



"Sound an alarm: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand."

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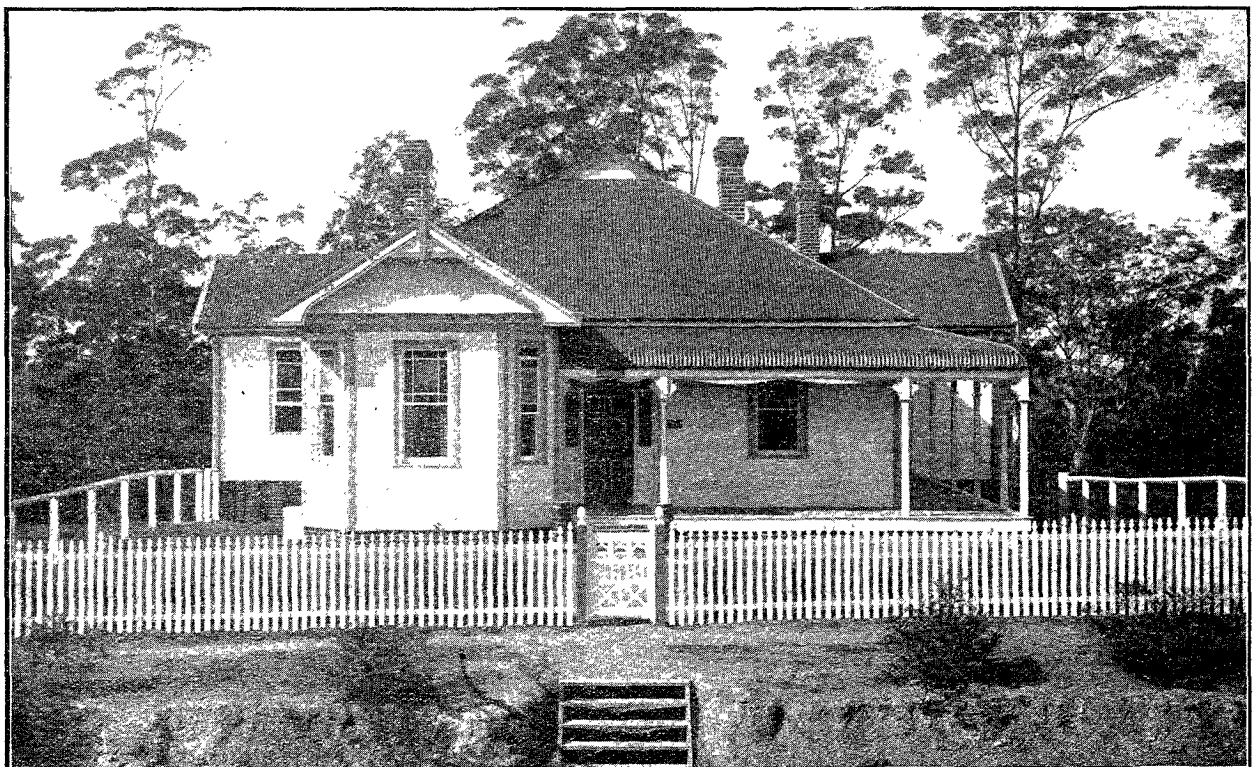
President's Report

For the Quadrennial Period, June 30, 1910 to June 30, 1914

WE are now assembled at the ninth session of the Australasian Union Conference. To our delegates from the many divisions of the field we extend greetings. This will be the most widely represented conference we have ever held. Besides the delegates, there is a large number of our brethren

and sisters who, at their own expense, have come to this meeting to take part with us in the business transacted, and to receive the benefits and blessings which it is hoped that this meeting will bring to all. To these visiting brethren and sisters we extend a cordial invitation to be present at the meeting, and trust that they may receive much help.

We are greatly privileged in having with us Pastor A. G. Daniells, President of the General



Australasian Union Conference Office, Wahroonga

Conference, and I am sure that I voice the sentiments of all the delegates, and of all the visiting brethren and sisters, when I say that we extend to Pastor Daniells a most hearty welcome.

How rapidly the four years have passed since our last meeting! The exact record of all the years of victory and defeat is written on high, and we cannot recall those pages, either to fill or to erase; but we are privileged at this time to review the past, to gather up fresh courage from God's dealings with His people during these years of toil, and we can also learn lessons from the mistakes we have made. As we stand at the end of these years and glance backward over the quadrennial period, and then outward to the great field which God has given to us as our vineyard, we have our vision refixed, and as we hear the reports, our hearts are encouraged and our faith is revived.

"Faith cometh by hearing." Not only does faith come by hearing God's written Word, but God speaks also through His providences, and no doubt as we listen to our conference presidents, our departmental secretaries, our institutional managers, and our island missionaries, as they report for their respective fields, we shall, by the facts, figures, and notes of progress, have our faith, courage, and enthusiasm strengthened. It ought to be so.

As we take a retrospective glance, the four years have witnessed a number of changes and advance moves, some of which we shall briefly enumerate.

First, by the transfer of the East Indian Archipelago our conference represents forty million fewer people, but we still represent a vast territory of varied peoples, with more languages and dialects, possibly, than is represented in any other Union Conference in the world. Many island groups, with hundreds of languages and dialects, are still left to us, and we have, without doubt, one of the most interesting mission fields in the world.

INDIAN MISSION, FIJI

While we no longer operate in the Indies, we have an Indian mission within our borders. Fiji is fast becoming Orientalized by the yearly importation of a large number of the natives of India. They are brought out under contract to work on the sugar plantations and in the sugar mills. The sugar industry has become a mammoth affair in Fiji. There are a number of large mills, one being the largest in the world. In Fiji there are about sixty thousand Indians, nearly two-thirds of the population of Fiji. To these needy people we must send the gospel of the love of God. We were fortunate in securing the services of Sister E. Meyers to start this work. A mission building has been erected in a delightful spot in close proximity to large Indian settlements. Brother T. Driver now joins Sister Meyers in this new work. For about eighteen months Sister Meyers has toiled on alone, but friends have been won and the outlook is encouraging.

MISSION FOR THE ABORIGINES

During the quadrennial period our work for the aboriginal tribes of Australia has been taken up.

First a start was made at Baramba, near Murgon, Queensland, but we found this an unsatisfactory location. Last year a tract of four thousand acres at Monamona, near Cairns, was secured from the Government, and Brethren Rudge, Branford, and Roy, with their wives, have been toiling under many difficulties to erect buildings for themselves and the natives, and to make a start in planting. Teaching is being carried forward. About twelve hundred pounds has already been expended in buildings, cattle, and equipment. Brother Branford hopes to make the place largely self-supporting in the near future. Over one hundred and seventy-five natives are on the mission premises. There are many perplexities attending this work, but God counts these coloured people as precious souls purchased with the blood of His Son. No sacrifice we can make to save them is too great. We are sorry Brother Branford cannot be present with us.

LORD HOWE ISLAND

This small dot in the Pacific of five square miles of land, which supports a population of about one hundred souls, lies almost equidistant between Sydney and Norfolk, or about five hundred miles from Australia. Just at the time when our missionaries were on their way to the New Hebrides, and were spending a profitable visit on Norfolk during the early months of 1912, Brother Ferris visited Lord Howe and followed up an interest which has resulted in a company of Sabbath-keepers, thus setting up a light along the path to Norfolk and the New Hebrides.

NEW HEBRIDES

This new mission enterprise was started under Pastor Parker's leadership about two years ago. Much interest was awakened in the hearts of God's people, and many prayers followed our loyal missionaries as they took up the work in *this new* field among dark heathen tribes. Much labour has been expended by our missionaries in seeking a location and in erecting buildings. The dread malaria has repeatedly attacked our workers there, and after much suffering Brother and Sister H. E. Carr were compelled to retire from the field. It has no doubt been a trying time for Brother and Sister Parker, who, for a time, were left alone. Not only were disease and lonely isolation to be reckoned with, but an uprising of the savages of Malekula, and the massacre of native missionaries right in sight of our mission must have been a terrible object lesson of what the heathen is "in his blindness." But God has been with our workers, and their report will be listened to with great interest.

NIUE, OR SAVAGE ISLAND

We had hoped to report at this conference that our missionaries had made a beginning in Savage Island, but the sickness of their little child has hindered Brother and Sister Giblett going forward, and, consequently, Sister Vai Kerisome, who had left Sydney to join Brother and Sister Giblett, is detained in New Zealand, awaiting some new appointments to be made to Niue, we hope, at this conference.

SOLOMON ISLANDS MISSION

At our last Union Conference Council it was definitely decided to start work in the dark, heathen, cannibal Solomon Islands. Pastor G. F. Jones and wife, who have had wide missionary experience, volunteered to pioneer the way in this benighted group. After spending some time at the sanitarium, where Brother and Sister Jones did excellent service among the patients and workers, they sailed from Sydney on May 15, by the *Mindini*.

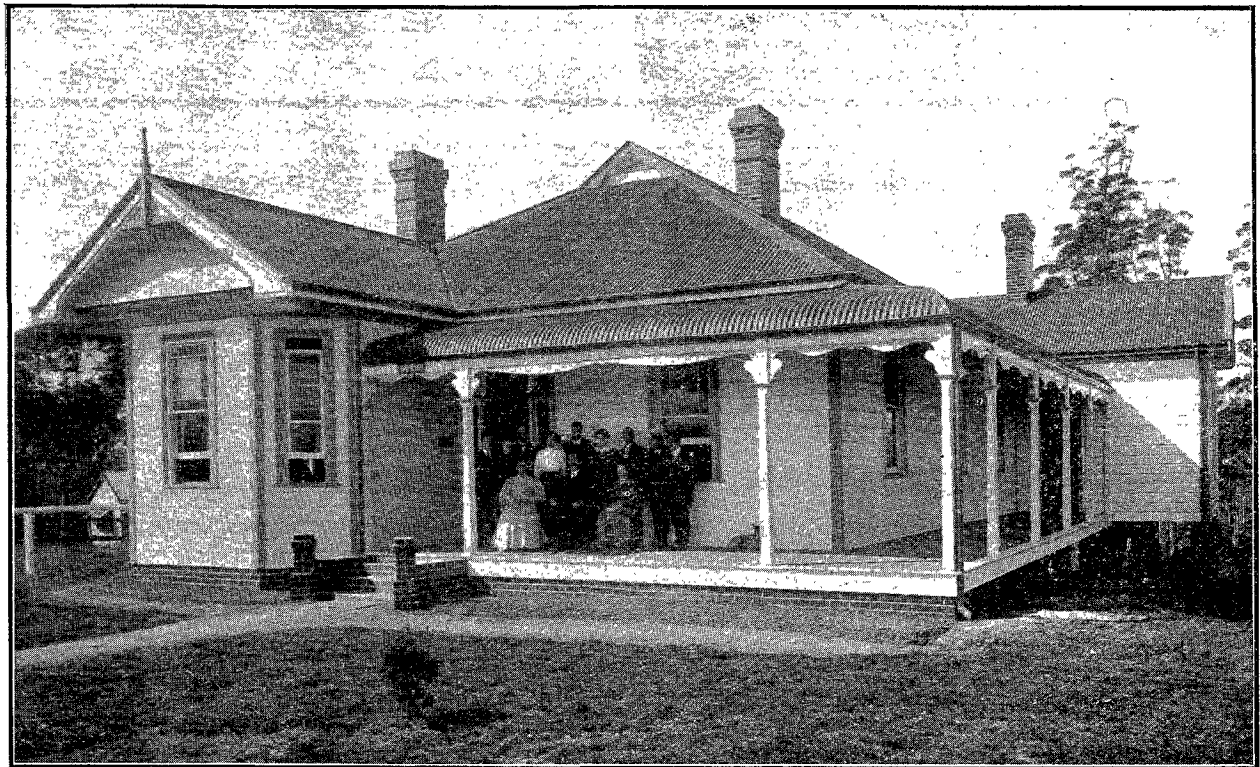
A small portable house, also a mission vessel, ketch-rigged, of eight tons and having auxiliary power, was built and well-fitted and sent with

are glad that God has laid on some the burden to work in these uninviting lands.

In groups already entered we are making advance moves. In the Cook Group, Brother and Sister Sterling have entered the island of Aitutaki, where a company has been raised up.

Mangaia, in the same group, has been entered by Brother and Sister Streeter. Thus two more beacon lights have been set up in Eastern Polynesia.

In Fiji the work has recently been started on the island of Taviuni, "the Garden of Fiji," and a successful mission has been carried forward there by our native evangelist, Joni Lui.



Another View of Union Conference Office

Brother and Sister Jones. With these conveniences, it is hoped that our beloved missionaries may have some comfort as they move from place to place in starting the work. Letters report a favourable reception by the Administrator, and our workers are to locate upon the island of New Georgia.

Thus we have entered virgin territory in three island fields, New Guinea, the New Hebrides, and the Solomons; and not only are they virgin fields, but here our missionaries labour among the raw heathen, where cannibalism is practised, inter-tribal wars are frequent, and club law is the only rule. Great tact, much patience, and an abundance of grace are necessary on the part of those who labour for such benighted souls. We

During the past four years, missionaries have gone to New Guinea, the New Hebrides, the Solomons, Fiji, Lord Howe, Samoa, Tonga, Raiatea, Mangaia, Indian Mission in Fiji, Pitcairn, and to the Monamona Mission for the Australian aborigines. The third angel's message is now published, preached, or spoken in the following languages in our field: English and German in Australia, English and Maori in New Zealand, Motuan in New Guinea, New Hebridean, Fijian, Samoan, Niuean, Tongan, Rarotongan, Tahitian, and in Indian in Fiji. Soon Brother and Sister Jones will be proclaiming the message in one of the 100 Solomon Island dialects.

Some idea of the many languages and dialects spoken in our island field may be gleaned from the fact that there are 100 dialects in the Solo-

mons, numerous dialects in the New Hebrides and New Guinea, not to speak of the languages in the many unentered fields, which must soon be learned as well. Perhaps no other Union in the world has such a varied field as the Australasian Union. As to mental characteristics and the susceptibilities of the people, our field represents the dominant progressive European peoples of Australia and New Zealand; the most intelligent and vigorous natives of Polynesia; the less attractive races of Micronesia and Melanesia, down to the unpromising aboriginal of Australia. But they are all blood-bought souls, and every island and country present interesting fields for missionary conquest. Here our young men and women have every opportunity to display their enthusiasm and their God-given talents in pioneering the way for the closing message.

OUR ISLAND LITERATURE

Several new books have been published in the island languages during the past quadrennial period: "Bible Readings" in Fijian, Rarotongan, Maori, and Samoan; "Christ's Object Lessons" in Rarotongan, and "Thoughts on Daniel" in Tahitian. Besides the tracts that are printed in most of the above languages, we print our papers regularly in Fijian, Tongan, Rarotongan, Samoan, Maori, and Tahitian. This has kept our translators busy, and has brought a considerable amount of work to the college press, where all this island literature is printed. During the past four years, mission houses have been built in New Guinea, the New Hebrides, Fiji, and on Aitutaki, besides a mission launch for the New Hebrides and an auxiliary ketch and a portable house of two rooms, for the Solomon Islands. Thus it will be seen that some effort and activity has been shown in our island field.

Late letters tell us of the first baptized convert from the wilds of New Guinea; of a turning towards the light among the savages of Atchin in the New Hebrides; of Aitutaki, where we now have a company of Aitutakian Sabbath-keepers; and of a start made on Mangaia.

Considerable attention has been given to our mission fields, and only the briefest reference will be made to the work in the homeland. Perhaps this is well, for our home work is usually fully and strongly represented at yearly local conferences and councils by presidents, managers, and delegates.

We are glad to speak of overflowing schools, of good patronage at our sanitariums, and of great activity in the publishing houses. We are pleased to hear of the successful evangelical missions held in different states of the Commonwealth and in New Zealand, and we are extremely grateful to note the rising tide of missionary activity in our churches. It is yet far from what it ought to be, but there is a movement in the "top of the mulberry trees," and there is no sign so hopeful, no omen more sure that God's people are rising to finish the work, and that soon the battle will be won. A thrill is seen and felt, life answereth to life—activity above as Christ finishes His work,

and activity within the church as she finishes her work.

We would speak in particular of the great work done by our noble canvassing bands all over Australia and New Zealand. Not only have they sold tens of thousands of books, thus placing in the hands of the people the message-filled literature, but our colporteurs are evangelists, actually bringing a number of people into the message by their frequent heart-to-heart talks and studies.

The mention of cafe work may be suggestive of food and drink, and make one dream of nuts and cereals, but this work is not all "meat and drink." God has spoken of the importance of this work, and the truth of what He said could be done in these lines, has been demonstrated. Thousands of the best and busiest people of our largest cities thus come in contact with our work. Much credit is due to the untiring efforts of our cafe workers, who toil to feed the multitudes with temporal bread in order that they may be led to partake of the Bread of Life.

Considerable activity has been manifested in the Religious Liberty and Press Bureau Departments. The Bible in state schools question, has called forth several campaigns of active work in the distribution of literature. Temperance campaigns have also been carried forward both in New Zealand and in Australia, which have brought our work favourably before the best and cleverest of our citizens.

The good work done in our Missionary Volunteer Department cannot be overestimated. An army of young people are giving their energies to this great work. Their personal work at home, and their liberal offerings on behalf of the foreign work, make them a great factor in giving the message to the world. And who can measure the good done in holding the young people to the message, and in winning the unconverted?

Neither can the good be calculated which is done in our Sabbath-school Department. We are glad of the efficient help rendered by a long list of teachers, superintendents, and secretaries in our state and union mission schools. All our delegates and our brethren and sisters will be pleased to see that there has been a steady increase in our offerings to missions from year to year.

In conclusion I wish to express my appreciation of the hearty co-operation I have received from the brethren with whom I have laboured during this quadrennial term; and now as we turn over our responsibility to the assembled conference, it is with the prayer that God Himself may preside, and guide all the delegates in their deliberations.

J. E. FULTON.

Treasurer's Report

IT is with renewed courage and confidence in God and His message for to-day, and with deep gratitude for His blessings and mercies, that this report is presented. As we have compiled the figures for the year just closed, and have compared them with those of former years, we cannot fail to see evidences of

the prospering hand, yes, and the *guiding* hand, of God in it all.

Since our last conference in 1910, the Australasian Union has "come of age," so to speak. Then we were receiving an annual subsidy of £1,745 per annum from the General Conference. Now we are not only entirely self-supporting, but during the past fiscal year we have paid the expenses of two couples sent to China, and the wages of one of these workers for one year. This amounted in all to £302. Not only so, but we have paid £226 to assist in establishing the denominational college of medicine of Loma Linda, California. On December 31, 1911, the Malaysian field was transferred by arrangement to the General Conference. This somewhat reduced our expenditure for the time, but our energies were directed to other fields which had not then been

Not only has there been an advance in the amounts raised, but we have taken decided advance steps in the organization of the financial side of our work. When the needs of the General Conference demanded the cessation of their appropriation to Australasia, our state conferences voted to appropriate a second tithe of their tithe to the Union work. This plan came into operation in 1911.

Receipts to June 30, 1911, were	...	...	£583	14	9
" July 1, 1911, to June 30, 1912, were	£1,475	18	9		
" " 1, 1912, " " 1913, "	£1,644	14	9		
" " 1, 1913, " " 1914, "	£1,701	17	3		
Total			£5,406	5	6

It will be seen from these figures that the second tithe now reaches to almost the amount formerly received from the General Conference.



Approach to Union Conference Office, showing Church-School and Homes of Union Conference Officers, with the Sanitarium in Background

entered, and to-day our annual expenditure is almost £2,500 more than that for the year 1910 when we were receiving General Conference assistance to the extent of £1,745.

At the time the Malaysian field was turned over, the tithe receipts therefrom had grown to about £272 per annum. Thus the transfer occasioned a slight fall in our receipts for a year or two as will be seen from the tabular statement of receipts appended; but to-day our receipts are a little more than £2,000 per annum in excess of those of 1910, or counting out the General Conference appropriation, £3,766 in excess, an increase of forty-two and one-half per cent. For the four years, the total receipts of amounts raised in this field alone reach the large sum of £48,178, or a little over £1,000 per month. Of this sum, £14,263 is tithe.

The next advance step was taken in 1912, when from January 1 a plan known as the "Sustentation Fund for the support of sick and aged workers and their widows and children" was inaugurated. Two and one-half per cent of the tithe received is by this plan set aside specifically for the purposes of the fund, which is controlled by the Union. To date, our receipts have been £1,388 3s. 1d., and our disbursements £725 17s. 10d.

The third advance step is one which has solved the much discussed problem of the proper support of our church-school teachers, and has brought new life and courage into this department. At the council held in 1913 it was voted that a tithe of the annual profits of our institutions be paid to the Union Conference to be disbursed by vote of the Executive Committee to subsidize the salaries

of our church-school teachers. The arrangement, briefly, is that the local conferences arrange for the wages up to 25s. per week, and that the amounts paid in excess of this be met from the Union fund. In addition to this the fund is being used to assist our young people who are eligible, to secure registration as teachers in the states where this is necessary. This first year of operating the plan we received £356 19s. 10d. and expended £64 13s. 2d. From July 1, 1914, our grants have considerably increased, and we expect that they will run well over £200 for the year. The expense reported above covers a portion of the year only.

The opening of the New Hebrides, Solomon Islands, and Monamona missions, during the fiscal year just ended, has called for a heavy outlay, and has run our expenditure for the year considerably over our receipts. But for some years our good brethren, through their Sabbath-school offerings, have been providing a "war chest" for each of these fields. Thus we have been able to equip Brethren Parker and Jones with splendid auxiliary launches built especially to meet the needs of each. We have also been able to meet the constant calls from our brethren engaged in the work for the aborigines at Monamona.

During the past year there has been a small falling off in our fourth Sabbath and annual offerings, and probably the wonderful increase in our Sabbath-school offerings is to some extent responsible for this. Otherwise there has been advance all along the line. The command "go forward" is still sounding, and we have every assurance that it will meet the same loyal and hearty response from our dear brethren that it has met in the past, until the third angel's message shall have been carried to every island of the Pacific, and our burden shall have been laid down.

CECIL H. PRETYMAN.

