spoke at S. Francis College on the subjects of "Counselling the Alcoholic and his Family" and "New Developments in Pastoral Counselling", with some reference to marriage counselling.

Other lectures during the first week included: The Medical Patient, The Aged Person as Patient, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, The Child as Patient, The Surgical Patient, and Social Service Resources and Reference Agencies.

Lectures at the Brisbane Special Hospital included such

topics as: The Modern Psychiatric Hospital; Neuritic Illnesses; Psychotic Illnesses; Mental Illness Associated with Organic Impairment.

Demonstrations of such methods of treatment as Electroconvulsive Therapy, Drug Therapy, and Occupational and Industrial Therapy were given. Seminars were also held relating the work of the pastor to the various types of mental illness.

The course concluded with a seminar dealing with theological issues raised by the course.

Who took part are most grateful to the willing co-operation of the lecturers, hospital authorities and members of staff. It has been an invaluable introduction to a vital aspect of training for the sacred ministry.

This report has been prepared by the Reverend John Noble.

HOLE MISSION EXPLAINED

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

Melbourne, August 29

Last year a team of representatives from the Hole Mission and Extension Department of the Diocese of Melbourne visited almost every parish in the diocese, making contact with the vestries, and explaining in detail the income and the responsibilities of the department.

This year's follow up is on a rural deacons' basis, with a series of dinners, to which the vicar and two representatives of the vestry of each parish have been invited.

The dinners are being spread over a fortnight, as there are now fifteen deaneries in the diocese.

Each gathering begins with a meal, followed by an excellent dinner. The Lay Secretary for Home Missions, Mr. Curtis, then gives a brief résumé of the administration of the department, showing the figures of income, but expenses that follow it up in detail.

INCOME SOURCES

A booklet then circulated to those present gives a clear picture of the sources of income, and the manner in which it is used. This makes clear the importance of adequate support from parishes.

The personal side of the Mission is then emphasised by two speakers engaged in specialist ministries under the direction of Home Missions.

RAPID TURNOVER

At one dinner the Reverend Ian Ellis described his work among delinquents, and his use of an old vicarage to be a rehabilitation centre for some of them.

The Reverend R. Philip, Assistant Chaplain at the Royal Victoria Hospital, also gave some of the aspects of his work, including the high numbers of patients through rapid turnover, and the training of chaplains.

The Venerable R. W. Dunn, Director of Extension, gave an opportunity for the answering of questions. Vestrymen present took supplies of the booklet to pass on to other members of the vestry at their next meeting.

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GERALD STONE, who was correspondent in Viet Nam for *The Australian* last year, asks an answer to these questions:

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DIOCESE INCREASES M.R.I. EFFORTS WANGARATTA SYNOD ADDRESSES

During the past year S. Columba's Hall had trained four men for other dioceses, two of them Torres Strait Islanders for the Bishop of Carpentaria and one a Filipino for the Bishop of Palmyra, the Bishop of Wangaratta, the Right Reverend T. B. McCall, said in his opening address to synod on August 21.

"We have taken men on our own costs, as one way in which we can show our mutual responsibility," he said.

Bishop McCall said more men were being given to work outside the diocese each year and at present a little more was going outside than was spent in the diocese. Last year \$12,000 went to A.B.M., \$2000 to C.M.S., and smaller amounts to various other causes.

\$15,000 was sent to listed M.R.I. projects. The bishop welcomed the appointment of Archbishop Laine as "a man of unusual ability and personal devotion."

He also praised the appointment of the new Bishop of Riverina as "a man of rare quality and spiritual depth." Bishop McCall said *The Australian* newspaper had covered the Sydney environment particularly well.

"It is a paper that frequently irritates me in its editorials, and if sometimes I am unable to restrain myself about its attitude on various subjects that is the more reason for paying tribute to it here."

PAPER VALUES

"Its coverage of news is quite remarkable and I don't know where we would be without it as it is our only regular source of information."

"It takes a lot of courage to start a venture of this sort, and even more to keep going in the face of criticism and comparatively small circulation."

"Nevertheless I am sure that such a paper must remain independent if it is to retain its peculiar value for all."

The bishop said that the Church and Life Movement had done some good in some parishes but in others it had caused difficulty and discontent.

He hoped that the diocese would soon be able to set up its own studies concerning the discerning of the spiritual life. "There are far too many unhelpful criticisms of the Church," he said. "Self-criticism is good, but much of the criticism comes from clunkers who are not objective and semi-specialized work is quite beside the point for its authors have for so long been away from the life of the parish that they have forgotten what it is like."

The primary objective was to build up the worshipping life of the parish.

The Hart Memorial Lectures were to be given annually in the diocese by some outstanding theologian or leader, "not necessarily an Anglican, but preferably an Australian."

A clergy school would be combined with these.

HART LECTURES

The first lecture would be by the Right Reverend F. R. Arnot who would speak on the Broyne Church.

In his Pastoral Charge earlier in Holy Trinity Cathedral, Bishop McCall spoke of our call to show the world the effects of supernatural grace.

Some "pious parties" he said tried to trim their heads to suit what they imagined to be the mood of the modern world.

Others wanted to secularise the Christian faith entirely, "to do away with the parish and reduce Christianity to a kind of ethic."