Comparative Statement of Receipts

	1911	1912	1913	1914
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
General Tithe	3198 16 3	3404 18 1½	3802 4 8	3500 2 3
Second Tithe	675 14 9½	1475 18 9½	1644 14 9½	1701 17 2
Institutional Tithe				356 19 10
Mission Tithe	655 14 7½	622 7 5	602 13 9	633 7 9
	4530 5 8	5503 4 4	6049 13 2½	6192 7 0
Annual Offerings	919 9 9	862 11 0½	911 6 3½	889 0 3½
Fourth-Sabbath Offerings	1084 11 5½	1294 1 0½	1175 14 8	1158 7 9
Island Mission Offerings	864 0 1½	412 15 9½	492 7 8	224 9 4
Book Account	11 10 5	6 9 9½	7 15 3	4 1 6
	2879 11 9	2575 17 8	258, 3 10½	2275 18 10½
General Conf. Approp'n	1745 7 8	1745 7 8		
" " " Special	205 9 11			
Sabbath-School Offerings	2279 7 3	2619 12 9½	2926 2 7½	3172 9 5
Young People's Offerings	724 13 6	744 11 11½	871 8 0	837 3 0
	3004 0 9	3364 4 9	3797 10 7½	4009 12 5
Donations from Missions	191 11 8½	272 11 8	44 6 7	102 12 1
Mission School Fees	45 9 3	30 0 4	89 12 7	
Braille Fund	99 14 10	117 1 8	59 0 7½	50 16 1
	336 15 9½	419 13 8	192 19 9½	153 8 2
	£12701 11 6½	£13608 8 1	£12627 7 6	£12631 6 5½

Educational Department

THAT gifted and humorous writer and lexicographer, Samuel Johnson, who was a singularly observant student of human nature, is said to have made the following piquant remark: "Much may be made of a Scotchman if he be caught young." This witty proverb contains a world of truth; but its application belongs not only to Scotchmen, but also to all men; and it is therefore applicable to our own boys and girls. If we are to make much of our own boys and girls, we must catch them young. In youth the character is moulded for life's activities, and it is therefore in life's springtime that the mind should be trained to right thinking.

William James, the eminent psychologist, makes very clear how closely right thinking is related to right living. In his "Talks to Teachers on Psychology," he says:

"If, then, you are asked, *In what does a moral act consist* when reduced to its simplest and most elementary form? you can make only one reply. You can say that *it consists in the effort of attention by which we hold fast to an idea*, which, but for that effort of attention, would be driven out of the mind by the other psychological tendencies that are there. *To think*, in short, is the secret of will, just as it is the secret of memory.

"This comes out very clearly in the kind of excuse which we most frequently hear from persons who find themselves confronted by the sinfulness or harmfulness of some part of their behaviour. 'I never *thought*,' they say. 'I never *thought* how mean that action was, I never *thought* of these abominable consequences.' And what do we retort when they say this? We say, 'Why didn't you think?' And we read them a moral lecture on their irreflectiveness.

"The hackneyed example of moral deliberation is the case of an habitual drunkard under temptation. He has made a resolve to reform, but he is now solicited again by the bottle. His moral triumph or failure literally consists in his finding the right *name* for the case. If he says it is a case of not wasting good liquor already poured out, or a case of not being churlish or unsociable when in the midst of friends, or a case of learning something at last about a brand of whisky which he had never met before, or a case of celebrating a public holiday, or a case of stimulating himself to a more energetic resolve in favour of abstinence than any he has ever yet made, then he is lost. His choice of the wrong name seals his doom. But if, in spite of all the plausible good names with which his thirsty fancy so copiously furnishes him, he unwaveringly clings to the truer bad name, and apperceives the case as that of 'being a drunkard, being a drunkard, being a drunkard,' his feet are planted on the road to salvation. He saves himself by thinking rightly.

"Thus are your pupils to be saved; first, by the stock of ideas with which you furnish them; second, by the amount of voluntary attention that they can exert in holding to the right ones, however unpalatable.

table; and, third, by the several habits of acting definitely upon these latter to which they have been successfully trained."

It must be self-evident that there never was a time in the world's history when it was more essential that the characters of our youth should receive a right mould than now. We are face to face with new perils peculiar to this generation. Our moral fibre is weakened as a natural result of the race-degeneracy which is so marked a feature of present-day conditions. We are beset with manifold temptations which are peculiarly adapted for entrapping the unwary. Under the cloak of religion, philanthropy, public morality, or some other subtle and innocent-looking device for turning our children from their allegiance to their Creator, the enemy of souls is constantly at work. To detect the true import of his devices the mind must be trained thoroughly in the points of truth which alone will make the young proof against these temptations.

Much of the education given in the schools of the world is totally unfitted for this purpose. Self-seeking is the motive behind most of the education which is now imparted to the young. "From the child's earliest years," we are told by the servant of the Lord, "it is an appeal to emulation and rivalry; it fosters selfishness, the root of all evil."

"Thus is created strife for supremacy; and there is encouraged the system of 'cramming' which in so many cases destroys health and unfits for usefulness. In many others, emulation leads to dishonesty; and by fostering ambition and discontent, it embitters the life, and helps to fill the world with those restless, turbulent spirits that are a continual menace to society."

"Nor does danger pertain to methods only. It is found also in the subject-matter of the studies."

"What are the works on which, throughout the most susceptible years of life, the minds of the youth are led to dwell? In the study of language and literature, from what fountains are the youth taught to drink?—From the wells of paganism; from springs fed by the corruptions of ancient heathendom. They are bidden to study authors, of whom, without dispute, it is declared that they have no regard for the principles of morality."

"And of how many modern authors also might the same be said! With how many are grace and beauty of language but a disguise for principles that in their real deformity would repel the reader!"

"Besides these there is a multitude of fiction writers, luring to pleasant dreams and palaces of ease. These writers may not be open to the charge of immorality, yet their work is no less really fraught with evil. It is robbing thousands upon thousands of the time and energy and self-discipline demanded by the stern problems of life."

"In the study of science, as generally pursued, there are dangers equally great. Evolution and its kindred errors are taught in schools of every grade, from the kindergarten to the college. Thus the study of science, which should impart a knowledge of God, is so mingled with the speculations and theories of men that it tends to infidelity."

"Even Bible study, as too often conducted in the schools, is robbing the world of the priceless treasure of the Word of God. The work of 'higher criticism,' in conjecturing, dissecting, reconstructing, is destroying faith in the Bible as a divine revelation; it is robbing God's Word of power to control, uplift, and inspire human lives."

"With such teaching given at the very outset of life, when impulse is strongest, and the demand for self-restraint and purity is most urgent, where are the safeguards of virtue? What is to prevent the world from becoming a second Sodom?"

"At the same time anarchy is seeking to sweep away all law, not only divine, but human. The centralizing of wealth and power; the vast combinations for the enriching of the few at the expense of the many; the combinations of the poorer classes for the defence of their interests and claims; the spirit of unrest, of riot and bloodshed; the world-wide dissemination of the same teachings that led to the French Revolution,—all are tending to involve the whole world in a struggle similar to that which convulsed France."

"Such are the influences to be met by the youth of to-day. To stand amidst such upheavals they are now to lay the foundations of character."

In view of all this it is surely incumbent upon us to bestir ourselves upon the great question of education. Shall we permit our children to drink of the murky rivers of Sihor instead of the pure waters of Lebanon? Shall we not make strenuous efforts to establish schools for our children, and to develop a large corps of efficient teachers who shall possess the requisite knowledge to train our children in the principles of righteousness, that they may stand true to the message amid the perils of these last days?

It has been said that "a boy is better unborn than untaught," but a boy is surely better untaught than to be taught the infidelity of the modern scholastic system. If our children are to be educated, shall we not give them that which we know will make them wise unto salvation?

THE PRESENT STANDING OF OUR EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

To summarize briefly the standing of our educational work throughout the Union Conference, it may be stated that we have fourteen church-schools, having a total enrolment of 283 pupils, eighty-four of whom are not Seventh-day Adventist children. We have thirteen church-school buildings, and the schools are under the care of sixteen teachers, whose salaries total approximately twenty-two pounds a week.

Our three training schools have this year a total enrolment of 264 students, with twenty-two teachers. This does not include our training school for native workers at Buresala, Fiji, which has this year forty-four students, under the instruction of three European teachers and one native teacher. We must also take into account our elementary schools in other parts of the mission field. On Pitcairn Island we have a school of sixty pupils; at Monamona mission there is a school of over thirty-five aborigine

children: on the Ra Coast of Fiji a native teacher conducts a school of twenty pupils; and we have also a small school in the New Hebrides, and a day-school for Indian children carried on by Sister Meyers in Fiji. Thus we have throughout our Union Conference twenty-three schools with an attendance of 742 students, under the supervision of fifty teachers.

A. W. ANDERSON, *Educational Secretary.*

Australasian Missionary College

DURING the quadrennial period since the previous Union Conference, the Australasian Missionary College has been greatly favoured with innumerable blessings bestowed upon every department.

advancement both mentally and spiritually. During the four years, forty-eight students have been graduated from the college courses, and of these thirty-eight have entered the work. Also thirty-two who did not complete a course, but spent a period of time here, are actively engaged in spreading the message.

The health of the students is good, and no serious accidents have occurred to mar the general well-being. With a few exceptions, the system and regularity, early retiring hour, and wholesome duty, have had a marked beneficial effect, physical and spiritual, upon the students.

Also the teachers have had the pleasure of seeing verified the promises in "Counsels to Teachers," page 104. "It is the privilege of the faithful



Young Ladies' Hall

Panoramic View of the

Difficulties great and numerous there have been, and undoubtedly will continue to be, but all these disappear, or are surmounted, one by one, as the Lord gives us grace and strength to continue day by day.

During this period an addition consisting of twelve bedrooms and a large parlour capable of seating one hundred students, has been added to the Boys' Hall. Also a much needed primary school has been erected, that will accommodate fifty or sixty children. These facilities are much appreciated, and already we wonder how the college did without them so long.

The attendance each year has been good, and the closing months of this year find the boarding halls practically full, and also six students in the Retreat, and six in teachers' cottages. There is also a large enrolment of day students. The success of the institution, however, is not to be measured by its enrolment. We are glad to report

teacher to reap day by day the visible results of his patient, persevering labour of love. It is his to watch the growth of the tender plants as they bud, blossom, and bear fruit of order, punctuality, faithfulness, thoroughness, and true nobility of character. It is his to see a love for truth and right growing and strengthening in these children and youth for whom he is held responsible. What can give him greater returns than to see his pupils developing characters that will make them noble and useful men and women, fitted to occupy positions of responsibility and trust,—men and women who in the future will wield a power to hold in check evil influences, and help in dispelling the moral darkness of the world."

A number of improvements have been made to the plant and the estate. A paddock of about seven acres has been cleared and put in crop. A block of 700 acres, formerly unutilized, has been fenced, and is now used for pasturing young and

dry stock. Also a silo with a capacity of 100 tons has been constructed from hardwood planks cut on the place, and an ensilage cutter purchased. Two double furrow ploughs, a disc and a mould board, a seed drill, and a bullock wagon have been added to the farm implements.

The rainfall in this district is usually good, but for several years past it has almost all fallen during the two or three months of the autumn or winter. This caused a grave shortage of water during the long summer, and much difficulty was experienced in securing sufficient for domestic purposes and the stock; also it was impossible to provide the college with vegetables unless water for irrigation was obtainable. To provide this, a weir has been built across Sandy Creek to keep back the

suction gas plant installed in place of the old steam engine. This drives the dynamo at a very small cost, and the electricity can be utilized for power during the day.

For all these advantages we feel exceedingly thankful to the Lord who has opened the hearts of the brethren to provide the college with such facilities, and we thank Him for His blessing continually with us.

The printing office and the food factory become more and more busy each year, affording constant employment to a large number of students. The time certainly is not far distant when every young man and every young woman in Australasia, desirous of obtaining an education that will fit him or her for the work, will have no excuse for not obtaining it.



Chapel

Young Men's Hall

Australasian Missionary College

salt water, and to retain the fresh which runs freely in winter. So far this is successful. Also a pump has been put in at the Avondale bridge, behind the Retreat, where there is a limited supply of fresh water always running, and from there a three-inch pipe is being laid one mile to the college. From these two sources it is expected that sufficient water will be obtained for washing, bathing, and irrigating purposes.

As the number of students yearly increased, the difficulty of doing their washing and ironing became greater, so a steam washing plant has been installed, and work that formerly occupied ten or twelve girls can now be done by four or five with much greater ease. The plant consists of a small steam boiler, a washer, a hydro-extractor, a mangle and ironer; also a number of electric flatirons are to be put in.

The old method of producing the electric light by steam power has been abandoned, and a fine new

The faithful work done by teachers and students in years gone by, has helped to develop an institution of which the denomination may well be proud, and which offers facilities and advantages for obtaining an education that in many respects cannot be excelled.

G. TEASDALE.

Darling Range School

"GIVE unto the Lord the glory due unto His name: bring an offering, and come into His courts." This is the language of our hearts as we are brought, by the Lord's goodness, to the close of another quadrennial period. Day after day, and week after week throughout this period, the prospering hand of God has been witnessed.

Since the school was opened in 1907, 120 students have entered it. Of these, eighty have become baptized members of the church. We may further add that eighteen of these students left the school

within a year; fifteen are now engaged in the work; thirty-nine are still in training; three are in training at the Sydney Sanitarium; four are at the Australasian Missionary College; one is in America; three are earning money to return to school; nine have left the truth; nineteen have married; one is sleeping in the grave; and one is working in the foreign field.

Thus far, only three students have finished the intermediate course; thirteen have finished the preparatory course; and ten or eleven expect to finish the preparatory course this year. We are sorry to say that a number of students do not stay with us long enough to enable them to finish even the preparatory course. However, we are glad to report that many of them have their eyes steadfastly set on the Lord's work, and they are aiming at having a part in the work some day. The enrolment, year by year, has been: 1907, fourteen; 1908, twenty-one; 1909, thirty-six; 1910, forty-seven; 1911, fifty; 1912, thirty-two; 1913, fifty-one; and 1914, forty.

During the quadrennial period, some changes have taken place in the faculty. Early in 1912, Brother R. W. Brown resigned his position as principal, and, with his wife, returned to the United States. The writer took his place. Miss K. E. Giblett took Sister Brown's place as matron and preceptress, which position she still holds. Brother E. Behrens, who was preceptor and farm manager, was called into the Bible work, and Brother C. E. Ashcroft has taken his place. Miss L. M. Davies joined the school at the close of 1912, and this year Brother Mountain was called into Union Conference work as auditor. Miss A. M. Smith, a former student, joined the faculty this year.

The food factory, store, and garden are in charge of ex-students, Brethren G. Hodder and W. H. Lee.

In financial matters the Lord has greatly blessed the school during the past four years. The farm, which has been extended each year, has brought £1,537 into the treasury through the sales of fruit and vegetables. On January 1, 1908, the net worth of the school was £1,081 18s. 4d.; on January 1, 1914, it had increased to £3,794 11s. 4½d. During the quadrennial period, the average gain in the different departments has been: boarding department, £68; farm, £109; residence and tuition, £266; store £24; food factory, £88; and shop, £8.

We are glad and thankful to say that the Union Conference has taken in hand the finishing of the interior of the main building, and the renovating of the Boys' Hall. We wish to assure the brethren that the completion of these very necessary works has given great satisfaction to the faculty, and is much appreciated by the students. If the buildings could now be painted on the outside, they would appear very presentable. A much-needed laundry has been fitted up. A large, concrete cistern to hold the surplus rain-water from the roof, has been built. A top has been constructed over this, and it is now ready for use. This will be a valuable asset to the school.

Near the centre of the orchard a dam has been built. This catches and retains the water from our

never-failing spring. It has been of good service for irrigation purposes, but it is hoped that by enlarging the dam, and thus increasing the water supply, we shall be able to instal an irrigation plant. By means of an engine, pump, and reticulations, the upper reaches of the school farm could be made to produce vegetables during the long, dry summer of the West. These would return a good profit to the school. If properly worked, such a plant should pay for itself the first season. We hope the time will soon come when the dangerous and antiquated kerosene lamps will be replaced by a proper system of lighting. During the past four years, we have spent nearly one hundred pounds on kerosene, lamps, and lamp chimneys, and even then the light is poor, and trying to the eyes.

We have been obliged, during the past two years, to put book-rests on our chapel chairs as an apology for desks. We trust that soon we shall be able to furnish our chapel and class-rooms with proper desks, and also to add other needed facilities.

During the quadrennial period, we have had to use £176 from our ordinary income to partially complete our unfinished buildings. This money should have gone into our school equipment, to enable our teachers and students to do better work.

In closing, I wish to say that during my two years' stay at the school, I have greatly appreciated the loyal and faithful assistance of my fellow-workers. While the work has been strenuous, their cheerful spirit has done much to smooth the way. The outlook for the future is encouraging, and we trust the Lord will so bless the school and all connected with it, that a great work will be done for Him. To this end, we consecrate ourselves anew to our tasks. W. J. SMITH, *Principal*.

Oroua Missionary School, New Zealand

DURING the past four years our school work in the New Zealand Conference has been passing through a critical time, but I am thankful to report that the crisis now seems to be passed, and there are evidences of better days. The Lord has certainly watched over His work and those connected with it in this department, and it is only His blessing that has enabled the school to survive.

In March, 1912, the former property of the school at Cambridge was disposed of, and steps were taken to obtain a site in a more central and easily accessible location. A small property of thirty acres was purchased at Longburn, near Palmerston North, and in November of the same year the work of erecting the school building was in the hands of the contractors. Work also commenced on the land at about the same time, although the season was rather too far advanced for this work to be of much benefit for that season.

Moving operations from Cambridge to Longburn were carried on during the month of December. In this connection we cannot refrain from expressing our gratitude to God for His preserving care from all accidents and mishaps during the moving operations, and particularly for His watchful and preserving care over those in the school building

at Cambridge on the night that it was destroyed by fire. The more we have thought over the matter, the more we have seen of God's hand, not only in the saving of our lives, but also in the saving of papers and books that have been of untold value to us in closing up matters connected with the sale of the property. Especially is this so when it is considered that everything was out of its regular place, the last stages in the moving having been reached.

The new building was ready for occupancy by April 8, 1913, and the first term of school opened on April 30. A barn, suitable for the school purposes, was erected, and an artesian well was sunk to the depth of 279 feet. There is also an annex, part of which is used as sleeping apartments for the young men working on the land, and the remainder for general purposes. The grounds in the vicinity of the main building have been laid out in lawns and walks, drives have been formed, hedge and shelter trees have been planted, and considerable draining has been done.

Up to the time of writing this report, improvements have been made on the land to the value of £270 approximately, thus bringing the cost of the land and improvements up to £2,118 12s. 8d. The main building, together with the gas-lighting plant, has cost £3,282 5s. 8d. The barn, annex, coal shed, and fowl-houses, have cost £216 6s. 2d., thus bringing the total value of the buildings to £3,498 11s. 10d. At the date of the last balance sheet (December 31, 1913), the net worth of the institution was £2,458 15s. 9d., the total assets being £8,396 17s. 4d. The school is carrying loans from the Union Conference to the amount of £3,500, the greater part of which bears interest.

During the first year at Longburn, notwithstanding many initial expenses in connection with moving and commencing anew, the school was able to hold its own financially, and also to show a small profit of £10 11s. 5d. While at the time of writing it is too early to report definitely on the running for the first six months of this year, yet we have reason to believe that there will be a larger profit than last year.

The enrolment of students during the quadrennial term has varied considerably. In 1911 the enrolment was thirty-four boarding students and thirteen day students, a total of forty-seven; in 1912 (the year of uncertainties) sixteen boarders and five day students, a total of twenty-one; in 1913 (the first year at Longburn), twenty-one boarders and four day students, a total of twenty-five. The present year has not quite half gone, and our enrolment thus far is twenty-five boarders and six day students, a total of thirty-one. The capacity of the school, so far as boarding students are concerned, is thirty. The faculty numbers four, with a pupil teacher assisting.

The chief asset of the school is in the land. This is being worked all the year through as a market garden, and has produced good crops generally. During the first six months of this year, in addition to raising a sufficient supply of feed for the stock, produce to the cash value of

£390 has been sold by our young men in their vegetable rounds in Palmerston North, and about thirty pounds worth has been consumed on the school tables. There is still a quantity of produce to be sold. From the cash thus received, the school has been enabled to purchase additional stock and much needed implements, to make improvements on the land in the way of planting shelter trees and laying pipe draining, to erect a coal shed and four additional rooms in the annex for the farm hands, and also to pay back to the Union Conference the first instalment of £150 on the loan account. With the continued blessing of the Lord on the work of the school, we trust that year by year the loans may be still further decreased.

Our students have been of a good class, and have shown a willingness to co-operate with those in charge by doing all in their power to make the school a success. There has been no disciplining to speak of, and on the whole, good work has been done in the studies. There has also been a good interest shown in spiritual things.

There is a good feeling throughout the conference with regard to the school, and also a desire on the part of our people generally to stand by the school, for which we feel very grateful.

While grateful for what success has been attained in the school work thus far, the faculty feel like dedicating themselves more fully to the Lord, that He may give still greater success to the school in the line for which it was established.

J. MILLS, *Principal*.

Religious Liberty Department Report

THE appointment to the position of religious liberty secretary for the Australasian Union Conference being made only last year, I am not in a position to furnish a report covering the entire quadrennial term. Possibly that will not be a matter for regret, seeing that we are urged to make our reports as brief as possible.

After all, the *present* status of the religious liberty question is of most interest. What developments are likely to take place in the near future which will menace our freedom? Or, what restrictions are already in force against which we should utter a protest?

It should not be necessary to inform any enlightened Seventh-day Adventist that in the very near future severe restrictions will be enforced upon Sabbath-keepers. So far, in this country no attempt has been made to frame a law directly antagonistic to our religious freedom. But the fact that such a law has never been placed upon the statute books is no guarantee that the authorities will not effect such legislation. We have a good illustration of the method by which laws can be enforced against conscience in the administration of the Defence Act. Five years ago, when this act was framed, the leading men in the Government would not listen to a suggestion that it would be possible for any one in Australia to suffer at

the hands of the Government for conscience' sake. Recent events, too well known to require repetition, are sufficient to show that persecution for conscience' sake is quite possible in this land of ours. Fortunately, our appeal for Sabbath privileges was granted by the Minister for Defence, who readily provided a regulation permitting our boys to absent themselves from drill on the Sabbath on condition that they made up the required time on other days of the week. Our appeal for exemption from all military drill whatsoever, was not entertained for a moment; neither was the appeal that was made by the Society of Friends and other organizations who object on religious grounds to military drill.

Now the history of this military development in Australia furnished some startling instances of the possibility of persecution for conscience' sake; and the mischief that has been wrought in the public mind through being gradually educated to submit to the powers that be in a matter of conscience, is incalculable. Five years ago we did not have a single illustration of persecution for conscience' sake on the part of the Federal Government; but now, how sad it is to reflect that the Government under which we live, and which legislates for us under a constitution which guarantees our religious freedom, has soiled its hands with persecution!

Gradually, but surely, the people are being educated to yield to the will of the majority upon all questions. The step taken by the Federal Government in enforcing the principle of preference to unionists, was a step downward. What right has a government to recognize any class to the detriment of any other class? Before the law all persons are equal, or should be; but the principle obtains in Australia that all persons are not equal before the law, that the Government has preferences, and that the taxes to which all contribute *pro rata*, should be expended for the benefit of a privileged class who happen to belong to certain unions. Outside of those unions all men must take their chance for a livelihood as far as the Labour Government is concerned. And at the present time the whole country, at the most critical time of the world's history, is thrown into an electioneering agitation in order to determine whether government money should be especially expended for the benefit of unionists, to the exclusion of other citizens.

Now any thinking man must see that if we should yield the point that it is the privilege of the Government to recognize an industrial class to the exclusion of all other classes, then it is but a step for the Government some time in the future, to give preference to a religious class to the exclusion of all other classes. And that is the crisis that is before us. We know from the teachings of Scripture and the testimonies of the Lord, that this is the crisis we must face very soon. And it is because we see the shadow of what is coming in the administration of the Defence Act, together with the amazing decision to give preference to the unionists, that we protest against the tyranny of both these movements.

WHY WE SHOULD PROTEST

It cannot be too strongly emphasized that our main reason for entering protests against any tyrannical measure which may be enacted by the Government, is not merely for the protection of ourselves. The main object of our agitation and protests should be the enlightenment of the people as to the meaning of these latter day movements. These things are just as much signs of the times as anything that is happening in any part of the world. That this country, with its boasted freedom, its isolation from the old world, its bloodless history, unequalled in this respect by any other country in the world, in spite of its experiences and with the history of Europe before it, blemishes its character with persecution, is a matter for astonishment. Even to-day, thousands of people regard the possibility of persecution in Australia as an incredible thing. But, silently, yet surely, the enemy is at work seeking to undermine the liberties we enjoy, and we should certainly be awake to the situation.

WHAT WE ARE DOING

At the beginning of this year, a tract entitled, "The Military Menace in Australia," written by Brother Stout, the Religious Liberty Secretary for South Australia, was put into circulation. Shortly after this another tract entitled, "Is the Defence Act Popular?" was published. We then organized a plan of campaign to give these two publications a wide circulation. Altogether about one hundred and twenty thousand were sent out to the different conferences, and the people took hold of the work with considerable enthusiasm. On the outbreak of the European war, it was thought advisable that we should cease our efforts temporarily, while the people's minds were so inflamed with the war spirit. The Australian Freedom League, the most powerful organization at work in Australia having for its object the abolition of the compulsory clauses of the Defence Act, also decided that the time was inopportune to proceed with the campaign. We regret that circumstances made it advisable that we should suspend operations for the present. We have not altered, in the least, our opinion concerning the need of a change in the Defence Act; and as soon as a favourable opportunity presents itself, we should resume our efforts to induce the Legislature to amend the compulsory clauses of this act. As the law stands at present, and especially as it has been administered, Australia is threatened with a military despotism equal to that of any of the European conscript countries.

We are glad to report that our people met with considerable success in their work with the public on this military question. They found abundant evidence that the people are not in favour of compulsory military training. There is no question whatever that this drastic law is not so popular with the public as our politicians would have us believe. We may mention one case in particular as an illustration of the state of the public mind. One friend of the cause consented to help us to obtain signatures to the petition. He approached

the employees in a government workshop in Melbourne, where he secured no less than one thousand one hundred signatures. Some of our sisters reported that they obtained as many as forty-four signatures out of forty-six applications. We have, therefore, no hesitation in saying that, as far as the general public are concerned, they are not favourable to these restrictive laws. Shall we not, therefore, do all that is possible to enlighten the people with the meaning of this legislation that is going on, so that they may protest against any infringement of their liberties? The Lord has enlightened us on these questions, and it is certainly our duty to give the light to others.

RELIGION IN SCHOOLS

Another phase of our religious liberty work has been to meet the agitation for the introduction of religious instruction in the state schools in New Zealand, Victoria, and South Australia. Out of the states represented in the Union Conference, these three alone have Education Acts which are really secular. For many years the Council of Churches and other religious bodies have unceasingly laboured to introduce Scripture instruction into the schools of these states. So far they have not met with very much success, but their determination to accomplish this object is greater than ever before, and they are expending large sums of money in the distribution of literature, and in the payment of lecturers for the purpose of changing public sentiment in this respect.

In New Zealand, the Religious Liberty Secretary, Pastor Meyers, has been devoting the whole of his time during the past few months to this question. In South Australia the Religious Liberty Secretary has also devoted considerable time to the same object. In Victoria the agitation has been continued for several years with more or less energy. Each time that the Government is approached by the Scripture Instruction Campaign Council, we have renewed our agitation, and not only have furnished the members of Parliament with literature, but also have corresponded with all the state school teachers, and have disseminated our literature dealing with this important question from one end of the state to the other.

At the present time there is a new Sunday-law Bill before the Victorian Parliament. It ostensibly aims at the closing of picture shows on Sunday. Personally I could not protest against the closing of picture shows on Sunday for the simple reason that I think they ought to be closed all the time; and to protest against their closing on Sunday would be tantamount to asking the Government to give them permission to remain open. As a Sunday law, I am opposed to it on principle; but as a measure against the opening of pictures shows, I am in favour of it. Having no valid reason why I could urge that the picture shows should remain open on Sunday, I decided that it would be wise for us to take no action at all, as I did not want to place the denomination in a false position. It would be grotesque for us to be set down as the champions of the picture show.

These things, however, indicate the drift of recent legislation. It is all tending the one way; and it needs but some little combination of circumstances to make it possible for legislation to be enacted which has for its object the obliteration of our work. Shall we not, therefore, awake to a true sense of the danger that confronts us, and work while it is called to-day? For the night cometh, when no man can work.

A. W. ANDERSON,
Religious Liberty Secretary.

Report of the Union Conference Publishing Department

DURING the past four years there has been a marked, and, we are glad to say, on the whole, a steadily increasing activity in our Publishing Department.

We include in this department the whole of the field work, both as regards the canvassing and the church missionary work, as well as the details pertaining to the state tract societies, the Avondale Press, and the Signs Publishing Company, Limited. It would, therefore, be impossible to present in brief a complete report covering all the items of the work of the department. In view of this, and as the different lines of work will be fully represented elsewhere, we will confine our report to the more general features of the work.

It is the business of the Publishing Department to build up and advance every line of work connected with the production and distribution of literature.

During the past four years several new books have been published, such as, "Prophetic Waymarks," "Armageddon," "Nature's Smallest Creatures," and "The Beacon Light." We have reset and re-illustrated "His Glorious Appearing," and have also published several new tracts. We have also a large medical book in hand, which is nearly completed,—*"Ladies' Handbook of Home Treatment,"* by Drs. Franklin and Eulalia Richards.

At one time it seemed as though this field would be placed at a serious disadvantage in the production of books, as, in addition to the already heavy proportion of original cost for plates charged by our other publishing houses to this field, a prohibitive duty has been placed on imported plates. This has made it practically impossible to consider the purchase of plates from houses outside of Australasia, and we are therefore pleased to report that as we have the necessary facilities and able workers in our publishing house, we are in a position to produce whatever is required in the way of plates for books for this field, and that we can do this with profit, both to our manufacturing enterprise and to our field work.

The distribution of literature has been fostered by the holding of canvassers' institutes and missionary conventions, as well as by much personal effort in the field on the part of the workers who carry special responsibility in the canvassing and the church missionary work. We are also glad to state that this part of the work has benefited of

late by students from the Australasian Missionary College being encouraged to spend the vacation in the field with our literature. As will be seen by the detail reports from the various divisions in this department, these efforts in the interest of our field work have greatly increased the output of literature.

The strength of the department is entirely in the spiritual and the missionary side of the work. It maintains a system for producing and distributing literature which, by its utility, makes itself felt as a strong factor in rapidly spreading the knowledge of truth, and in winning souls for the kingdom of God. There is continued evidence of growth in the work of the department, and we trust that as the work advances it will, as far as the organization is concerned, be toward the greater unification of this work by means of a closer co-operation between the various branches of the department.

We have within our reach ways and means for increasing the sale and influence of our publications, while, at the same time and by the same means, a saving of labour and expense may readily be effected.

God has made every provision to enable this department to demonstrate in all its transactions of business the superiority of heaven's principles over the principles of the world, and we trust that by His grace, and by earnest work on the part of all connected with the department, God's purpose may continually be carried out in this great work.

J. M. JOHANSON, *Secretary*.

Signs Publishing Company, Limited

WE realize that it is a great privilege to report that the period of four years, from July 1, 1910 to June 30, 1914, has been the most prosperous in the whole history of the publishing work in Australasia.

God has given us many special evidences of His watchcare over His work, and it is His prospering hand that has worked for us and given success to this enterprise, in the field as well as in the factory; and we therefore give all the praise to Him for whatever has been accomplished.

As the book and periodical department will report in detail as to literature circulated, we will merely mention that the sterling and solid work of state agents and colporteurs has abundantly demonstrated that consecrated salesmanship is what brings success to this work, and we have felt greatly helped and encouraged by the steady increase in book sales year by year. This, with the circulation of our smaller literature, which has been greatly increased by the interest taken in this work by conference presidents and tract society workers, and by the earnest co-operation of church members, has, under the blessing of God, been the means of keeping our factory busy.

We are glad to report progress in the work of the institution, not only as regards the production of literature, but also in the spiritual life of the institution as represented by the workers, including the younger members of our staff; and we believe that it can be truly said that all recognize the work in the publishing house as a department of our church

work. This in itself is a cause for great thankfulness; for it is this spirit of service in our daily work which brings success to the institution.

The willing co-operation of the factory staff, with the careful planning and earnest work of the superintendent and foremen, has considerably increased the output of work, and, at the same time, decreased the cost of production.

The report from our business department is equally encouraging. During the four years covered by this report, we have sent out 146,350 books, 330,931 copies of *Life and Health*, 2,137,463 copies of the *Signs of the Times*, 1,669,110 tracts and 42,000 copies of the *Outlook*. The net gain on the business to the company is as follows:

Year ending June 30, 1911	...	...	£ 869	0	9
" " " " 1912	1,642	14	1
" " " " 1913	1,611	17	8
" " " " 1914	2,183	19	8

Total gain for the four years			£6,307	12	2
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During the same period the institution has paid to the Union Conference, tithe amounting to £700 16s., which is now being applied wherever needed to assist in carrying forward the church-school work in the Australasian Union Conference.

In closing the report we wish to say that carefulness and close attention to business by responsible persons in the business department has, with the blessing of God, contributed greatly to the success of the work.

We trust that God will continue to add His blessing to our work so that the publishing house may be all that God has designed it should be in the great soul-winning work of the third angel's message.

J. M. JOHANSON, *Manager*.

The Avondale Press

FOUR years have elapsed since our previous report, and the intervening period has been marked by a decided increase in the output. This is as it should be, for these are stirring times, the end is at hand; and that the world may be warned, the printed page is to be "scattered like the leaves of autumn."

The work of the Avondale Press is varied, and comprises the printing of the extensive and growing requirements of the Sanitarium Health Food Company, the general work of the Australasian Union Conference and of the Australasian Missionary College. Here is printed our church paper, the AUSTRALASIAN RECORD, the official organ of this field, edited by Mrs. J. Hindson; the edition of which has advanced from 1,100 in 1910, to 1,650 at this time. From the same editorial department, also, come the new sixteen-page monthly, the *Missionary Leader*, and the Sabbath-school quarterly lesson pamphlets.

The three monthly island papers issued in 1910 have since been supplemented by three others. In the tongues of Tahiti, Samoa, Fiji, Tonga, Rarotonga and the Maori, these winged messengers of truth fly forth on their errands of mercy, to be received with joy by many of the inhabitants of the

isles of the sea, who shall, by their means, be gathered with the saints in the paradise of God.

In book form too, the message goes to the islands; the most recent issued being "Thoughts on Daniel" in Tahitian; "Bible Readings" in Rarotongan, Fijian, Maori, Samoan, and Java-Malay; "Early Writings" in Fijian; and a hymn-book in Tahitian. Many tracts, also, have been published.

The literary department of the island field is under the supervision of Mrs. Waugh, whose local staff of islanders alternate their college studies with their work in the translating room at the press.

It is interesting to note that the production of periodicals alone, for one year at the Avondale Press, absorbs approximately five tons of printing paper. The pages would, if laid end to end, cover the railway line from Sydney to Melbourne. About thirteen tons of cardboard are used in making carton boxes for health foods. Altogether, over twenty tons of material per annum pass through our printing machines.

Student fingers are busy at Avondale, picking up the types and putting them in place, letter by letter, word after word, and line upon line. Here, in the course of a year, over ten million leaden letters are set carefully by hand; and after printing are carefully replaced in the type cases, which means the handling of twenty millions of types.

"And one by one as the letters go,
The words are piled up steady and slow;
Steady and slow but still they grow,
And words of fire they soon will glow;
Words that shall make the tyrant quake,
And the fetters of the oppressed shall break—
Wonderful words, that without a sound
Traverse the world to its utmost bound."

The value of the printing plant in 1913 was £1,272 9s. 8d., and the balance sheet showed a substantial profit on the year's turn over. Work was done last year to the value of over £3,000. More precious, however, than can be stated in figures, are the young people whose faithful work makes possible the financial progress, and who combine a preparatory course for future service with present help in the Lord's printing office at Avondale.

J. D. K. AITKEN.

The Press Bureau

THREE years ago the General Conference Committee established a press bureau for the purpose of publishing the doings of this denomination to the world through the secular press. So successful were the efforts of the press bureau in securing reports of the meetings of the General Conference in newspapers throughout the states, that it was apparent to some of the delegates to the General Conference that we should be overlooking a splendid avenue for the promulgation of this message if we did not embark on a similar enterprise.

At the first opportunity the matter was considered by the Union Conference Committee, and the organization of a press bureau was committed into my hands. Owing to my camp-meeting work

during the summer, nothing was done towards organizing this branch of the work until March last, when we began correspondence with our conference officers. Our first appeal was for a list of churches and companies in each conference, together with the names of the elders and leaders. In course of time this information was secured. We then took the matter up with the individual churches throughout the Union, asking them to send to the office of the press bureau the names of all persons whom they could suggest as being most capable to act in conjunction with us in securing the publication of articles and news items in the secular press.

The replies to our request came in very tardily from most conferences. There seemed to be a desire to be better informed concerning the objects of the bureau. In many cases, letters were received asking for detailed information of our plan of procedure. Much time was lost in this way, because it was our purpose to first secure agents of the press bureau in every church, and then to place before those appointed to the work our plan of operation. However, after further correspondence with the churches, a number of persons were appointed to this work, and already something has been accomplished in giving publicity to the denomination and its operations. In the Melbourne papers especially, considerable space has been utilized, and our scrapbook also contains many columns of news items which have appeared in the newspapers of the other states, as well as those of the Dominion of New Zealand. At the present writing we have received a response from forty-six churches and companies throughout the Union Conference, and they have appointed, in all, sixty-four persons as correspondents.

SPECIAL PRESS CORRESPONDENT

In 1911 our special press correspondent, Brother John Bell, began work with the secular newspapers circulating in Australasia. In a short space of time articles from his pen were being published in eighty newspapers a month, and these figures continued to increase until now articles on present-day issues are appearing in from one hundred to one hundred and twenty papers a month. Recently Brother Bell began to encourage our ministers to endeavour to secure the publication of their sermons in the local newspapers where they are conducting missions, and we are pleased to report that several of our labourers have been successful in securing space, in some cases amounting to considerably over a column in an issue.

We believe that the time has fully come when this message should be heralded to the remotest parts of the earth. In these days newspapers reach the smallest hamlets, the most isolated sheep stations and farms, and even the lonely boundary riders on the outskirts of civilization. Our work should occasionally find a prominent place in these papers; and as reports from our missions, both home and foreign, appear in the columns of the secular press, many people may become interested in this denomination, with its world-wide message

which is already being preached in over seventy countries.

We appeal to our brethren throughout the field to co-operate with us in organizing this department of the work, thus enabling this message to receive that publicity which its magnitude calls for.

A. W. ANDERSON, *Secretary*.

General Agent's Report

AS we review the work accomplished by our colporteurs and other workers in the circulation of our good literature during the four years ending June 30, 1914, we are pleased to be able to report progress. The Lord has certainly stood by His faithful labourers and has given His rich blessing to their efforts. For this we desire to express our heartfelt gratitude and thanks, praying that we may receive strength from Him to be more faithful and loyal during the future years in which we may be privileged to work for Him. Not only have our workers been successful in the placing of the literature, but through their personal efforts, many have accepted the truth for this time and are now members of this denomination.

The sales of subscription books, helps, trade books, and tracts, are as follows:

1910-11	Copies	Value		
Subscription books	17,095	£14,193	8 0	
Helps	11,412	619	16 3	
Tracts, trade books, etc.		1,584	16 6	
Total	28,507	£16,398	0 9	28,507 £16,398 0 9
1911-12				
Subscription books	18,737	£15,521	6 0	
Helps	12,118	625	1 9	
Tracts, trade books, etc.		1,841	15 9	
Total	30,855	£17,988	3 6	30,855 £17,988 3 6
1912-13				
Subscription books	20,911	£17,455	10 6	
Helps	22,740	1,162	2 0	
Tracts, trade books, etc.		1,646	6 11	
Total	43,651	£20,263	19 5	43,651 £20,263 19 5
1913-14				
Subscription books	21,055	£17,366	1 6	
Helps	22,282	1,125	0 6	
Tracts, trade books, etc.		1,943	8 4¼	
Total	43,337	£20,434	10 4¼	43,337 £20,434 10 4¼
Grand Total				146,350 £75,084 14 0¼

A glance at the foregoing figures, which represent the actual cash sales, will reveal the good progress made since June 30, 1910. The number of book sales have risen from 26,819 as reported for the year ending June 30, 1910, to 43,337 for 1914, showing an advance of 16,518 copies of books. Comparing the total values of subscription books, helps, tracts, and trade books sold in 1910, £13,529 17s. 4d., with the value of those sold in 1914, £20,434 10s. 4¼d., we have an increase of £6,904 13s. 0¼d.; and comparing the total sales for the four years ending June 30, 1910, with those of the past four years, the results are as follows:

Sales for four years ending June 30, 1910:

No. of books ... 123,129; value ... £57,625 12s. 10d.

Sales for four years ending June 30, 1914:

No. of books ... 146,350; value ... £75,084 14s. 0¼d.

Increase:

No. of books ... 23,221; value ... £17,459 1s. 2¼d.

The canvassing work in most of our states is making good progress. Much of the progress made is due to the effort put forth to give our colporteurs more thorough instruction, theoretical and practical, and we must see to it that this is continued. At the past Union Conference a recommendation was carried to establish a permanent institute at Warburton for the training of missionary colporteurs. In harmony with this recommendation, we opened the first institute in January, 1912, and since then about fifty students have passed through the institution. Some of them proved unsuitable for the work; others, after spending some time in field work, were encouraged to attend the Australasian Missionary College, and twenty-nine are now at work in the different states: in Victoria eleven; Tasmania, three; New South Wales, four; South Australia, three; Western Australia, three; and Queensland, five. We feel sure from the experience that we have had during the past two years, that the establishment of the institution in connection with our publishing house at Warburton, has been a step in the right direction, and we are grateful for the hearty co-operation given by some of our workers. We must continue to do all in our power to qualify both old and young to work in this most important branch of God's work, so that the message may be carried quickly to the uttermost parts of the world.

This year we were pleased to send three of our best colporteurs with their wives and families to China and Japan. Others have entered the Bible work, and we will consider it a privilege if, in the future, we can supply workers from our force here, for the foreign or home mission fields. To do this it is necessary for us as a people, to encourage suitable men and women to offer themselves for service, so that we may train and test them in the homefield. As to the future, we have no fear. The Lord has told us through His servant that, "As long as probation continues, there will be opportunity for the canvasser to work."

Until in heaven is spoken the word, 'It is finished,' there will always be places for labour, and hearts to receive the message."—*Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. VII, page 478.

This is sufficient for us, and we go forward regardless of appearances, trusting in the Master who has placed on us the burden of carrying the third angel's message to the people of this great Union Conference. May God help us to put forth a determined effort to finish the work.

L. D. A. LEMKE, *General Agent*.

"WHEN men use their powers as God directs them to, their talents will increase, their ability will enlarge, and they will have heavenly wisdom in seeking to save those who are lost."

Our Periodicals

IN presenting the report of the circulation of the *Signs of the Times* and *Life and Health* for the four years ending June 30, 1914, we wish to express our thanks to our Heavenly Father for the success which has attended the efforts put forth throughout this Union Conference by our faithful workers to spread the message as contained in these periodicals. We trust that during this conference an opportunity will be given to those who have sown the seed to present personal reports, for we feel confident that if every Seventh-day Adventist knew by experience the rich blessing that awaits those who engage in the circulation of these messengers of truth, a far larger demand would be made upon our Publishing Department for a supply of each issue. As an illustration of how the importance of the work of circulating the *Signs of the Times* is regarded by all those who are using this periodical in their missionary efforts, we quote the following from a letter recently received:

Your notice of expiry of subscriptions for the *Signs of the Times* kindly sent some days ago, came to hand. Owing to the almost total failure of my last harvest, and the absolute prospect of a failure this season owing to the dry weather, I am very short of cash, and have had to consider the question whether I should be able to carry on subscriptions or not. However, I will try them for another year. I believe the *Signs* is doing good in calling the attention of many to the solemn events transpiring around us.

Brethren and sisters, do we all appreciate as much as we should the untold value of our pioneer missionary periodical as a means of winning souls for the Master?