The only way that had a claim on it was the adventurous way of the Cross.

The bishop spoke of the Religious Life with their their vows of chastity, poverty and

obedience, as positive ways of life, "as a public witness to the vital signs of supernatural grace in a world that desperately needs it."

The Religious Life was one of the "great vocations which were put before every boy and girl as one of the many possible ways of serving God."

Religious communities were power houses of prayer, "their prayer life the fruit of that life of prayer and indeed part of it."

However busy churchpeople would be, they should always have time to develop their life of prayer and contemplation.

The lady should be able to show the world the joy of the supernatural life in Christ; "real holiness is the state to which God calls each and everyone of us."

ANGLICAN OF THE WEEK

Mr. A. C. James, Registrar of the Diocese of Adelaide and Secretary of its Synod and Church Office since 1953, who, on September 1, completes fifty years of service to the diocese.

Mr. James began as a junior in the Church office when he was situated in Leigh Street, Adelaide, on September 1, 1916. He has served continuously on the staff of the Diocesan Church Office, holding in turn all the offices open to a layman in that capacity and has in consequence acquired an unrivalled knowledge and experience in the management of Diocesan affairs.

On the resignation of Mr. Franklin Gill in 1953 Mr. James was appointed Registrar and Secretary of Synod and has given exceptional service.

His courtesy, understanding, capacity for hard work and willingness to work extra hours, are a byword in the diocese.

The Bishop of Adelaide, the Right Reverend T. T. Reed, the Dean of Adelaide, the Very Reverend L. E. W. Renfrey, and the members of the Church Office staff will entertain Mr. James at dinner tonight, September 1, to mark the occasion, and show their appreciation of his remarkable record of service.

Mr. James is also a warden of the Adelaide Guild of St. Peter and Secretary of the Catholic Council.

FAMILY WEEK AT KATOOMBA

The Church Missionary Society will hold district school holidays, a Family Week, at Katoomba, N.S.W., (August 28 to September 4).

Many family groups are planning to share in this holiday week with the Reverend Canon Donald Hood, a C.M.S. minister who is touring Australia, will lead Bible studies.

There will also be visits from other missionaries working in other parts of the world.

TELEVISION REVIEW

was a copy-book piece of controversy. One thing that T.V. can do well is this kind of face-to-face controversy where real issues and real people holding personal opinions are opposed through a chairman who knows how to moderate.

NEW RECTOR OF IPSWICH

The Reverend A. O. Charles, at present Rector of Christ Church, South Brisbane, has accepted appointment as Rector of St. Paul's, Ipswich, and is expected to commence his duties at Ipswich at the beginning of November.

He is to take the place of the Reverend D. W. H. Slaid, who is to become Rector of Christ Church, South Melbourne, in October.

Mr. Charles was formerly a member of the Bush Brotherhood of St. Paul 1952-54, chaplain of the Anglican Hospital 1954-56, and has been a member of St. Paul's, Ipswich, since 1958.

He is a member of the Diocesan Council, Diocesan Procession and Justice Board and Diocesan Board of Christian Education.

He is also well-known as the producer of the religious television programme *Anglican Australia*.

I think the Anglican priest was the star. Within the limits of time and audience he was well aired, and, perhaps the most important CONCLUSION REACHED: A general conclusion would have robbed this programme of its thought-provoking effect.

FIRM OPINIONS
I'm sure that all our C.T.A. producers and directors could have learned a great deal from this programme.

An audience not interested in a group of persons playing out at discussing sub-issues. But when an audience is offered a "hot argument, two or three informed people whose views are aired, and a chairman who is not one of the "right" conclusion be reached, or even that the "right" person come out on top, the audience will stay with it, write objectionable letters.

RETURN FROM BURMA

INDIGENOUS BISHOP TO BE DIOCESAN
ANGELICUS NEWS SERVICE

London, August 29
Four Anglican missionaries who were ordered to leave Burma have arrived in Britain, the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel announced last week.

The missionaries were Vere Wheeler, Miss Dorothy Lewis, Miss Ann Rust, and Miss Margery Gillett.

Missionaries from abroad are now banned from entering Burma.

In a statement the U.S.P.G. said: "The Burmese government has made no secrecy of its policy to send all foreigners out of the country, and the English bishop and missionaries are being expelled for the day when their turn would come."

BISHOP AH MYA

"None of them seen their expulsion as a disaster, or as a loss of Christianity. They point out that not just the missionaries, but the holders of foreign registration certificates were asked to leave."

The former Bishop of Rangoon, the Right Reverend Victor Shekharin, B.A., is also on his way back to England.

A former Assistant bishop, the Right Reverend Dr. Mya, will be enthroned this month as Rangoon's first indigenous Diocesan Bishop.

There is another Burmese bishop and eighty indigenous priests.

BISHOP OF DURHAM

ANGELICUS NEWS SERVICE
London, August 22
Canon T. T. Rames, Northampton of the Christian Reformed Church, has been approved by the Queen for nomination as Bishop of Durham to succeed Dr. Marjorie Harland, who resigns on August 31.

Professor Rames has been a fellow of Oriel College since 1951. Canon Theologian of Leicester Cathedral since 1944, and Director, Lambeth Theological Institute, since 1964.

He might have been directly stated.

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