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

The total circulation of this periodical for the four years ending June 30, 1914, was 2,137,463 copies, representing a retail value of £8,906 1s. 11d. The circulation in the different states was as follows:

New South Wales ...	548,025	Western Australia ...	300,861
Victoria-Tasmania ...	509,612	South Australia ...	163,201
New Zealand ...	436,754	Queensland ...	110,820

Four special issues have been printed, two dealing with the subject of Religious Liberty and two with Temperance, the total circulation being three hundred and fifty thousand copies in addition to the regular editions.

LIFE AND HEALTH

In harmony with the action taken at the last Union Conference, our health magazine, at the commencement of 1911, was increased to 64 pages, and has been published every two months. The total circulation has been 336,931 copies, representing a retail value of £8,273 5s. 6d. Letters of appreciation are continually being received from our large family of readers. We will quote from two or three only:

The June-July copy arrived last week, and we heartily congratulate you. Most instructive and readable; not a dull line from cover to cover. A splendid publication. It grows better and better with each issue.

I would not miss your excellent magazine for twice the cost.

I am very pleased with *Life and Health*, and am sure we often pay a guinea to a doctor for less valuable advice than is contained in one issue of the journal.

I am delighted with it, and am always looking forward to it. It is the best book for the money; so instructive, so interesting, and leads one to think of better and higher ideals. I cannot express my thanks enough for all the good things I have learned from its pages, and I trust it will have a successful career.

The following is the circulation in the different states:

Victoria-Tasmania ...	90,342	Western Australia ...	34,663
New Zealand ...	67,173	Queensland ...	33,377
New South Wales ...	66,842	South Australia ...	32,232

THE OUTLOOK

We have printed but one issue of fifty thousand copies of the *Outlook*, and practically all have been circulated. This magazine also has been much appreciated. A Congregational minister in England writes as follows concerning this publication:

Some one has sent me a copy of the *Outlook*. How often is it published? I shall be glad to have it, as I am very much interested in the question of the nearness of the second coming of Christ.

IS THE PRESENT CIRCULATION OF OUR PERIODICALS SATISFACTORY?

We feel sure our brethren and sisters throughout the Union Conference agree with us that the present circulation is not satisfactory. While a large number are putting forth every possible effort to scatter these periodicals far and wide, we feel certain that much more can be accomplished by a little systematic effort on the part of every Seventh-day Adventist. We trust that as plans are laid and suggestions are made throughout the field, our people everywhere will co-operate with our Publishing Department so that the circulation of these periodicals will steadily increase.

In closing, we wish to express our appreciation of the hearty co-operation of our periodical workers, throughout the field, and pray that the Lord will continue to bless their efforts, and that as a result of their labours many precious souls will be won for the Master.

A. G. MILLER.

Australasian Record Circulation

	1910	1914	Increase	Church Membership	Members to each Paper
NEW SOUTH WALES	262	451	189	1307	2.89
NEW ZEALAND	129	241	112	609	2.52
QUEENSLAND	73	128	55	392	3.06
SOUTH AUSTRALIA	121	164	43	451	2.75
VICTORIA-TASMANIA	223	308	85	1216	3.94
WESTERN AUSTRALIA	110	169	59	503	2.9
TOTAL	918	1461	543	4478	3.01
MISSION FIELD AND FOREIGN	49	53	4		
TOTAL PAID SUBSCRIPTIONS	967	1514	547		
EXCHANGE AND FREE	51	97	39		
TOTAL	1025	1611	586		

The foregoing figures show a substantial increase in the circulation of the *RECORD* during the past four years. In 1910 our total paid subscriptions amounted to but 967; whereas, now they have reached 1,514; an increase of 547. Adding the exchanges and free copies to workers in other lands, it brings the total circulation up to 1,611; an increase of 586.

It is shown by the figures here presented that on an average there is one subscription taken to every three members, or nearly so. In Western Australia the circulation is the highest as compared to its membership, one paper being taken to every two members approximately. Three other conferences; namely, New Zealand, South Australia, and New South Wales, have raised their subscription list to one paper to less than every three members; while Queensland and Victoria-Tasmania take one paper to over three members, but less than four; all the averages being much better than they were four years ago.

We greatly appreciate the efforts of our people in getting our church paper into the hands of our members. We trust that this good average can be maintained, and the circulation steadily increased with the growing membership of our conferences.

Missionary Campaign Report

For the Four Years Ending June 30, 1914

DURING the four years intervening since the last report, a continuous campaign along missionary lines has been carried forward by the rank and file of our people; and with the blessing of the Lord a degree of prosperity has attended the work far exceeding that of the previous four years. The following report will show what has been done (including the work of the young people) during this quadrennial term, and the increase over the preceding four years:

WORK DONE		1911-14	Increase
Missionary letters written	...	32,112	13,507
Missionary letters received	...	11,115	4,863
			Decrease
Bible readings or cottage meetings	35,137		23,669
			Increase
Missionary visits	...	163,664	88,276
Papers	{ Subscriptions taken	9,622½	3,846½
	{ Sold	621,316	162,665
	{ Lent, posted, or given	1,430,847	727,709
Pages of	{ Sold	478,561	184,117
	{ Lent, posted, or given	5,978,704	2,771,245
Books	{ Sold	20,364	7,205
	{ Lent, posted, or given	28,002	8,120
Families or individuals supplied			
with food, clothing, etc....	14,274		7,998
Treatments given	...	30,741	23,848
Hours of Christian help work	...	114,813	63,533¼
Offerings local society work	£341 3s. 1½d.		£239 10s. 0½d.
Offerings for home work	£1,198 11s. 4d.		£275 9s. 7½d.
Offerings foreign mission			
work	...	£3,603 9s. 10d.	£1,078 7s. 10d.
Collections for blind work	£217 17s. 11d.		£147 3s. 3½d.

In one particular only has there been a decrease, while in the thirteen other items there has been a decided increase. This is as it should be, for our working force is not only larger, through our growing membership, but we are just four years nearer the end, and living in the time when this message is to swell into a loud cry; and this is to be accomplished largely through the activities of our people in the circulation of literature.

ADVANCE STEPS

"Every Seventh-day Adventist an active worker" has been the aim of this department, and in order to realize this, a general movement has been inaugurated to revive the missionary spirit in all our churches. Recognizing that one of the first essentials to this end is the holding of weekly missionary meetings in the churches, steps have been taken to start these in every place where, for any cause, they had been discontinued.

During the month of June of the present year, the Union Conference commenced the publication of a monthly, sixteen-page paper called the *Missionary Leader*. The chief object of this paper is to give instruction to our church officers along missionary lines, and to aid them in carrying their various responsibilities. This paper is furnished by the Union Conference free of expense, and is sent to all our church leaders, and to the isolated members. Suggestive programmes for the weekly

missionary meetings, for both the adult members and the young people, are contained in this paper. And through this medium the instruction given us that the missionary meeting should be turned to account in showing the members how to work, is being carried out.

Our churches have also been encouraged, in harmony with the heaven-born plan found in "Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VII, pages 21, 22, to organize their members into working bands, with a leader placed over each band. Wherever this plan is being adopted, larger numbers are being enlisted for service. It is found in many instances that it has been through lack of knowing what to do and how to do it, rather than from want of inclination, that many have been standing idle in the market places.

During the past year especially, convention work has been prosecuted in various conferences with excellent results. These conventions have been characterized by practical demonstrations of just how to do the work, and a desire created in those in attendance to go forth to carry out the instruction given. Wherever these conventions have been held, it has resulted in greater activity in the churches; and it is evident that if more of this work can be done, far greater results will be seen.

Never have we had greater inducements and facilities for the carrying forward of this missionary work in the churches than at the present time, and never has the world seemed so ripe for the message. We are constantly hearing of those who are accepting the truth under the most interesting circumstances, and many more are groping for light in the darkness. Shall we not arise as never before to finish the work?

In view of the instruction given to us that "the work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers," we realize something of the vital importance of this phase of our work. Such an effort on the part of the members will not only help to finish the work, but will prove our own salvation also, for we read in the next sentence that, "The truth is soon to triumph gloriously, and all who now choose to be labourers together with God will triumph with it."

ANNA L. HINDSON, Assistant Secretary.

Our Work for the Blind

IT is now almost six years since I first connected with the Union Conference to work for the blind. I am thankful to God for a part in His cause.

Our monthly paper, *Day Dawn*, which has passed its seventh anniversary, is welcomed by from one hundred and fifty to two hundred regular readers. Seventy-two copies of this little paper are printed by hand every year, there being six copies of the same number each month. About twenty tracts have been put in the Braille type, and the important book, "Daniel and the Revelation," in separate

volumes, is almost completed. These papers and tracts form a small, but truth-laden, circulating library. Many persons are interested and are seeking and inquiring for further light. Many of those who are blind are unable to read the Braille; these are a difficult class to reach.

Interesting letters have been received from those who appreciate the literature. Some are especially interested in the prophecies contained in Daniel and in Revelation. Over five hundred letters have been received from interested persons in the Commonwealth and in New Zealand. All these letters have been answered. Some blind persons from Java, in the far East, have corresponded with me. This shows that the seed is being sown far and near.

One deaf and blind lady in Victoria writes: "Let me know if the *Watchman* has discovered any new signs, for it is now seventy years since the great prophetic period had its close in the year 1844."

A correspondent in New Zealand says: "I am waiting and watching for the coming of our Lord and Master. My people tell me God is pleased if we keep the first day, but I ask them for the Bible proof."

Besides communicating with those within this Union, I have found one who strongly holds with us on the Sabbath question. I have made over two hundred personal visits to blind people, and have had many visits from them, and some ask questions respecting the truth. During the past four years two of our blind members have apostatized, and one has been laid to rest. We are pleased to report, however, that two have decided to obey God's truth.

This work is one of sowing, and we leave the reaping to the angels. It is the Spirit that quickeneth, and God who giveth the increase. Many times I have felt that little has been seen, but God says that His Word shall not return unto Him void. God grant that more efficient work may be done in the future, and that the seed sown may grow and soon ripen.

A. W. PHILLIPS.

Missionary Volunteer Department

For the Quadrennial Period Ending June 30, 1914

WITH mingled feelings of gratitude and solemn responsibility, we present this report of the young people's work for the past four years.

The number of societies has increased from 84, as reported at our last Union Conference, to 101; and the total membership now stands at 2,502, being a gain of 738. Of these, 895 are church members and hence eligible to full missionary volunteer membership, while 1,606 are associate members. Of the total membership, 503 are isolated and connected with our State Department Bands. There has been a marked increase in the number of these, as but 150 were enrolled at the beginning of this quadrennial term. A strong effort has been put forth to help these scattered members, both by correspondence and personal work. Some of our brightest young people and those who have done the best work are among this class.

IN THE MISSION FIELDS

One of the most encouraging features of our work during the time covered by this report, has been its extension into the mission fields. Previous to our last conference very little had been attempted outside of our organized conferences, but now the work is carried on in Norfolk, Fiji, Samoa, and in Raiatea and Tahiti in the Society Islands. Some good work has also been done by the children of Lord Howe. We trust the time is not far distant when all the young people in our mission fields will be organized for service.

Sister Howse of Raiatea gives an encouraging report of the young people's work there. In a letter she wrote:

"Some months ago one of our members brought a little half-caste girl with her to the young people's meeting. She enjoyed coming, so kept on attending regularly. Little by little, the truth made impression upon her, until she decided to keep the Sabbath. Her adopted mother tried to force her to do some work on Sabbath, but she firmly held to her convictions and told her mother that she was going to obey God first. Many times her people tried to convince her that it was unnecessary to keep the Sabbath, but she always found a text to prove the truth. Other relatives then tried to exert their influence, but all to no effect. Every Sabbath since the first one she kept, she has been in regular attendance at all our meetings, and on Sabbaths she gives equal to sixpence to the missions, which is almost all her pocket money. We feel very much encouraged about this child. She is not yet twelve years old, and has more courage and faith than many who are much more advanced in years and who have not the opposition with which she has to contend."

In a letter just to hand Sister Howse writes: "We have the young people's meetings in the church now, as some not of our faith expressed a desire to attend, and our home is not large enough for more. The little half-caste girl previously referred to, brought to the meeting a ten-year-old native girl, who learnt all the doctrinal texts and took the examination without making a mistake. She wants to keep the Sabbath. About twice as many attend our meetings now, many being outsiders, and some have said that they want to obey."

A letter from Sister Ferris of Norfolk, where a special programme for the young people is rendered at each quarter-end, to which the public are invited, says: "The interesting event for us this month was the presenting of the certificates to those who had taken the Bible study examination. Eighteen received 100 per cent. We held the meeting at the mission home. About sixty people came, and we gave them a vegetarian meal. Many of the people not of our faith sent vegetables, milk, cocoanuts, and many other things for us to use. I was surprised; it was very kind of them and we appreciated it. As the subject for this quarter was the "Word of God," we planned to have the programme for the evening on the Bible. All the songs, recitations, and talks had a bearing on this subject. We had a most interesting

and instructive programme, and the people were deeply interested."

MEETINGS

With few exceptions, regular weekly meetings are held, usually on Sabbath afternoons. With the beginning of 1913 the suggestive programmes for these meetings were printed and sent out in a little eight-page monthly paper printed at Union Conference expense. But from June of this present year this matter has been included in the *Missionary Leader*. This is sent not only to the leaders of our societies but also to all the isolated young people. Realizing the moulding influence of these programmes on such a large number of young people, the effort has been made to have them as varied and educational as possible. Many expressions of appreciation have been received from the young people's leaders.

BIBLE STUDIES

Recognizing that one of the first requisites of our young people is a better knowledge of the Word, and especially of the distinctive views held by us as a people, we have continued the quarterly Bible studies, that they may themselves be fortified, and also prepared to enlighten others. That these studies are meeting with increasing favour is evident from the larger number taking them from quarter to quarter. This work seems to be undertaken as a privilege rather than as a task. Some of the subjects covered during the four years in short Bible readings, in which all the texts are required to be learned and the references given, are: "The Destiny of the Wicked," "The Judgment," "Baptism," "The Millennium," "The Home of the Saved," "The Good and Evil Angels," "The Gift of Prophecy," "Tithes and Offerings," "Temperance," "Righteousness by Faith," and "The Word of God."

The number taking the examination on the Bible study four years ago was 663, while for the past quarter it reached 1,098, showing a gain of 435. Among those who have entered into this work most enthusiastically are the young people in some of our mission fields. In many instances the parents, and also young friends and associates not in the truth, join in the study, and some have been led to take their stand through having their interest first awakened in this way. One state secretary writes: "A number of young people not of our faith are taking the doctrinal studies. Some whole families have in this way been interested in the truth, some are investigating, while others are now rejoicing in the message. Some of our older members, as well as the young, have been using these quarterly studies as an entering wedge to homes and hearts."

One state school teacher, who has but recently accepted the faith, and who was taking the Bible study himself, interested some of his pupils in it also, with the result that some of these are now in correspondence with the state office, and tell how much they enjoy committing the texts to memory, and how they are learning truths from them that they never knew before.

Beginning with the fourth quarter of last year, these little studies were sent out in printed form from the Union office, thus making them much more convenient for use and preservation, and enabling us to give them a wider circulation. Attractive certificates, especially designed for the purpose, are furnished to all who reach the required standard in the examination.

READING COURSES

Likewise our Reading Course work is making encouraging progress. This phase of the work has taken time to develop, as the reading habit had to be formed in many of our youth, but the increase in the number reading the books has been truly encouraging. The first book taken up during the time covered by this report was "The Great Second Advent Movement," and sixty-eight joined the circle of readers. Following this came the "Story of John G. Paton," five hundred copies of which were sold, and doubtless many more read the book. The reading of "Christ's Object Lessons," came next in order, and as many already had the book, it was difficult to obtain the correct number of readers, but a large number of the books especially bound for our young people, was ordered. Of "Two Noble Lives" about one thousand were circulated, and the same number, or more, of "Pilgrim's Progress," the present Reading Course book. The review papers sent in on these different books have been indeed excellent and show that the readers not only have a good grasp of the contents, but also that they have received real spiritual help. Every succeeding book seems to create a greater desire for the next, and those who read are having an influence upon others, and thus our reading circle is ever widening. To encourage our young people to keep up in their reading, questions on the month's assignment of pages are printed and sent out. These are used as book marks, and help to impress the leading thoughts.

"MORNING WATCH CALENDARS"

For the first three years of this quadrennial period we imported the calendars from America. But it was thought that there would be some advantages in printing them in our own field, and this was done for this year. An edition of nearly three thousand was published by the Avondale Press, from the copy furnished us by the General Conference. This exceeds the number sold for any previous year by almost one-half.

WORK DONE

In comparing the items of missionary work done by our young people for the four years with that of the previous four years, we find a splendid increase in every particular.

REPORT OF WORK DONE DURING 1911-14

		Increase
Missionary letters written	15,104	5,389
Missionary letters received	6,150	2,823
Bible readings or cottage meetings	9,170	3,021
Missionary visits or conversations	48,730	7,882
Visits to hospitals or institutions	7,728	
Visits to ships	1,802	

Papers	Subscriptions taken ...	3,518	2,182
	Copies sold ...	228,764	24,338
Tracts	Lent, posted, or given ...	630,367	231,383
	Sold ...	251,838	112,394
Books	Lent, posted, or given ...	2,712,940	1,271,376
	Sold ...	10,299	5,095
Families, or individuals supplied with	Lent, posted, or given ...	9,165	2,448
	clothing, food, etc. ...	3,001	579
Treatments given ...	...	3,573	1,213
	Hours of Christian help work ...	66,593 $\frac{1}{4}$	41,119
Signatures to temperance pledge	...	867	
	Offerings local society work £188 10s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	£116 19s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	
Offerings foreign work	£3,129 19s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	£1,385 13s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	
	Offerings home work	£794 12s. 1d.	£409 1s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
Total offerings	£4,113 2s. 0d.	£1,911 14s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	

We would call special attention to the offerings. The total of £4,113 2s. for missionary enterprises in the home and mission fields, exceeds that of the previous corresponding period by £1,911 14s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. being considerably more than twice as much. It seems really surprising what our young people have been able to do in this way, and we know that it represents much hard work and self-denial.

The success of this work is due, largely, to our faithful staff of state secretaries, who have worked untiringly, not only to keep in touch with our young people through correspondence from the office, but most of whom have spent a large part of their time in the field going from church to church and from home to home, fostering and building up the work in all its features.

The co-operation given by the parents has also done much to make the work a success. We are glad to see this spirit growing, for we know the greater the co-operation in the home and in the church, the more permanent and substantial the work will be. In many instances the parents themselves and the older members of the church join in the work assigned to the young people, not only as an encouragement to the children, but for their own improvement as well. As our children are the only possession that we can take with us into the kingdom, time cannot be better employed than in helping to bind them to this cause.

We would also mention the inspiration and impetus given to the work by the correspondence from our missionaries. This has done much to bind the hearts of our youth and children to the mission fields and to increase their activities in raising funds for their support.

We believe that on the whole there has been a growth in spirituality among our young people, and that this department of our work has been a positive factor in awakening in the minds of the youth a desire to better fit themselves to become God's helping hand to finish the work. In view of what this work means to our young people, it is worthy of our most sympathetic and active interest. Our responsibility to the young is well expressed by the great reformer, Martin Luther, in the following words:

"Why is it that we, the elder, are spared to the world, except to train up and instruct the young? It is impossible that the gay little folks should guide and teach themselves, and accordingly God has committed to us who are old and experienced, the

knowledge which is needful for them, and He will require of us a strict account of what we have done with it."

ANNA L. HINDSON, *Secretary*.

Sabbath-School Department

Report for the Quadrennial Period Ending June 30, 1914

A GAIN of 534 in membership is the story of advance in our Sabbath-school work during the four-year period. Thus, instead of representing a membership of 5,587, as it stood at our last Union Conference, we are privileged to report the enrolment of an army 6,121 strong—an army united in the one grand object of becoming acquainted with the Sword of the Spirit and of learning to wield it in the greatest warfare that was ever fought. "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

If we could have a panoramic view of our 197 schools, scattered over the vast territory comprising our Union, it would be an interesting sight. In our home field they stretch from Halifax in the north of Queensland to Dunedin in the south island of New Zealand, and from Perth on the west coast of Western Australia to the extreme east, where we are now gathered as representatives from all parts to review the past and lay broader plans for more aggressive work. These schools range in size all the way from a membership of two to three hundred and fifteen, which is the enrolment of our Sabbath-school at Avondale, our training centre.

Then if we could cross the water and visit our thirty schools dotting our mission field, we should witness a still more pleasing sight. Touching at Fiji we would find eighteen schools in six islands of the group, containing a membership of 358. Although of a somewhat darker hue than we are, and reciting their lessons in a tongue strange to most of us, their hearts are as loyal as our own, and they are as appreciative of the privileges afforded by the Sabbath-school as we are. Our little school of thirty members on Lord Howe Island has been organized since our last Union Conference, also the one of nine members in the New Hebrides, and the one on Aitutaki of the Cook Group reports a membership of twenty-three. We have been brought into closer touch with our Sabbath-school of 155 members on distant Pitcairn since the arrival of our workers there, and we are told that in the spirit of reverence shown, and in the perfect order as well as in the glad songs of praise in which all join so heartily and so melodiously, this school excels. But of all our island schools perhaps the most unique for situation is the one composed of just two members as yet, and held on board the little *Advent Herald*, off the coast of the Solomon Islands.

Of the total membership, 719 are too far removed from an organized Sabbath-school to attend, and hence compose our Home Department. Of these, 102 have been added during this term.

LESSONS

During the first two years and nine months of this quadrennial term, old and young united in the study of the same Bible subjects. The first nine

months we completed the lessons on the Life of Christ; one year was then devoted to the Book of Acts, and the year following to Topical Studies. The senior division then entered upon a six month's study of the Mediation of Christ, followed by one quarter on the Books of Joel and Titus, and two quarters on Paul's Epistle to the Romans. To provide lessons adapted to the comprehension of our intermediate pupils, a third lesson pamphlet was printed, beginning with the second quarter of 1913, taking up a two years' course of Old Testament History, and covering the same ground as the lessons for the children. While a little difficulty was experienced at first in the necessary re-grading of the schools for this new series, these excellent lessons have been much appreciated.

Just how these three series of lessons have affected the home study we cannot tell; but we know there is a tendency, with so much more ground to cover in families where two or three sets of lessons are used, to lower the standard of thoroughness in preparation. Perhaps the greatest danger, and that which we need now to guard against, is the neglect of parents to teach the lesson to the children.

The number of lesson quarterlies in circulation at the present time is as follows: For the senior division, 4,004; intermediate, 500; primary, 847; making a total of 5,351. In addition to the lessons in the English language, we have a lesson quarterly in Fijian, with a circulation of 200, and the lesson is translated into the Rarotongan and the Tahitian language, and published in our monthly papers for these fields.

SABBATH-SCHOOL CONVENTIONS

The holding of Sabbath-school conventions has been made a prominent feature in some of our conferences. It is evident to those who have taken part in this work, that these meetings tell more for the upbuilding of the Sabbath-school interests than almost anything else could do. In this busy age with so much to occupy the thoughts, we need frequently to refresh the mind in regard to the great possibilities in the Sabbath-school work and to how they can be realized. Wherever conventions have been held, we have found our people anxious to learn, and ready to fall into line in the onward march to the goal of more thorough study, more active service, and more liberal giving.

OFFERINGS

The development of the missionary spirit has been the natural outgrowth of our Sabbath-school work. As we learn from the study of God's Word that the time has come to send the message to all the world, our interests cannot be bounded by our local needs. And in proportion as we seek to carry out the great commission, our work is prospered at home.

During the past four years, our offerings have amounted to £11,004 16s. 6d., and show a gain of £4,852 10s. 8d., or seventy-nine per cent over that of the previous quadrennial period. The year of our last Union Conference we set an aim of £2,000 for

the year, and exceeded it by £287. This present year we set an aim of £3,000, and during the fiscal year ending with June 30, surpassed it by £162.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT FOR THE FOUR YEARS

	Sabbath-School Membership	Offerings to Missions
1911	5,473	£2,287 19 2
1912	5,549	2,626 15 9½
1913	5,763	2,927 11 4½
1914	6,121	3,162 10 2

Total £11,004 16 6

It is interesting to trace the growth of our membership and offerings from the organization of our Sabbath-school Department in this field in 1900 to the present time. Starting with a membership of 2,733, we gave, over and above what was used for home expenses, the sum of only £247 for missions. Year by year from this time our membership makes a slow but steady growth, while our offerings to missions increase much more rapidly in proportion.

SABBATH-SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP AND OFFERINGS TO MISSIONS FROM ORGANIZATION OF DEPARTMENT

Year	Membership	Offerings to Missions
1900	2,733	£247 13 11
1901	2,896	349 2 8
1902	2,866	459 6 11
1903	2,979	601 18 10
1904	3,641	804 15 8
1905	4,123	846 8 6
1906	4,405	1,003 0 11
1907	4,892	1,189 1 5
1908	5,269	1,319 15 7
1909	5,385	1,682 8 3
1910	5,587	1,961 0 7
1911	5,473	2,287 19 2
1912	5,549	2,626 15 9½
1913	5,763	2,927 11 4½
1914	6,121	3,162 10 2

Total £21,469 9 9

The following table shows our offerings for the quadrennial period by conferences and mission fields, and the average for each member:

PRESENT MEMBERSHIP AND OFFERINGS FOR FOUR YEARS

	Membership	Offerings	Average per Member
New South Wales	1,536	£2,850 19 0½	£1 18 3
New Zealand	844	1,871 3 11½	2 7 0
Queensland	485	813 15 3½	2 2 9
South Australia	484	878 3 3	1 19 7
Victoria-Tasmania	1,274	2,293 13 1½	1 16 1
Western Australia	758	1,595 19 0½	2 9 3
Missions	740	701 2 9½	1 0 3
Totals	6,121	£11,004 16 6	£1 19 0¼

It is interesting to note here that we have received over £700 from our island missions: and when we consider the scarcity of money in many of these fields, this amount speaks well for the devotion of our island schools.

The marked increase in the Sabbath-school offerings is undoubtedly due to the conviction growing upon us that this work is to be speedily finished. And with this in mind, while we work for the less favoured and the heathen in fields afar, let us not forget the unconverted that assemble with us from Sabbath to Sabbath, but with greater zeal and

prayerfulness seek to win these also for the Saviour.

As we leave the record of the past, thanking God for what has been done, with a larger faith in its future and a more active interest, let us make of this Sabbath-school work what the Spirit of Prophecy has said it should be, "one of the greatest instrumentalities and most effectual in bringing souls to Christ."

"Higher ground in study, higher ground in experience, higher ground in service," this should be the watchword of the hour.

ANNA L. HINDSON, *Secretary*.

Our Health Food and Cafe Work

A LITTLE more than four years ago steps were taken to unify and systematize our health food business throughout Australasia. Therefore, for the past four years the plan has been on its trial, and we believe you will admit that it has been successful.

In the earlier days the factory was a department of the Australasian Missionary College, and, with the exception of Sydney, the agencies were held by our tract societies. The business struggled along for many years, and a big debt, amounting to nearly £5,000, piled up, which has now been reduced to £1,500. The health food business was naturally foreign to tract society work; therefore, it did not receive the consideration it should have. Likewise the Australasian Missionary College, while anxious to see the business go and students given employment, was practically helpless as far as pushing the business was concerned.

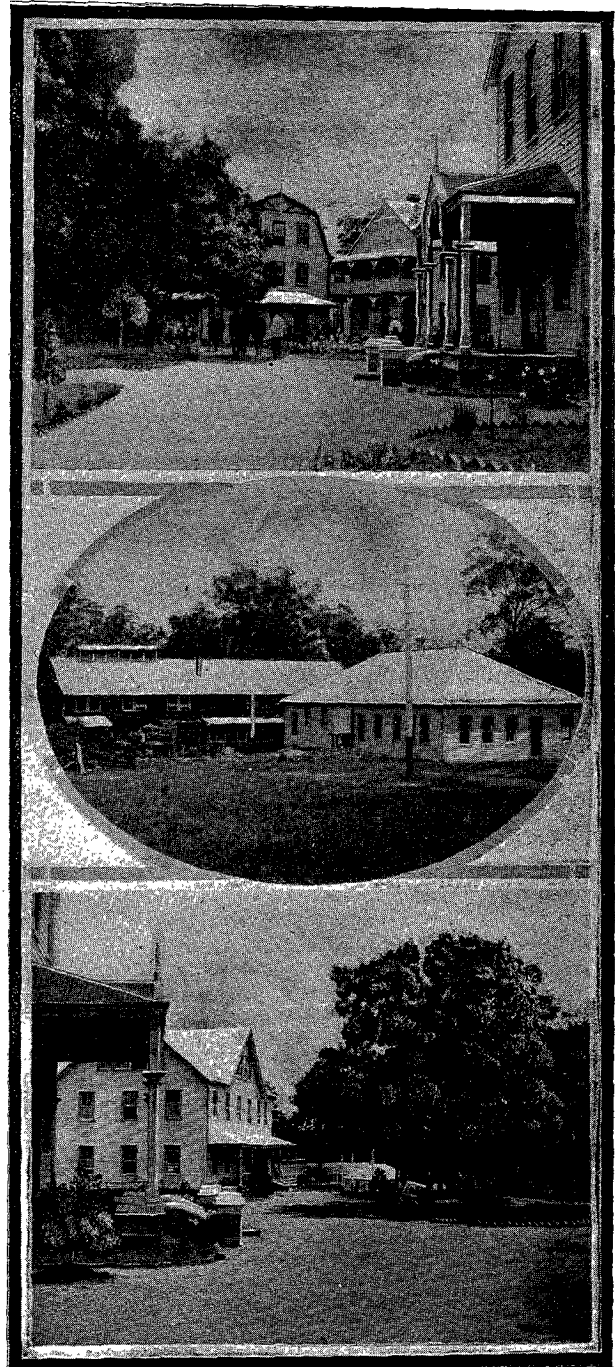
So it can readily be seen that much of the success of this business depends upon our branches and agents in the field. This work is now under the direction of the Union Conference, and worked through the Sydney Sanitarium and Benevolent Association. This arrangement cements the whole business together, and makes the factory, distributing depot, cafes, and health food stores all one, and releases our conference officers from this financial burden. And it has many advantages, the principal one, perhaps, being the expense saved in advertising. This advertising matter is mostly compiled at head-quarters, printed at Avondale, and distributed among the agents. Another advantage is that we are all in touch with one another by correspondence. This helps us all to make combined efforts in pushing the business as a whole. Then again, these agents are kept in direct communication with the factory through our head office, so that any mistakes and complaints can be rectified by the proper person.

Four years ago our gross profit on manufactured foods was only £3,600. To-day it is just double that amount, being £7,313 for the year's running.

A special effort has been made to increase the sale of local productions, while we have allowed our importing business to decrease. We have endeavoured to bear in mind that our duty is to educate the public, as well as to provide food for them. It is true, perhaps, that if we had plenty of money for advertising purposes, as others have, we might

have done greater business; but there would always be the danger of developing into a great commercial enterprise, and forgetting the real object of our mission in the world. We find that our cafes, although not particularly profitable, are our very best advertising medium, besides being a great light in the cities.

The Health Food Company's balance sheet takes in our factory, depot, and Sydney cafes. To the net profit you can add £108 which has been set aside for the general educational fund, and £233



Our Factory and its Environs in the Country

given towards the old Adelaide Hydropathic Institute debt.

The great bulk of our printing is done by the Avondale Press, and the college continues to ship our raw material and foods up and down Dora Creek.

Besides our own branches we have agents practically all over Australia and New Zealand. In fact, the business is now so organized that it is possible for any storekeeper to stock our foods if he has the demand. They also find their way into most of the islands of the Pacific, and as far north as Singapore, and west to Africa.

Twenty-five varieties of health foods are now made, and before the end of the year at least three more will make their appearance. Our latest production, frucerea essence, has a successful future before it. So far, we have been unable to keep up with the demand. This coffee essence needs no boiling or straining, and is made from fruits and cereals only. It is something totally different from the old-fashioned bran-and-treacle coffee. In fact, frucerea contains neither of these ingredients.

Early in this year our cafe in Hunter Street was so crowded that it became necessary to find another place for the overflow. A new cafe has been established, and is situated right under the shadow of the Sydney Town Hall. It is well patronized.

We have about one hundred and twenty young people engaged in the health food and cafe business.

The wages paid since the last Union Conference amount to over £23,000, and the tithes and offerings to £1,220.

One pleasing feature about our work is the good spiritual atmosphere prevailing amongst the workers, notwithstanding the busy surroundings and the whirl of commercialism.

Our cafe patronage has increased considerably during the past four years. The figures are as follows: 1911, 156,000; 1912, 180,000; 1913, 194,000; 1914, 205,000.

During the time our cafe work has been in existence, we estimate that altogether 1,646,000 meals have been served.

One of the greatest difficulties is to find suitable premises in the cities. Generally speaking, the rents are enormous, and

would crush us altogether if our business were not on the increase. It must be borne in mind that we have practically only four and a half days in a week for business.

One great need is more consecrated business men who will be able to handle these great interests profitably, and guide them through the time of trouble and distress that lies before us.

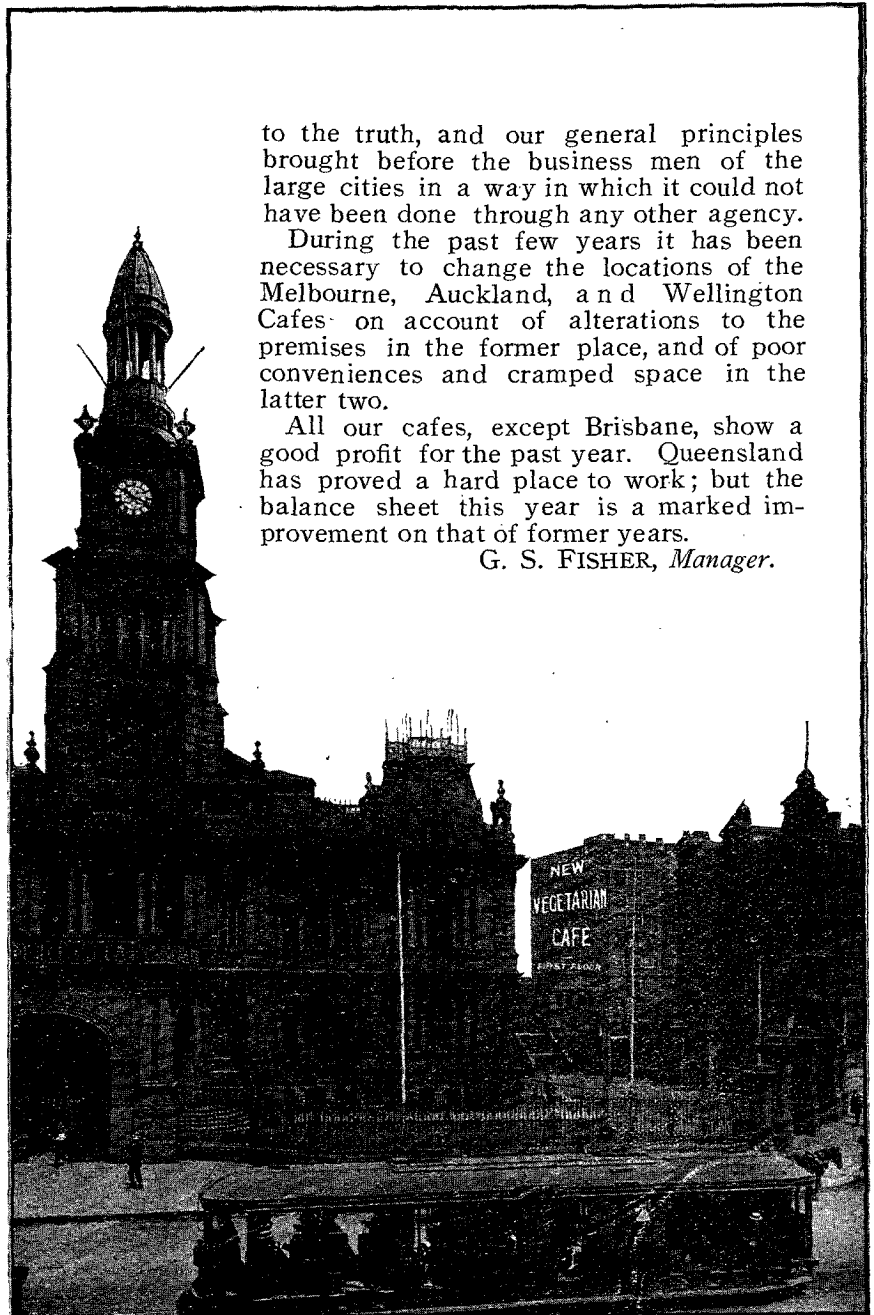
Our agents have all worked loyally and faithfully during the past few years. It has been an uphill battle in many instances; but thanks be to the Lord, He has given us help and money, and we have had the privilege of seeing some souls won

to the truth, and our general principles brought before the business men of the large cities in a way in which it could not have been done through any other agency.

During the past few years it has been necessary to change the locations of the Melbourne, Auckland, and Wellington Cafes on account of alterations to the premises in the former place, and of poor conveniences and cramped space in the latter two.

All our cafes, except Brisbane, show a good profit for the past year. Queensland has proved a hard place to work; but the balance sheet this year is a marked improvement on that of former years.

G. S. FISHER, *Manager.*



New Cafe near the Sydney Town Hall

Sydney Sanitarium

JESUS CHRIST came into this world to bring *health, peace, and perfection of Christian character*. These were the three great essentials for the salvation of mankind. The evenly balanced tenor of Christ's mission was the secret of His great success, and the restoration to health seemed always to be His first consideration. He knew that if their bodies were emaciated, and their minds diseased and troubled, the people would never be able to recognize the voice of God. Jesus knew that unless there was a decided change in the principles and purposes of the human race, all would be lost; and to effect this change He worked and prayed. We are told through the Spirit of Prophecy that "Jesus devoted more time to healing the sick than to preaching." No doubt it would have been much easier for Him to do only the latter, but "He took upon Himself our infirmities and bare our sicknesses." What a compassionate, loving Saviour and Friend! As He weighed carefully the whole situation, He said, "I am among you as one that serveth." These words brought confidence, hope, joy, and peace to many a soul, weary and sick with sin and disease.

This healing service opened the doors of the homes of the poor as well as those of the rich; it thronged the wayside with those who were anxious to see and hear the great Healer; it brought great rejoicing into the home of the paralytic; it drew mothers with their sick little ones; it brought courage to the heart of the leper, and led him to exclaim, "Lord, if Thou wilt, Thou canst make me clean." And thousands of others were helped in a similar way. Apparently this class of people was very numerous in His days upon the earth. But it is very clear to the observant one that conditions are far worse to-day than they were then; in fact, the Lord has said that the world is one great lazar house. How much greater, then, is the need to-day to pattern after our great Example, and bring to the world a gospel of healing and love to the sin-sick body as well as to the benighted soul!

The following statement from "Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VI, a sentence of a few words only, is especially applicable at this time: "A new element needs to be brought into the work." What is this new element? The paragraph from which this statement is taken explains it.

"Combine medical missionary work with the proclamation of the third angel's message. Make regular, organized efforts to lift the church members out of the dead level in which they have been for years. Send out into the churches workers who will live the principles of health reform. Let those be sent who can see the necessity of self-denial in appetite, or they will be a snare to the church. See if the breath of life will not then come into our churches. God's people must realize their great need and peril, and take up the work that lies nearest them."

To bring this new element more fully into our work, will need a change in our present method of working. It means that more missionaries, both home and foreign, must be found and trained as

medical missionaries who can go into the field and instruct the people in the ways of true righteousness, beginning at Jerusalem, for there, perhaps, is the greatest need. Our people, generally, do not see the great uplifting influence there is in the "right arm" of the message, and many are content to eat anything, anyhow, at any time, and also to violate the other principles of health reform that go to make life a pleasure and a spiritual success.

Shall we continue to treat the medical work as a side issue as we have done to a large extent in the past, or shall we plan to give it its rightful place?

We believe you will do what is right, and at this meeting plan definitely for this department. Would it be too much to ask this conference to pass a resolution to the effect that each local conference select one young man from its midst who has already shown some promise of developing into a worker, and encourage him to take up our medical course, and thus fit himself for a true medical missionary? It may mean a sacrifice to the conference, or perhaps rendering a little financial help; but, brethren, from the light that has been given us, it must prove profitable both to the man and to the cause in general.

During the past year one conference has followed this plan, and the testimony of this one alone will bear out our argument. The missionary who has not the medical experience is as unqualified as the medical worker without the missionary experience.

To sum up the whole matter, what is needed are young men and women who have first the willing mind, and then the other necessary qualifications to receive a training to make them successful medical missionary workers.

When special light was given in regard to the establishment of health institutions, it was plainly commanded that all who should act a part in them were to be reformers, having respect to their principles, and heeding the light shining upon us as a people. This should be enough to convince us that special care must be taken in the selection of men and women.

LIFE AT THE SANITARIUM

It may be interesting to know a little about our routine and the duties and privileges of those in training. Some have been misinformed regarding some things, and others have expressed surprise at what is done. "You make the young people work when you get them there," says one. If all would enquire and become more intelligent concerning the methods of working our sanitarium, the cause of God would not be wounded so often in the house of its friends.

Everybody is kept busy, yet we feel confident that whatever may have been in the past, to-day nobody is over-burdened with this combination of work and study. The general health and countenances of the workers will bear out the truth of this statement. Here follows an ordinary day's programme:

At 6 a.m. the day's work begins in all departments. The night-watchman and the nurses who have been on duty, now retire for their rest.

At 7.15 worship is conducted in the drawing-room, where patients and as many of the workers as can be spared from their work, meet together for fifteen minutes. The beautiful hymns ascending to the heavenly courts at this early hour are, with but rare exceptions, enjoyed by the patients.

At 7.45 the bell calls all to breakfast, trays being served in rooms to patients unable to come to the dining-room. After this, work is again resumed in the various departments.

At nine o'clock the nurses begin their work in the treatment rooms, which is carried on until nearly one o'clock. The doctors and matron are busy also, seeing and attending patients during this time. Other workers are engaged in the kitchen, dining-room, pantry, serving-room, laundry, laboratory, bedrooms, answering telephones and patients' room bells, etc.

At one o'clock patients' dinner is served. Fifteen minutes later workers have their dinner. Following this many are busy clearing away.

At 2 p.m. one of the lady nurses meets with the patients in the drawing-room for fifteen minutes to instruct them in breathing exercises. After this the patients who are able spend the afternoon on the croquet lawn or in the tennis court. Others pass the time watching these games, reading, talking, walking, etc.

About 3.15 order is again restored in the culinary department, and all nurses meet for fifteen minutes at opening exercises, which consist of a hymn, prayer, and words of counsel or exhortation, usually taken from the Scriptures or the Spirit of Prophecy. Following this the nurses separate for class study, which continues until 5.30; then preparations are made for the evening meal. Again there is the usual clearing away and washing up of dishes. This completes the day's work for those working in the culinary department.

At seven o'clock the nurse again leads the patients in exercises for twenty minutes, this time in the gymnasium.

At 8.30 nurses are again busy in the treatment rooms with any new patients who have arrived during the afternoon, and those, also, who find it difficult to sleep.

At nine o'clock the night-watchman reports for duty. Half an hour later all patients are expected to retire, also all workers not on duty. Lights are extinguished at ten o'clock, and perfect quietness is expected throughout the building until six o'clock the next morning.

Nurses' classes are held during the hours stated above, from Sunday to Thursday, and a class in gymnastics is held every Saturday evening. Each Wednesday afternoon from three to four, a general meeting is held for nurses, sometimes a senior nurse conducting it by giving a health lecture on a subject which has been assigned previously. This experience, we believe, will be a great help to them in field work. At other times it is devoted to studying with the workers the principles laid down by the Lord for conducting our institutional work.

While the above is a general daily programme, there are some variations both for patients and

nurses. Every Sunday evening a gospel service is held in the drawing-room at 7.45, which most of the patients attend and seem to appreciate. A lecture on health topics, sometimes taking the form of a "Question Box," is planned for one evening a week. Occasionally an evening is devoted to a talk to ladies only, given by our lady physician. One afternoon each week a cooking class is held for patients, instructing them in healthful cookery.

The nurses are allowed one full day off each month, and two weeks' holiday in the year.

Looking at things from every standpoint, and allowing for the few ups and downs in institutional life, it would be hard to find anywhere a happier band of young people under one roof. "For Thou, Lord, hast made me glad through Thy work," is the sentiment expressed by the majority of the young people who are giving their lives to the medical missionary work, after becoming better acquainted with the principles of health reform.

IMPROVEMENTS

Lack of funds prevents us from doing all that we would like to do, but we are pleased to report that some additions and repairs, which were absolutely necessary, have been made. A croquet court was laid down last year. This is greatly appreciated by the patients, and we know for a fact that it has been the means of keeping many people in the institution, so has already paid for itself.

Another addition is a tennis court in front of the sanitarium. The front entrance has been made more imposing, new pillars being erected, and electric light being carried down to the gates.

A new stable has been built, the gentlemen's bathrooms remodelled and the ladies' bathroom changed also. A laundry equipment has been installed, consisting of a washing machine, a hydro-extractor, and a steam mangle. These are a great boon, as much heavy work is saved. A new suction gas plant and engine for generating electricity has been installed, and is running satisfactorily.

Our poultry yard has received special attention, and to-day we have nearly three hundred fowls, and we are increasing the number all the time.

The halls have been covered with new linoleum, and the stairs recarpeted, the building painted, and a large number of rooms renovated. The dining-room has been furnished with more silverware; the orchard, which is the oldest in the district, has been largely cleared out, and hundreds of new fruit trees have been planted; and last but not least, a Chinese gardener has been added to our staff. We class him among our improvements, as one of our greatest difficulties in the past has been to grow vegetables. There are, also, a number of minor improvements.

FINANCE

We come now to a most important feature, the balance sheet. When we think of all the changes that have been made in the management and the medical staff during the past few years, we can thank the Lord that the showing is not worse than

it is. We firmly believe that with the changes and improvements now in hand, should no unforeseen circumstances arise over which we have no control, next year's running will see an improvement. This is a big institution, and needs much care and thought.

Our net loss for the year amounts to £467. This amount is nearly covered by two items on the profit and loss account; namely, interest £378, and bad debts £31, while our charity account shows £217. The interest is a great drain on our finances. During the past four years we have paid in interest £1,683. We have been able to transfer £3,864 from our five per cent interest account to three and a half per cent, which has helped a little, and we sincerely wish that it could all be thus reduced, or better still, wiped out altogether.

We desire to assure you that all we can do to keep down expense is being done. We found that the steam plant installed a few years ago was not only a nuisance on account of the smoke, but a great expense. Therefore, the change will be a profitable one. Apart from the general up-keep, a training institution naturally is under great expense, and the only hope under present conditions is to keep the place filled with patients. We praise the Lord for what He has done. During the past few months we have been very busy. In former years our patronage has waned considerably in the winter-time; but not so this year. Our doctors, matron, and workers are doing all in their power to please the patients.

We want our people throughout the Union Conference to help us, and they can. The Lord has said, "The Gentiles shall come to thy light." All the light of health reform is not to be stored up in our medical institution. The Lord wishes it to be distributed throughout the field, and our people are to be the distributors. That the people want the light needs no argument. Thousands would be only too glad to know about our medical institutions. We have printed a neat little souvenir which practically explains itself, that can be handed to interested individuals; or if advised of such persons, we will see that they are supplied.

If you could only see the joy and the change that comes over the majority of the patients when they come along, you would all take a greater interest in this work. Never mind the mistakes of the past. We are learning every day, and we want to tell you that during the past few months we have hardly had a complaint worth talking about. We all recognize the fact that we are a long way from perfection; but, brethren, your help is needed, and if everybody would become a live agent for the institution, it would largely overcome the financial difficulty.

GENERAL

We must not overlook the great object of our institution, the bringing of souls to Christ. We are pleased to be able to report that since the last Union Conference a number have taken their stand for the truth, while others have gone away fully convinced that our methods and teachings

are correct. Much seed has been sown and watered, and we believe the great Husbandman will give the increase.

During the past four years thirty-seven young people have crossed the threshold of our training institution to prepare for the work. Out of this number twelve are actively engaged in the work, some are in business for themselves, while thirteen out of the thirty-seven await the call of the conference in session. We sincerely hope that some corner in the work will be found for these, and that the medical work will receive a larger share of recognition than it has ever done before in the history of the third angel's message in Australasia.

G. S. FISHER, *Manager*.

Warburton Sanitarium

OF the institutional family in the territory and under the jurisdiction of the Union Conference, the Warburton Sanitarium is the youngest member. The first step toward the establishment of this institution was a donation of a tract of ten acres of land in close proximity to the publishing house. This piece of land is picturesquely situated on a slope overlooking the Yarra, and is approached by a road which has lately become a favourite tourists' track owing to the fact that the Victorian Government has lately carried this road to the top of the mountain, and has also opened up a branch track from this road to another famous resort through some of the finest scenery in the state.

For accessibility to charming scenery and for purity of atmosphere, the sanitarium is well favoured, and these advantages have played no small part in securing a patronage. Already the institution is becoming widely known as a place most suitable for persons requiring a complete rest; and remarkable success has attended the efforts of the medical superintendent, Dr. Howard James, and of the nurses.

Four years ago, under the superintendency of Dr. James, the sanitarium began operations in a house which was rented from the Signs Publishing Company. The accommodation consisted of five beds. The household staff consisted of but one lady, Miss C. Manson, who was matron, nurse, and housekeeper combined. Later, a second lady nurse was secured, and then followed a male nurse. Now the accommodation of the institution has grown to thirty beds, in addition to dormitory accommodation for the staff, which consists of nine persons, all told. It was but a short time before it became necessary to erect a suitable building, and it was with much fear and trembling that the task was undertaken. However, the prospects were hopeful, and the need for such an institution near Melbourne was great. So the work was proceeded with. It was not long before we found that our building was too small, and so it was decided, about ten months ago, to increase the size of the building to its present proportions. We now possess ample accommodation for present needs, and the institution is provided

with separate treatment rooms for ladies and for gentlemen, an excellent operating theatre, sewered lavatory accommodation, and other necessary conveniences.

Considerable expense has been incurred in advertising in order to make the place known to the general public, but this will repay us in time, as the patients we have already secured are assisting us very materially in bringing the institution under the notice of their friends and acquaintances.

Much work has been done on the grounds to make the immediate surroundings of the building attractive. Extensive lawns have been planted, and a number of beautiful shrubberies have also been set out. The specimen trees are doing extraordinarily well, as the climate of Warburton is

Adelaide Sanitarium

IN reviewing the work of this institution for the past four years, we cannot report the progress that we would wish.

As the patronage was very fluctuating during the year 1912, it was thought advisable to carry on the work in one cottage, and close the other one with a view to selling it. However, as we could not dispose of it at a satisfactory price, and our patronage improved, we decided to refurnish and carry on the work as before. We are glad to be able to say that our work here has been more prosperous during the past twelve months. At times our accommodation has been taxed to its utmost, and we have often had to keep patients waiting several weeks for



Warburton Sanitarium

especially adapted for the growth of immense trees. An orchard of 250 fruit trees is rapidly coming into bearing, and this, together with the vegetable garden, should soon become a source of profit to the institution.

The total investment in the sanitarium amounts in round figures to £5,000, of which about £2,500 is represented in the main building and £500 in dormitories, nurses' cottage, and outbuildings. About £1,500 has been expended in furniture and fittings, land improvements, garden, vehicles, fencing, etc., and the land is worth, in round figures, £500.

We desire the prayers of the brethren that this institution may be used of God for the salvation of many souls, and that it may prove a blessing not only physically but also spiritually to all its patrons. A. W. ANDERSON, *Manager*.

admission. At other times, however, our experience has been just the reverse of this.

During this year our finances have considerably improved. Besides paying eighty-seven pounds off our principal and having repairs to the value of thirty pounds made, we have a small credit balance.

We desire to express our gratitude to God for all His blessings to us. We are mindful that the work is His, and that His care is ever over us. We have been blessed in our work of caring for the sick, and have had the joy of seeing many greatly benefited in health.

While attending to the physical ailments of our patients, we have found many opportunities of speaking on spiritual things; and we have had the pleasure of knowing that, in some cases at least, a deep interest in these things has been manifested. We trust that the seed sown will bear fruit to the

glory of God. As a company of workers, we are of good courage, and are glad to be found in the service of the Master.

E. M. CLAPP, *Matron*.

Avondale Health Retreat

IN the special number of the Union Conference RECORD for July, 1899, Pastor W. C. White said that he had been on the Retreat ground, that fifty men and boys had been felling trees, and that they had had some most interesting times together. As soon as the clearing began, the people of the district rendered assistance, and one day the college helped also. He said it was hoped that the Retreat would serve the people of the locality and the public in three ways—as a hospital for non-contagious diseases; as a resort for invalids and business men who desired a secluded resort in the country, with healthful food and good hydropathic treatment; and also as a resting place for worn and weary missionaries.

Not long after those words were spoken, according to the plan outlined on that occasion the Retreat was built and comfortably furnished, ready for the reception of patients.

The spot selected for the Retreat is situated nearly a mile from the Australasian Missionary College, and faces the church, from which it is separated by a road. A number of dwellings have sprung up around these buildings. The old scattered town of Cooranbong, with its post office and police station for a centre, stretches away for another mile or so. The Retreat has undergone changes during the fourteen years since its erection. Additions to the structure have been made from time to time to increase its accommodation, and recently, to add to its comforts and attractions, it was newly furnished. Sometimes the Retreat has been in charge of trained nurses, at other times it has been under the personal management of fully qualified medical practitioners. The health lectures and other instruction given in the past by the Drs. D. H. and L. Kress, also Drs. Sherwin, Freeman, and Rand, and the Nurses Robie, are still referred to by the residents with expressions of appreciation.

It is to be regretted that the Retreat has been closed in the past for lengthened periods, and this has made it more and more difficult each time it has been reopened, to regain the old practice. When it has been open, the Retreat has probably filled the purpose for which it was originally built, with varying degrees of success financially.

The Retreat is, at the present time, under the management of the writer, who was, for a time, connected with our medical work at Summer Hill, and afterwards occupied the position of house physician in the Sydney Sanitarium with the Drs. Kress. He is assisted in his work by Nurse Judge, who has recently returned from the East Indies, where she went in the interests of the message after graduating at the sanitarium at Wahroonga.

A. STUTTAFORD, M. D.

New South Wales Conference

AS the writer has been connected with the New South Wales Conference in the capacity of president for much less than a year, he is not able to speak as intelligently as could be desired concerning the progress of the work in this conference during the past four years, and he can only present bare facts as learned from statistics.

However, we can say in truth that the Lord has been very gracious to His people in this large conference. In the words of the inspired Psalmist we can say from the heart, "Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men! For He satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness." "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea."

Personally, I wish to express my appreciation of the unvarying kindness with which I have been received and treated by the New South Wales workers, and the loyalty with which they have supported efforts for the extension of the message of truth.

While the results of the efforts of the workers have not been all that could be desired, we are glad to report that 288 have been added to the church membership since the Union Conference of 1910. On June 30, 1914, there were 1,307 members on the church rolls. Besides these there are thirty or more persons who have recently taken their stand for the truth where tent meetings have just closed or are not yet finished, and many of these have not yet been baptized.

There are also several in different places in the state who have lately accepted the truth through missionary efforts, and who have not yet been enrolled in our churches. Scattered through the state are isolated believers not included in our church membership, who, with those just mentioned, total nearly one hundred.

Since my connection with this conference, missions have been held in Quirindi, Tamworth, North Sydney, Bathurst, Boolaroo, Wallsend, Grenfell, and Cootamundra. Four tents have been in use. As a result of these efforts a church has been organized in Quirindi, fifteen have accepted the Sabbath in North Sydney, twelve new believers are reported from West Tamworth, and several new converts have been gathered in by the efforts at Boolaroo and Wallsend, and a few from the missions at Grenfell, Cootamundra, and Bathurst.

The other places, where missions have been conducted in the past four years, are Drummoyne, Goulburn, Kempsey, Merewether, Cowra, Wellington, Muswellbrook, Harden, Sydenham, Auburn, Ourimbah, Campsie, and Orange.

Since the last Union Conference, camp-meetings have been held at Merewether and Campsie, none having been held during the past year on account of the smallpox epidemic.

Including ministers, Bible-workers, tent-masters,

subsidized periodical workers, secretaries, and office helpers (a few of these have worked but a part of the year), we have had in conference employ thirty-two workers during the past year.

Though there are many in the conference who cannot yet claim the Lord's promise that He will "open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it" (Mal. 3:10), we are glad to say that the tithes of the conference have steadily increased since the last Union Conference session.

The largest amount of tithes ever received into the treasury of our state in one quarter was that received during the quarter ending June 30, 1914,—£1,398 9s. 4d.

The following shows the amount of tithes received each year since the previous quadrennial session of the Union Conference:

Year closing June 30, 1911	...	...	£3,387	19	8
" " " 1912	...	...	4,614	18	11½
" " " 1913	...	...	5,070	11	2½
" " " 1914	...	...	5,299	12	5½
<hr/>					
Total for four years	...	...	£18,373	2	3½
" " previous four years	...	...	9,868	18	11½
<hr/>					
Increase	...	...	£8,504	3	4

We feel extremely thankful that so many of our people are placing themselves where God can fulfil to them His promise to those who bring "all the tithes into the storehouse." This is one tangible way of demonstrating faith in God's great plan of enlightening the darkness of the world.

SABBATH-SCHOOL

This department of the message we consider to be second to none in importance. To reverently study God's Word is to bring the mind in direct contact with the divine mind. Through convention work in many of our city and suburban churches, we have been able to create an increased interest in Bible study. Until our people shall be willing to devote time to hard study of the lessons, very little, comparatively, will be accomplished by our Sabbath-schools.

We are pleased to see the growth of the membership of our schools. Four years ago there was an enrolment of 1,357. The number who are studying the Sabbath-school lessons at the present time is 1,536, an increase of 179.

Of course the Sabbath-school has not completed its mission when it can report a large enrolment. The real test of the efficiency of the Sabbath-school is the souls led to Christ, the spiritual benefits received as the living Word of God,—the incorruptible seed,—is planted in the heart, reproducing itself in human souls.

The work of the Sabbath-school in collecting funds for the mission fields is most encouraging. The offerings for the past four years have been £2,850. This is an increase over the previous four years of £1,431, or more than double.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

The work of the young people's department shows a healthy growth and development. Four

years ago there were twenty-four societies, with an enrolment of 672. To-day there are twenty-six societies and 807 members, an increase of 135. During the past four years, 163 of the young people have been received into our churches by baptism.

While the offerings of the societies were £605 for the four years ending 1910, the past four years showed an increase of £317, or total offerings of £923. This is a splendid showing, as well as being a great help to our mission fields.

CHURCH-SCHOOLS

While we cannot speak of increased numbers of church-schools, we are thankful that a good work is being done by these schools. There are at present four schools in operation. These are at Hamilton, Eugowra, Kyogle, and Wahroonga. The attendance at these schools is better than ever before, and a good interest is shown on the part of the pupils. This is as it should be.

LITERATURE WORK

The work of circulating our denominational literature, is a matter of prime importance. The Spirit of the Lord has informed us that if there is one work more important than another, it is that of placing our books, tracts, and periodicals in the hands of the people.

We are constantly receiving evidence of the truthfulness of this statement. Through the reading of our literature, persons in different parts of the state are from time to time taking their stand to obey the truth. One of the most interesting cases is that of a young man in the northern part of the state, who, a short time ago, through reading in the appendix of "Desire of Ages" that the Sabbath had been changed by Rome, began to observe the true Sabbath. Supposing he was the only observer of the day in Australia, he wrote to California to the author of that book, telling of his position, and asking if it would be well for him to go to America in order to obtain employment with observers of the Sabbath, and saying that even though he should lose his life he should continue to keep God's day.

For a few months past we have been holding institutes in the churches in and about Sydney, in which instruction has been given on tract and periodical work. A real interest has been manifested, and we have seen a substantial increase in the volume of work done.

The following table shows the value of books, tracts, and periodicals sold during the past four years:

Trade Books	Sub. Books	Periodicals	Year ending June 30
£579 3 5	£2,235 6 6	£718 4 8	1911
663 8 3	2,696 10 6	580 6 3	1912
715 7 5	2,735 3 6	663 8 3	1913
663 5 8	2,444 14 7½	870 8 3	1914
<hr/>			
£2,621 4 9	£10,111 15 1½	£2,832 7 5	

Total for four years ending June 30, 1914, £15,565 7s. 3½d.

The *average* value of books sold by agents during the past year is better than that of any previous year.

TEMPERANCE

A good work has been done by our churches in the circulation of temperance literature. By means of this literature, good seeds are being sown which will in the future tell for the abolition of the traffic in intoxicants. The work we are doing is highly commended by the other temperance societies.

During the four years since the last Union Conference, the sum of £845 16s. 4d. has been collected by our workers, and used for the dissemination of temperance literature. This has been collected from the public.

And now as we close this quadrennial term, and enter on the new and untried duties of the future, we see the nations of earth gathering for the battle of the great day of the Lord. Knowing as we do that these preparations will bring greater difficulties on the work of the message than we have ever before known, we can only pray for greater faith, gird on the armour more tightly, and beseech the Lord of heaven to hold the four winds till the work of sealing God's servants is finished.

E. H. GATES, *President*.

New Zealand Conference

THE hand of God has overruled our work all along the way. In spite of the obstacles that have been met, the progress made is a source of great encouragement to us. The Lord has freely bestowed His blessings, and the years have been filled with His goodness. For this we feel deeply grateful, for without His aid our efforts would have been of no avail.

According to figures, our membership appears considerably smaller than that reported four years ago, but although this is so, we are glad to report over one hundred and seventy baptisms during this term. Many others, who have not yet taken this step, have commenced to keep the Sabbath. Some churches have been reorganized, and the faithful united into one good, living church. We believe that all our churches are in good standing now, and that we have on our church rolls 593 members whom we believe to be faithfully endeavouring to live aright in the sight of God. The old Epsom church has been removed from Epsom Road, and rebuilt and reorganized. It now stands as a neat memorial in William Street, Edendale,—a new and growing suburb of Auckland,—with a membership of forty-five, all young, active members. The Kaeo and Gisborne churches have also been reorganized.

As one evidence of the spiritual condition of the conference, we might state that the tithe for the past four years has amounted to £12,752 4s. Each year has shown a large advance on the previous year. The last year of the four is £1,006 higher than the first year. In addition to this,

£2,334 has been given to foreign missions, and £1,942 to home missions. Our surplus tithe two years ago was such that we could afford to use more workers, and deal fairly with each regarding finances. We have done this, but instead of finding our surplus tithe reduced, we find it has increased from £612 to £1,189 in the two years. Truly this is evidence of God's blessing on His work, and a surety that if we will press out and give this message, He will provide means for its support. We have increased our number of workers to sixteen, and all have done good service, and borne responsibility in different centres. They have been situated in the large cities of Wellington, Auckland, Christchurch, and Dunedin, as well as in Gisborne, Wanganui, and Nelson. The isolated Sabbath-keepers have also been well visited by the workers in the nearest districts. This plan to distribute the workers in so many centres has been very successful, in that the responsibility placed on each has made him strong.

A good spirit of unity and willingness has prevailed on the part of all workers and church members, and we believe this has brought the blessing of God upon His work.

Until two years ago, our office was situated at Lower Hutt. We have now moved into Wellington, and we find it much more convenient, both for the necessary business in connection with the office, and for our people visiting the office. Its advantages are many.

One other big step taken is the building of a church in Wellington. This is situated about fifteen minutes' walk from the heart of the city. At the time of writing it had just been completed and is ready for use. This makes the fifteenth church building in the conference, there being but one church left without a building of its own. Our brethren throughout the conference have helped very liberally, and in all £972 has been given towards the cost, while £500 has been lent, mostly free of interest.

The land so near the city was an expensive item. This church is built after the plan of the Wahroonga church, New South Wales, but is of ferro concrete with tiled roof. We are well pleased with it.

THE SABBATH-SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

We are glad for what this branch of the church has done for our people, as well as the help it has given to other fields by its offerings and prayers. The consecration services are entered into with earnestness, and good results always attend them. We see our young people taking part in these services more and more.

We have twenty-five Sabbath-schools. In all there are 844 members in the various schools. The offerings are gradually increasing, having risen from £382 to £506 a year. The sum of £1,871 4s. 2d. has been given during this quadrennial period. Each school seems to endeavour to do better each succeeding quarter. We realize the

blessing the Sabbath-school can be to us, and, as one has said, "The Sabbath-school will always need the presence and the help of every church member, and each church member will always need the help and the blessing of the Sabbath-school." So our aim has been to have every Sabbath-keeper attend Sabbath-school.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT

We are able to report progress in the efforts put forth by the young people to keep their department alive. We have four societies composed of from twelve to thirty members, while the remainder have a smaller membership. Including isolated youth and children, we have 234 members enrolled. They have given to the amount of £326 13s. 6d. for foreign missions, and £172 19s. 10d. for work in the home field. They have also taken an active part in the circulation of literature. The quarterly doctrinal studies are being taken up with a good deal of interest, and are proving a real blessing to the young people. Each quarter finds new names on the list of those taking part in the examination. We hope yet to enlist many more young people in the Reading Course; for we know it to be of great advantage to them.

TRACT SOCIETY DEPARTMENT

In looking over the canvassing work for the past few years, one is soon impressed with its decided growth. We feel that in this line of work we have received a large measure of God's blessings. The last quadrennial period reached £18,200 in value of orders taken. During the previous quadrennial period, the orders valued only £9,500. We find that almost as many books were sold during the past four years as were sold during the previous eight years. Our past four years' summaries have averaged £4,500 a year, or an increase of £2,000 a year on the average of the preceding eight years.

The most encouraging feature in these comparisons is that these results are not because of many more men being in the field. We have had an average of fifteen agents, compared with thirteen in previous years. We believe the increase has been because the individual efficiency has been developed. The average value of books sold per annum by each agent is £200. The first three years of the quadrennial period, the yearly averages have been £300, and during the last year they have reached just on £400.

The colporteurs are of good courage, and appreciate all the instruction that is sent to them in order to help them to become more efficient workers.

The total profits in the tract society during the four years is £505 9s. 6d. This is after making a donation of £75 to the Union Conference for the Oroua Missionary School. God has wonderfully blessed His work and we thank Him for it.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY WORK

The work of the religious liberty secretary has been of a strenuous character during the past year. Brother Meyers has visited most of our churches and companies in connection with the petition against the "Religious Instruction Referendum Bill."

To date, fifty thousand signatures have been obtained, and this can be considered excellent, seeing that the entire force of the Church of England, the Presbyterian and the Methodist Churches, and the Salvation Army have been able to obtain only one hundred and forty thousand signatures to the Bible in Schools' Petition.

Our effort has met with a hearty reception from many of the most prominent citizens. University professors, headmasters of schools, as well as many honest clergymen, have been much impressed with our attitude toward this measure. Our petition has been presented to the House of Representatives, and this has given Brother Meyers an opportunity to speak to at least half the members of the House. It is confidently expected that the bill will be killed when dealt with in its latest stages. Apart from this, we have also the sympathy of the Upper House.

In addition to the work of opposing the Bible in schools, we have at times met the military authorities to secure ourselves in regard to Sabbath exemption and exemption for our students and colporteurs from the force of the Defence Act. In regard to Sabbath exemption, we are treated with marked kindness, and our boys are allowed to leave the camp to attend the Sabbath worship. Our colporteurs cannot obtain exemption except by a special permit from a magistrate, which is a very unsatisfactory method of procedure. Providentially, our students have been dealt with in a friendly manner by the officer commanding the district. They have been granted exemption from attendance at parade, at camp, and at gun drill. Instead, an instructor will give them physical exercises, including marching. This will in all probability be left to us to carry out ourselves when one of our boys satisfies the authorities that he knows enough to give the instruction himself. We have, however, obstacles to face in regard to military training which are peculiar to New Zealand, and we hope at this conference to obtain clearer light to guide us in our dealings with the Defence Department.

THE SCHOOL

The new school at Longburn was opened on April 30, 1913, with an attendance of fifteen. Others came within a very short time. At present the school is well filled, and extra accommodation has had to be fitted up. A good class of students are in attendance, and all seem very contented. A good spiritual tone prevails. The school is now in good running order, and the farm is yielding good returns. From these products the amount of £150 has been paid off the school's indebtedness.

The church-school at Cambridge has an enrolment of eleven, and is making good progress. The building is almost paid for, and our church members there are contributing loyally towards the upkeep of their school.

Another church-school has just been started at Christchurch. A kindergarten school which was for sale, suited our needs very well. The land and building have now been purchased and are

free of debt. Sister Wicks offered to serve as teacher for the time being.

OUR CAFES

In the Auckland cafe several improvements have been made. An extra room has been rented for an office and a storeroom, the former office having been given to extend the kitchen. The patronage was never better than it has been during the past year.

The Wellington cafe is also much better patronized than formerly. It is attended by a good class of people, who seem well satisfied with the appearance of the premises and the tastiness of the food. The past year has shown the best gain for some time, this being £88 11s. 1d.

The business at the Christchurch food store is keeping up well, though it is barely meeting running expenses at present. The new manager writes encouragingly of the work, and now that he has a good hold, he expects business to improve again shortly. In the past four years the debit balance on the profit and loss account has been reduced from £70 14s. 8d. to £14 4s. 9d.

THE SANITARIUM

The sanitarium does its work in a quiet way. The best of spirits prevails among the workers, and patients speak highly of the treatment received. The number of patients varies from time to time, but the building is full at present. The institution almost pays its way.

Its influence is good, and through it many hear the truth each year. Occasionally we hear of persons having kept the Sabbath "ever since their stay at the sanitarium."

In closing, we express our deep gratitude to God for the prosperity which has attended every department, and rather than feeling satisfied with the present attainments, we pray for increased usefulness that His truth may go forward with more earnestness and zeal.

J. M. COLE, *President*.

Queensland Conference

THE Queensland Conference comprises territory measuring six hundred and seventy thousand square miles, and, though regarded as the smallest conference of the Union, is five and a half times larger than Great Britain, three times the size of France, exceeds the area of any country in Europe, except Russia, has a coast line of 3,000 miles, a railway system of 4,898 miles (the longest in the Commonwealth), and is large in everything but population, which numbers only 660,158, or less than one person to the square mile.

Within this vast area twenty-one labourers are giving life and effort to the Master's business. Seven of these are engaged in Bible work, and twelve in evangelistic canvassing. But, though the field is extensive, the difficulties great and numerous, and the labourers few, we praise God and offer Him grateful thanks for the progress of the message in

Queensland, and for the good success which has attended the efforts of each labourer in the field.

It is satisfactory to note that the membership of the conference shows an increase of nearly one hundred for the past four years, and stood on June 30 last at 389. This number will be considerably augmented when those who now await baptism have been admitted to church membership. The number of churches is increased by one, and gives a present total of six. This doubtless will be regarded as a very small increase in the number of churches, but, owing to the scattered nature of the population, the policy of the conference committee has been to encourage our wide-spreading membership to connect with the churches already in existence, rather than form new churches, thus enabling the conference officers to keep more directly in touch with each individual member. The plan is working satisfactorily.

The tithe for the same period amounted to £5,797 1s. 4d., a gain of £2,501 15s. 11d. over the previous four years. While careful not to exceed our income, we have endeavoured to use the full amount of tithe in aggressive work, but, by the rich blessing of God, our tithe account on June 30 last was in credit £423 19s. 4d.; the present worth of the conference on the same date being £980 11s. 8½d. The total contributions to foreign missions have been £583 14s. 6½d.; and for home mission work, £128 1s. 1½d.; while £814 9s. 4d. has been given in our Sabbath-schools to missions. These, with the offerings of our young people, give a total for missions of £1,830 6s. 10d. In addition to this amount the sum of £500, given by a brother who has recently accepted the truth, has been handed to the Union Conference for the establishment of a fund for the use of needy institutions within the Union Conference.

Three camp-meetings have been held during this period, and much aggressive work has been done in the field by means of tent meetings, house-to-house work, etc., each conference labourer being actively and aggressively engaged. A good spirit prevails amongst the workers, and God has richly blessed their united service.

The tract society has been an exceedingly active and effective agency in the proclamation of the message, and its staff of faithful colporteurs has been wonderfully blessed of God in the efforts put forth. Four years ago the tract society showed a deficit of £438 15s. 4½d. But we are thankful to our Heavenly Father that this has now been converted into a credit balance of £15 2s. 10½d. The increase in book sales has been consistently satisfactory throughout this period, and one very gratifying feature of the colporteur work is the larger number of denominational books sold during the past year.

In the Sabbath-school Department good advancement has been made. There are now fourteen schools as against nine in 1910. The membership now reaches 485, an increase of 131. The Sabbath-school donations, as already stated, total £814 9s. 4d., being in advance of the offerings of the previous period by £456 14s. 8d.

The work for the young people is making very decided progress. The missionary volunteer membership numbers 269, and is banded in ten widely scattered societies. The earnest efforts of these young people have resulted in the raising for missionary enterprise of the sum of £304 1s. 10d., which has been used in supporting a worker in New Guinea, providing a wagon for Monamona, two new mission tents for the home field, a number of family tents as camp equipment, and in establishing a fund for the training of missionary colporteurs.

Queensland's needs are many and great. Intemperance and immorality are dominant in the social life of the people. Carelessness marks the attitude of the masses, but there still remain many who will gladly follow their Lord in the truth of the message. We need more workers fully consecrated to its proclamation. Those who now labour in this field esteem it a privilege to be "workers together with Him" who has wrought with such power in the past, and they labour on rejoicing in the knowledge that ere long the work will triumph gloriously, and the redeemed of God will go home.

C. H. WATSON, *President*.

South Australian Conference

THE past four years have seen steady, although not very rapid advancement of the cause of God in South Australia. Earnest efforts have been put forth to bring the message more prominently before the people of this state. We have more tent missions and a larger staff of workers than in former years. Our workers have met with a fair amount of success. A widespread spirit of inquiry has been aroused, and there are abundant opportunities for presenting the message, publicly and privately. The number of our organized churches has increased from nine to twelve. Four years ago the total number of Sabbath-keepers reported was 397. On June 30, 1914, after a careful revision of the rolls, our church membership totalled 451, a gain of fifty-four members. During the past two years aggressive and successful work has been done at Broken Hill and Port Pirie, also at the various missions conducted in Adelaide and suburbs. This past year we have also been able, having received assistance from the Union Conference, to undertake work among the German people, of whom there are many thousands in this state.

In the matter of buildings some advancement has been made. An excellent cement-block structure suitable for a church-school has been added to the Prospect church. This building has been wholly paid for. Our people have promised more than six hundred pounds for the erection of conference and tract society offices and a city mission hall. Almost all of this has been paid. The building is now almost completed, and should prove a great convenience to the work. In Broken Hill we have moved the church building to a more central and suitable site, a move for which the believers in that city have looked for years.

Generally speaking, there is a spirit of earnestness

and devotion to the work of the message among our brethren and sisters in South Australia, and a ready response to every call for sacrifice.

CONFERENCE FINANCES

During the quadrennial period, £7,149 14s. 3½d. has been received in tithes. The tithe for the preceding four years was £5,622 0s. 2d., so that the increase for the term just closed is £1,527 14s. 1½d. Doubtless the increase would have been greater, but the past two years have been very dry seasons, and have greatly affected the general prosperity.

THE CANVASSING WORK

In spite of dry seasons, our literature sales have continued to advance. The sales for the past four years are as follows: 1911, ending June 30, £1,951 10s. 1½d.; 1912, £2,424 17s. 2½d.; 1913, £2,537 2s. 8½d.; 1914, £3,387 17s. 2½d., making a total of £10,300 11s. 6d., or £2,472 10s. 2d. in advance of the sales for the preceding four years. This good result has been achieved only by self-sacrificing and courageous effort on the part of the corps of labourers engaged in this branch of work. Besides placing the books in the homes of the people, our colporteurs have been instrumental in leading others in various parts of the conference to embrace the message.

SABBATH-SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

During the quadrennial period our Sabbath-school membership has increased from 411 to 484, an increase of seventy-three. A good interest is being manifested in the Sabbath-school work, but there are yet many among us who are not enrolled as Sabbath-school members, as may be gathered from the fact that the school membership is only thirty-three in advance of the church membership. The offerings have steadily increased each year, and totals £872 16s. for the four years. The amount given during the preceding four years was £606 5s. 8½d., which shows an increase of £266 10s. 3½d. for the term just closed.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT

During the three years, 1911-13, this branch of the work suffered a little for lack of special attention, being cared for by those carrying pressing responsibilities in other departments. In 1913, however, we began to see a great revival, having at that time arranged for a leader whose time could be almost wholly devoted to this work. In the taking of the reading course and doctrinal study, there has been a marked advance. Besides helping in home and foreign mission work, the young people have been able to help a number of important church enterprises. The offerings for the four years are as follows: 1911 to June 30, £49 14s. 1½d.; 1912, £30 17s. 11½d.; 1913, £32 15s. 1d.; 1914, £106 0s. 10d. Total £219 8s. The amount given for 1914 was almost as much as for the other three years combined. For the preceding four years the offerings were £157 3s. 7d., showing a gain of £62 4s. 4d. for the term just closed.

CHURCH-SCHOOLS

Since the last Union Conference we have opened a church-school at Kensington, making three in all. There has been a good increase in the attendance, and our church-school work on the whole is decidedly on the up grade.

ADELAIDE SANITARIUM

Our sanitarium has had a fair patronage, and has been able to hold its own very well. During the year 1912 there was a loss of £29 17s. 8½d., but the three years following showed a profit of £196 16s. 5d., of which £93 2s. 10d. was earned in the year just closed. This is encouraging to the workers connected with the institution. The net gain for the four years is £166 18s. 8½d.

ADELAIDE CAFE

In our cafe work steady advancement has been made. Our workers have applied themselves earnestly and industriously to make the work a success, and a growing influence for good has been exercised. The cafe has prospered financially, having made a substantial profit for each of the past four years, the total gain being £386 16s. 6d.

We feel that praise is due to our Heavenly Father for His care over the work in this field, in all its various branches. It is the earnest desire of all our workers, and of the believers in all our churches, to live nearer to the Lord, and to be wholly led by His Spirit in the future.

W. W. FLETCHER, *President.*

Victoria-Tasmania Conference

TO the delegates of the Australasian Union Conference I bring greetings from the 1,216 members of the Victoria-Tasmania Conference, as you are assembled in Union Conference session.

As we contemplate the blessings of the Lord in our conference, we are filled with gratitude to our Father in heaven. This is best expressed in the words of the Psalmist, "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad."

TERRITORY

The territory of this conference consists of the states of Victoria and Tasmania. Just before the last session of the Union Conference, these states, which until then had been independent conferences, were united and organized into the Victoria-Tasmania Conference.

EVANGELICAL

During the four years since the past session of the Union Conference, aggressive work has been continued, and success has attended the efforts put forth. Our labourers are all of good courage. They have been claiming the promises of God found in Acts 1:8: "Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me."

Camp-meetings have been held each year in Tasmania and, with the exception of one year, in Victoria. Great good has resulted from these gatherings, not only because some who previously had not heard the message have accepted the truth, but also because many of the young people have given their hearts to God, and others have received help. During the past year we have had six tents in the field, and all report success. The result has been that during the seven months since our late conference was held, more than one hundred persons have accepted this precious truth. This will greatly increase our membership next year.

At the time of our previous Union Conference session, our conference had a membership of 1,064. We are glad to report that at the close of our conference year, June 30, 1914, our membership had increased to 1,216, a gain of 152. Four years ago we had twenty-four churches; now we have twenty-eight. At that time there were only eleven church buildings; the present number is fourteen.

In 1910 there were seven ordained ministers; we now have eight. We have also five licensed ministers, as compared with three in 1910. There are eleven Bible workers instead of nine, and twenty-six colporteurs where there were but eighteen four years ago.

FINANCES

The tithe for the four years ending June 30, 1910, was £12,777 7s. 3d., while for the past four years it amounted to £16,791 7s. 5d., a gain of £4,014 0s. 2d. This includes only one-fourth of the tithe paid by the Warburton Church, the other three-fourths going direct to the Union Conference. If the whole amount of tithe from this church were included, the total tithe from this conference would exceed £19,000 for the four years. The tithe for the past six months has been larger than for any corresponding period in the history of the conference.

A healthy gain has also been made in the offerings for missions, which amounted to £5,715 17s. 2d. during the past four years; whereas for the previous four years it was only £2,738 9s., thus showing a gain of £2,977 8s. 2d., or 105 per cent.

The balance sheet for the period ending June 30, 1914, shows that our assets exceed our liabilities by £1,380 4s. 1d., which is an increase of £492 12s. 1d. during the quadrennial period.

TRACT SOCIETY

In presenting the report of the tract society, the secretary writes: "We desire first of all to acknowledge the goodness of the Lord that has been extended to us. On every hand we can see the work advancing slowly but surely; and we have many evidences that the members of this conference are working with zeal to interest their friends and neighbours in the truths we hold so dear. Many have accepted the truth simply by reading the tracts and papers that have been circulated. We will quote from only one of many letters received:

I am writing to thank you for the tracts you sent me, on the Word of God, and to tell you that I have decided to step out and keep the true Sabbath, and with the help of God to live up to it. I hope you will be able to bring others to see the light

as you have shown it to me. If ever you visit here again I would like you to let me know, so that I could arrange for our neighbours to meet you and hear the message you are giving.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Union Conference Council held September, 1911, the subscription bookwork was taken over by the Signs Publishing Company on January 1, 1912, and this branch of the work has been handled by the publishing house since that date.

From an output amounting in 1911 to only £2,154, the value of books, periodicals, and other literature has steadily increased, so that the sales of literature for the past two years have been nearly £7,000 each year. The total value of the literature sold by the tract society during the past four years amounts to £18,901 9s. 3d.; and the net profit on the operations of the society for the year ending June 30, 1914, is £186 17s. 3d. The weekly circulation of the *Signs* in the Victoria-Tasmania Conference is 2,235, in addition to a large number of the *Outlook* and *Life and Health*.

THE CANVASSING WORK

Eternity alone will reveal the amount of good that has been accomplished by the faithful col-porteurs of this conference during the past four years. Books to the value of £19,939 18s. 2d. have been sold. A large number of people in our conference are rejoicing in the truth to-day as the result of the faithful efforts of this noble band of workers.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY DEPARTMENT

During the past four years we have engaged in several special efforts along the lines of religious liberty work. Letters were sent to every member of Parliament in Victoria and Tasmania, accompanied by a copy of "Rights of Man." Almost without exception the members responded, thanking us for the book. Letters were also sent to three thousand state school teachers, with the tracts "Religion in the State Schools," and "Should the State Teach Religion?" A special issue of the *Signs* on "Religion and the State" was circulated, fifty thousand copies being distributed. In addition to this, one hundred thousand tracts on the subject were also scattered. By the use of collecting cards, funds sufficient to cover all the expenses of the campaign were obtained.

A continual agitation is being carried on by the Scripture Instruction Council, to secure the teaching of the Bible in the state schools. Some time ago a very successful deputation was organized to visit the Premier of Victoria, and about sixty of our church members attended. The Premier gave us a very patient hearing, although he did not agree with our position. The chief result of this visit to the Premier was the opportunity it gave us to place our views before the public of Victoria, as there were five newspaper reporters present at the interview, and long reports were published in the daily press. A special issue of the *Signs* on the Bible in Schools question was also distributed throughout the state to the number of fifty thousand copies.

In a recent campaign, over twelve thousand copies of the "Military Menace in Australia," and five

thousand copies of the leaflet, "Is the Defence Act Popular?" have been circulated in our conference.

The temperance question has also been kept to the front, and much good has been accomplished by the literature which has been sown broadcast.

PRESS BUREAU

A number of individuals in various churches have enlisted in the work of the press bureau; and although this work is only in its infancy, we have already been able to secure the insertion in the large city dailies, and also in the country papers of a great many articles and items relating to various phases of our work. There is a wide field of usefulness before this publicity department.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

We have in our conference one home school and one church-school. The latter is situated at Warburton, and has now been in operation for a number of years. During the past year the attendance has averaged between eighty and ninety children, under the care of three teachers. A good proportion of these children are from families who are not Seventh-day Adventists.

WARBURTON SANITARIUM

We have a well-equipped sanitarium in Victoria, situated at Warburton. The building contains between thirty and forty rooms, and has accommodation for thirty patients. Ladies' and gentlemen's treatment rooms have been provided and equipped with every necessary facility for hydropathic and electric treatments. Marked success has attended the efforts of the medical superintendent and the nurses in handling the cases which have been committed to our care, and the institution is growing in popularity. The total value of the institution is about four thousand five hundred pounds.

SANITARIUM CAFE

The Melbourne cafe is enjoying a good patronage, the past year showing a decided gain in the number of meals served as well as in the quantity of health foods sold. The net profit for the year was over seventy-eight pounds. We are thankful for the faithful staff of workers in our cafe. Special instruction is given a class in hygienic cooking, and altogether our cafe is exerting a good influence among the people.

SABBATH-SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

That the people in the Victoria-Tasmania Conference have not lost their interest in the Sabbath-school is evident from the fact that the membership of the Sabbath-schools exceeds the membership of the churches by fifty-eight, for our Sabbath-schools have a total of 1,274 members.

We are much encouraged because of the good work being accomplished by our Sabbath-schools. The missionary spirit prevails. The increase in the offerings to missions for the past four years over the corresponding period ending June 30, 1910, is £314 12s. 7d. For that quadrennial period the offer-

ings were £1,442 13s. 11d.; while for the four years ending June 30, 1914, our Sabbath-school offerings amounted to £1,737 6s. 6d.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT

The work for the young people is advancing. Four years ago the membership of our young people's societies was 263. There has been a steady increase since that time, and the membership of the Missionary Volunteer Department is now 540, having more than doubled. The number taking the Bible studies is 281.

The young people of the Victoria-Tasmania Conference are glad of the privilege of supporting Brother and Sister Parker in the New Hebrides, and also Sister Meyers, who is working among the Indians in Fiji. They have also been pleased to raise £278 toward the support of Pastor and Sister Jones in the Solomon Islands. We believe our young people are attaining higher ground and gaining new experiences. They are endeavouring in every way to advance the cause to which they have dedicated their lives. The offerings from the Young People's Department for both home and foreign fields during the four years amount to £1,614 17s. 11d.

CONCLUSION

There is harmony, unity, and love among our labourers. As workers and people we are united in the policy of advancing the cause of truth and in building up a strong work. We are making a determined effort to spread the message, both in the home field and in the regions beyond, to a glorious conclusion in this generation.

M. LUKENS, *President*.

Western Australian Conference

WE render this report of the Western Australian Conference for the quadrennial period, 1911 to 1914, with the thought in mind that to God is the praise for what has been accomplished. General advance has been made, although there are features of the work that need strengthening.

Western Australia is the largest state in the Commonwealth, having an area of 975,920 square miles, an area almost equal to Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland put together. The population is 324,905, but these figures exclude about forty thousand aborigines, less than half of whom are in contact with Europeans, the remainder being in their wild state. It was in March, 1902, that the field was organized into a conference.

MEMBERSHIP, FINANCE, FIELD FORCE, AND WORK

The membership of the conference is 503, an increase for the quadrennial period of 109. We wish we could report better results, but in what has been done we are thankful for the prospering hand of our God. The tithe receipts for the period under consideration show a steady increase year by year, and for the whole period amount to £9,345 2s. 7d. This is an increase of £2,393 5s. over the previous four years. Offerings to foreign

missions, exclusive of Sabbath-school and young people's offerings, amount to £1,204 4s., while the brethren have always been generous in helping to supply the needs of the home field. The balance sheet of the conference for the year ending June 30, 1914, shows a credit balance of £533 7s. 7d. to the tithe account, and all the other funds are in a very good condition.

Our field force consists of two ordained ministers, two licentiates, and six workers who hold missionary licenses. Three of these are sisters. We have four workers handling periodicals, two of whom give their whole time to this work. The office staff consists of four.

Four camp-meetings have been held, and in different centres missions have been carried on with varying success.

TRACT SOCIETY AND MISSIONARY CAMPAIGN

Our bookwork is not what it should be, and is, perhaps, the weakest feature of the work in the West. The story of the quadrennial period in this department is the story of getting out of debt but to get into it again. We are glad to state, however, that there was the slight gain of 18s. 1d. on the running for the year ending June 30, 1914. On July 1, 1914, the books show a debit balance of £62 11s. 8d. For two years running, the sales showed a falling off, but the past year's record shows an increase of £609 5s. 2d. on the previous year. The total sales for the four years were £6,123 8s. 5d. At the present time we have six agents in the field.

Now that the churches are beginning to hold missionary meetings again, the Missionary Campaign Department is showing increased work done from quarter to quarter, but the great need is that *all* our members should realize their personal responsibility to sow the seed of truth. We believe that this department of the work would greatly benefit if it had the services of a suitable campaign secretary, a worker who knows not only how to push the missionary effort, but who also will do it.

SABBATH-SCHOOL

The present membership of the Sabbath-school is 758, this being an increase of 190 since the previous Union Conference. Year by year, the offerings have shown a steady increase, amounting to £465 12s. 1d. for the year ending June 30, 1914, as compared with £295 10s. 7d. for the year ending June 30, 1910, a difference of £170 1s. 6d. The study of the lessons has been a spiritual help to the scholars, and the consecration services held from time to time have been profitable seasons.

EDUCATIONAL

There are four church-schools in the conference, with an enrolment of forty-seven. They are found in connection with the churches at Perth, Heidelberg, Preston, and Bookara. Other churches are thinking seriously about asking for schools.

The Darling Range Intermediate School has enjoyed the blessing of the Lord. For the four years under review its enrolment has been as follows: for

1911, fifty; 1912, thirty-two; 1913, fifty-one; and for 1914, thirty-five. There is room for a larger enrolment than at present obtains, and greater effort should be put forth to secure such. The balance sheet for the year 1913, the latest available, shows a gain on the year's operations of £85 15s. 9d. In this connection it is noteworthy that the school has had a gain on its financial running every year since its beginning. The net worth of the institution, January 1, 1914, was £3,794 11s. 4d.

The faculty consists of the principal, matron, two assistant teachers, one of whom teaches instrumental music as well as other classes, and the farm manager, who is also preceptor of the young men's hall.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER

Our young people's work is encouraging, and steady progress can be reported. As far as can be ascertained, there are in the conference 351 young people between the ages of six and twenty-five, and of this number, 297 are connected with our young people's societies. Those taking the quarterly examinations on doctrinal subjects, a most helpful study, are an increasing band, the figures for 1911 being 64, while for 1914 they are 237. "Morning Watch Calendars" to the number of 476 copies were sold for 1914, an increase of 226 over the previous year. The money raised by the young people for foreign missions for the four years under consideration, amounted to £385 10s. 10½d.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

During 1912 a campaign with "Rights of Man" was carried on with the members of both Houses of Parliament in this state, and a number of letters were received from different members speaking favourably of the principles advanced by the author of this work. Of late, plans calling for an effort to secure names to a petition for the abolition of the compulsory clauses of the Defence Act, were put into operation.

PRESS BUREAU

Several of our workers have been successful in getting short reports of sermons published in the country papers, but not such favourable results obtain in connection with the papers in the capital. However, mention should be made of the reports of sermons and other matters that the city papers published during the progress of the Mount Lawly camp-meeting. Mention should also be made of the excellent newspaper work of one of our isolated sisters in the south-west. The editor of the paper to which she has contributed articles, has thanked her for the same, and asked for more of such matter.

NEEDS AND CONCLUSION

The size of the conference, the slow means of transit, and the ever-increasing pleas for help seem to call in no uncertain tone for an additional ordained minister. We sincerely hope that the services of such a worker can be granted to us. We

feel that the call of the hour is for a deeper consecration on our part to live so near to the great Master Worker that He indeed can work through us "to will and to do of His good pleasure."

A. H. PIPER, *President.*

Society Islands

WE are glad to submit the following report of the progress of the work in these islands during the past four years.

We have passed through many changes during that time. Though the experiences have been varied, the Lord's hand has been seen through all, directing His cause and supporting it in every time of need.

We were favoured with the help of Brother and Sister Sharp in Raiatea during 1912 and 1913. We were sorry, however, to have to part with these workers after two years' labour. Brother and Sister Howse from the Australasian Missionary College, succeeded them. Brother and Sister Adams arrived here in January, 1913, and worked in Tahiti for six months with our periodicals and books, after which they passed on to Pitcairn Island.

Lately we were surprised to meet again old Brother McCoy, who has returned from Pitcairn to take up the canvassing work among the ships at the port of Papeete.

The general labourers from Australia who have visited this field since the last Union Conference meeting, are Pastor A. H. Piper in 1910, Pastor Gates in 1911, and Pastor Fulton in 1912. Important business matters were discussed at the time of these visits of the Union Conference representatives, and decisions arrived at which led to the sale of the missionary schooner, *Tiare*, running at that time to Pitcairn Island; the disposal of the mission property and church at Papeete; and the disorganization of all the churches throughout the field. The last action was a serious, but necessary one, as the denomination had little control of the old organization. Subsequently the work in Raiatea and Tahiti, was reorganized. Those only who were in harmony with the message on all points, were voted in as members of the new organization. Eight persons in Raiatea and seven in Tahiti, besides the workers, formed the new church. Since then some of the old members have returned and new ones have been added, till a membership of twenty-nine has been reached. There are forty-three altogether who are keeping the Sabbath. Many of these are shut out from church membership because of the use of tobacco, while a few are awaiting baptism. The total membership of the Sabbath-schools is sixty-seven.

We have four church buildings in the group—two in Tahiti, one in Raiatea, and one in Huahia.

The following figures show the amount of money collected on account of the several funds among us during the past four fiscal years ending June 30, 1914:

1910-11—Book and Periodical sales	... £19	8	7	
Tithes—Pitcairn Island	... 36	0	0	
Tithes—Society Islands	... 65	14	8	} £95 15 11
Sabbath-school offerings	... 16	14	0	
Other offerings ...	... 13	7	3	
1911-12—Book and Periodical sales	... 22	6	4	
Tithes ...	... 88	2	10	} £124 10 0
Sabbath-school offerings	... 24	0	9	
Other offerings ...	... 12	6	5	
1912-13—Book and Periodical sales	... 20	15	4	
Tithes ...	... 111	0	11	} £145 13 11
Sabbath-school offerings	... 23	16	5	
Other offerings ...	... 10	16	7	
1913-14—Book and Periodical sales	... 21	10	9	
Tithes ...	... 118	18	1	} £159 10 5
Sabbath-school offerings	... 27	1	7	
Other offerings ...	... 13	10	9	

While our tithes and offerings have increased year by year, our book sales have been at a standstill on account of having no regular worker to carry forward that work.

With the scattered sections of the work in this field, and the necessity of regular attention to the native meetings to keep the members in the faith, the present working force is inadequate to attend to all branches of the work, and to push the message into new fields. Therefore but little has been attempted in new places since the reorganization.

We ask our committee at this sitting of the Union Conference for a kindly consideration of the needs of this field relative to a reinforcement of workers.

We need a worker for the canvassing and colporteur work on the island of Tahiti; and also a worker for evangelistic work in the many islands of the group.

With these additions we could care for what interests we have, and make advances into new fields.

In conclusion, we wish to express our feelings of thankfulness to the members of the Conference Committee, who have in all our emergencies stood by and encouraged us with words of hope and cheer.

F. E. LYNDON.

Cook Islands

THE years since our previous Union Conference have been years of progress for the Cook Islands, not the progress we would like to see; but still we can see indications of advancement, and for these we are thankful. While the outside world is going deeper and deeper into sin, and the islanders are drifting farther and farther from God, and in some instances are reviving old heathen practices, the few who have lately stepped out to obey the commandments of God, are making advancement in the Christian way.

We came to the Cook Islands four and one-half years ago. The work had been confined principally to Rarotonga. We began our efforts in weakness, owing to a lack of knowledge of the

language and the habits of the people. But with a better knowledge of the language and with additional workers, we saw no marked change in the believers of Rarotonga; and in the end the church was disbanded. When the church on Aitutaki was organized, three of the most faithful were entered as members of that company. This does not mean that no Sabbath meetings are being held on Rarotonga. Services are being held every Sabbath in the little church at Titikaveka. These are attended by the three loyal church members, our workers, and several of the brethren who were deprived of church membership at the disbanding of the church. There is still hope for them, as they continue to come to the meetings.

Feeling the burden of the work in the other islands of the group, Mrs. Sterling and I left Rarotonga about two years ago for Aitutaki, where we have laboured most of the time until the present. A little company of thirteen members has been gathered out, and through the help of the Sabbath-schools throughout Australasia, we have been enabled to erect a neat little church building for its use.

At the close of 1913, I was enabled to spend a month on the island of Mangaia. Here I found an interest, and the Union Conference has sent us Brother and Sister H. S. Streeter to develop the work on that island. They have arrived at their field, and have begun to battle with the problems met by every new worker. We anticipate a good return from the faithful efforts of Brother and Sister Streeter, and pray that God's blessing may rest upon them.

Brother and Sister Giblett were located only temporarily on Rarotonga, Brother and Sister Hill being now in charge of the work there. Other islands are waiting, and one especially, Mauke, is calling month after month for a worker. If the work in Rarotonga could be left in charge of a trustworthy native, who could successfully handle the paper work, Brother and Sister Hill could go to Mauke this year. I am bearing this in mind and trying to make such arrangements, if agreeable to Brother and Sister Hill. With the great dearth of workers, and the many places to fill, I feel ashamed to ask for more help this year; therefore I have thought of devising means whereby we can secure the greatest results from the workers here in the field.

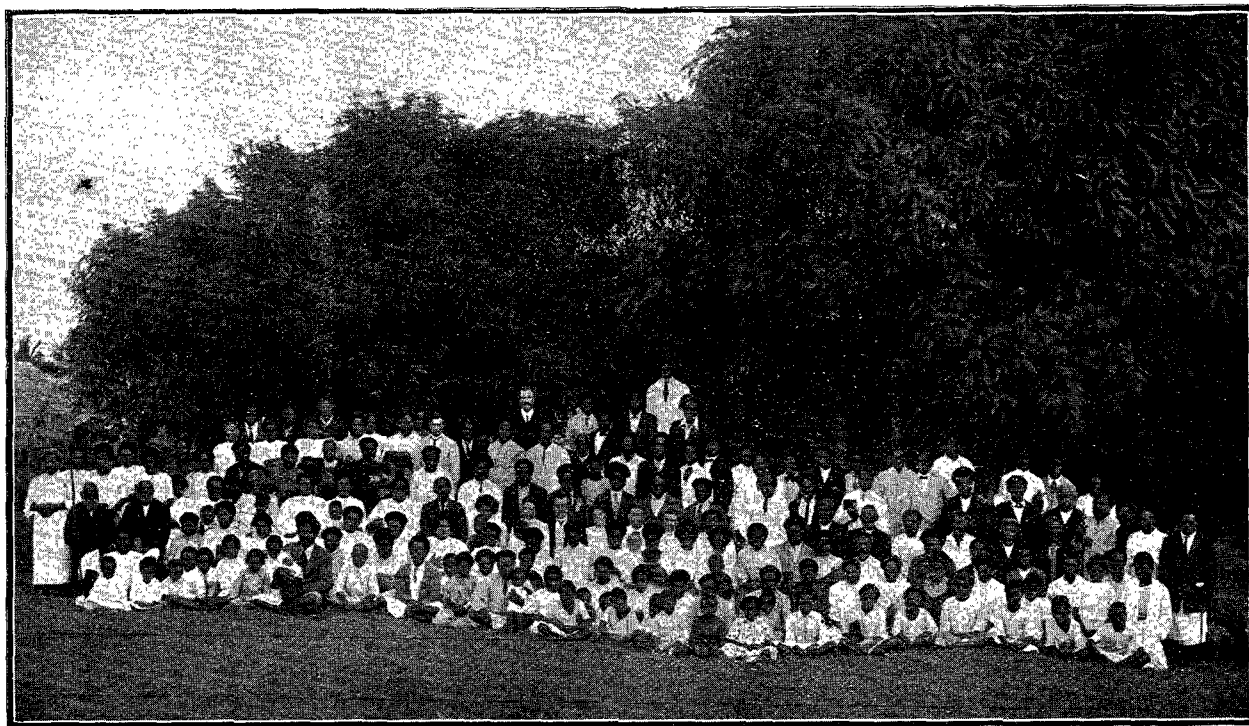
Up to the present time we have been unable to dispose of our mission property at Arorangi, Rarotonga. Instead of being a blessing to our work, it is a hindrance, as a worker must reside there all the time to care for it. A much smaller house, located at Titikaveka, would be far more suitable for our work.

The question of a location for a mission house on Aitutaki is not yet decided. No suitable place has yet been found to which we could secure a good title. As a result, our two years spent on Aitutaki have been spent in most unfavourable quarters. We do not complain; we have kept well, and have been blessed in our work, for which we are sincerely thankful.

Our church membership for the Cook Islands, including six foreign labourers, is twenty-two. A further company of Sabbath-keepers, consisting of five adults and eighteen young people and children, gives promise of soon being ready for baptism. We trust that a young native couple on Aitutaki will step out soon and obey the truth. With a short course of training they should be able to enter the work soon, and to develop into efficient workers. We hope and pray for this, knowing that if they give themselves to God's work it will help us to meet the need of labourers for this field.

mission staff in Fiji. These changes were largely due to the failing health of some of the workers. However, the work has continued to make some progress, and we are glad to chronicle advance steps taken.

Nearly two years ago, Brother and Sister Marriott, who were needing a change, were relieved of the school work by Brother H. C. White, assisted by Brother L. A. Butler. About six months ago Sister E. Clarke also connected with this work, and is in charge of the girls' home. Mrs. Stewart has been in charge of the Sabbath-school work, and has



Fijian Sabbath-keepers in Attendance at the Annual Council at Suva Vou

We are of good courage, and we feel like putting every energy into this blessed message. The new workers whom you have sent us seem earnest young people, and, with the help of God and their co-operation, we anticipate much in the future.

GEO. STERLING.

Central Polynesian Mission

It is with profound gratitude to our Heavenly Father for His innumerable blessings, that we present this quadrennial report of the progress of the third angel's message in the three groups of islands comprising the Central Polynesian Mission; namely, Fiji, Samoa, and Tonga. As individual reports will be given by the superintendents of the Samoan and Tongan Missions respectively, I shall confine my report to the work in Fiji.

During the four years that have elapsed since the last Union Conference, several changes have taken place in the personnel of the European

also filled the office of secretary and treasurer for the mission, thus leaving me free for general field and church work.

Our staff of faithful native workers has done good work. We are sorry to record the loss of some by death, but are thankful that each one fell at his post, and that other young men have been found to fill the vacant places. Is it not worthy of mention that during the many years we have been employing native assistants in the work in Fiji, not one of these has left the faith, or done anything to bring disgrace upon the cause? At the present time we have fifteen native workers assisting in the work. Some of them, however, are worn and feeble, while others are young men just beginning their life work. Two married men have answered the Macedonian call, and have gone to other island fields.

During the past four years about sixty persons have been baptized, and several others have taken their stand for the truth. Two new districts have

been entered, where some have commenced the observance of the Sabbath. Among these is the *Buli*, or chief of Tunuloa, in the province of Cakaudrove. The total number of baptized persons in the group is now 228. The total Sabbath-keepers number 320.

SCHOOL WORK

The Buresala Training School is proving to be a valuable acquisition to the work, not only in Fiji, but in other island fields within the jurisdiction of the Union Conference. The present enrolment is forty-five, and consists of five married couples, fifteen young men, thirteen girls, and seven children in the primary school. The school provides for a good training in Bible, reading, writing, geography, physiology, drawing, arithmetic, and singing. The industrial work is of a most practical nature, as the entire work periods are devoted to gardening, fencing, carpentry, boat-building, repairing, etc. All the dwelling houses are now provided with iron roofs, which are a great saving of time and labour.

While we are grateful for what has been accomplished, the school is still far from the ideal in the minds of those in charge. We sincerely request that this island institution may continue to be supported by the means and the prayers of its friends and patrons throughout the Australasian Union Conference.

The primary school on the Ra Coast, conducted by a native teacher, has an enrolment of twenty pupils, who receive an elementary training before going to Buresala. Thus it acts as a good feeder for our training school, and proves a guardian for the children of Adventist parents living in the districts accessible to the school.

INDIAN WORK

One of the most difficult tasks facing the Union Conference is the giving of the third angel's message to the fifty thousand Indians in Fiji. Their condition as indentured labourers, their illiteracy, immorality, castes, pagan religion, superstitions, and location, make the work of giving them the everlasting gospel a most difficult one. Other denominations have conducted missions among them for many years with but little progress.

Sister Meyers has spent nearly two years in Suva with apparently little results. However, by visiting, treating the sick, and doing some primary teaching, a good impression has been made, many friends won, and a spirit of inquiry aroused. Until recently, the work has been handicapped by lack of accommodation for the school and the nursing work. This difficulty has now been overcome, and a large four-roomed house, with a verandah all round and partly closed, and with a double bath-room attached, has been erected in the centre of a large Indian community about three miles from Suva. The building was dedicated during the recent Fijian council, and is now being used for its appointed work. A more detailed report by Sister Meyers appears below. May the Lord impress us with the great needs of this heathen people right at our doors.

OUR NEEDS

After careful and prayerful consideration and counsel together, we take this opportunity of placing before the conference now in session a statement of our present needs, trusting that they may receive very favourable consideration, and, if approved, may give a great impetus to the work in Fiji.

1. In order to carry the message to the many unentered parts of the Fiji Group, which has about eighty inhabited islands, a suitable boat is indispensable. Therefore, we earnestly request the conference to grant us a deep-sea-going vessel of from eight to ten tons capacity, with auxiliary power, part of the cost to be met by offerings from our people in Fiji, as was recently decided at our annual council.

2. Provision should be made for one or two young persons from Fiji to attend the Australasian Missionary College, in harmony with the instruction given through the Spirit of Prophecy, and also that these may assist in the printing of the *Rarama* and other Fijian literature.

A. G. STEWART,
Superintendent.

Our Mission for Indians in Fiji

IT is with pleasure that I render a brief report of the Indian work in Suva. From February, 1913, to about May, 1914, a night-school was conducted four nights a week, from 7 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. It had a small beginning. Five young men were first enrolled, and from time to time the number of young people in attendance was twenty-two. It was difficult to have a regular attendance, so many other things, such as picture shows, attracted their attention; but those who did attend regularly certainly progressed. English was taught, the "True Education Reader," No. 1, being used as a textbook. Some of the pupils read this through and could take dictation from it with very few mistakes.

The day-school for girls and children opened a few months later. It began with one little girl, six years of age, who attended until the school closed in June this year. The subjects taught in the night-school were taught in the day-school, Bible and sewing lessons being added. The children were familiar with the first few chapters of Genesis, and lessons on simple Bible subjects were given. The children in attendance came from the best homes. Through the school I have come in touch with the leading Indians in Suva, and by God's blessing, a favourable impression has been made. School closed the last week in June, and all the pupils took part in the closing exercises. Bible recitations were given, and hymns were sung, both in English and Hindustani. The parents of the children provided light refreshments, and expressed their appreciation of the school.

Literature has been freely distributed, and a few have manifested some interest. Some time has been spent in nursing the sick. We have successfully treated some cases which were pronounced by the doctors here as incurable. Thus we have

gained the confidence of the people. One of the members of the young people's society has been baptized. The seed has been sown, and we believe that sometime, through the Spirit of God, some will take their stand for the truth.

We are now located at Somabula, two and a half miles from Suva. Our mission building can be seen from a distance. It is in a healthful location, and the workers should keep well. I feel very grateful for the accommodation I have. It is such a contrast to the place I vacated, and I have already been benefited in health. Indian villages are scat-



Indian Mission, Somabula, Fiji

tered around for miles, and some mode of conveyance will be necessary to work the district. I trust that this will be considered at the coming Union Conference. Only this week I had a call to treat a patient. A carriage was provided, and it took me as far as Suva, I then had to walk up hill and down dale, following a guide till I came to my destination. My whole time could be spent in nursing the sick women and children and in doing general work in the home, giving out literature, and following up the work with Bible readings; but a school has to be maintained to bring us in contact with the people.

School begins for the children on August 3. The schoolroom is to be fitted up when more help comes.

The work is the Lord's, and He says through the Spirit of Prophecy, "All over the world men and women are looking wistfully to heaven. Prayers and tears and inquiries go up from souls longing for light, for grace, and for the Holy Spirit. Many are on the verge of the kingdom, waiting only to be gathered in." Surely some of these are Indians in Fiji.

E. MEYERS.

Samoa

It is nearly twenty years since this field was entered by representatives of our faith. Medical work was started in Apia. For several years the labourers rented houses for their work, then a large two-storied building was erected and opened as a sanitarium. Good work was done in medical lines by those in charge. They were known by the natives as the Jew doctors. After some years the

sanitarium was closed, as there was no medical worker to carry on the work.

During this time, which covered about thirteen years, very little evangelistic work had been done for the natives. The book, "Christ Our Saviour," was translated into the native language. Although an excellent work, it does not meet the immediate needs of this people. They require something that will set before them the peculiar truths for which we stand. Like the Athenians of old, the Samoans like to hear and to tell some new thing, therefore they are eager to read or to listen to the truth. They also need the power that is in this message to release them from the bondage and customs which have for so long a time enslaved them. Evangelistic work for the natives really began when Brother Steed came to this field. As his knowledge of the language grew, he translated tracts on some of the points of our faith, being assisted by Sister Vai Kerisome, who has since been the translator for our native paper.

After two years' labour, Brother Steed had to return to the home field, taking with him his assistant. We were then called to this field and had to take up the work which Brother and Sister Steed laid down so suddenly. This brings us to the time of the Union Conference of four years ago.

On our arrival here we found an organized church of three English-speaking members. While learning the language, we did what we could for the natives, by distributing tracts.

Tracts on six different points of our faith have been freely distributed and about seven hundred and fifty copies of our paper, *Tali Moni*, have found their way into circulation every month. Acquiring the language we found rather a difficult task, owing to the varied circumstances under which we were placed, but we are pleased to say that we are able now to hold studies with the natives. We are glad to say that the Lord has blessed our efforts, in that the company has grown spiritually and in numbers. Three members have been added by transfer, and four by baptism. The latter were baptized by Pastor Butz at the close of last year. The natives show their love for the truth by working for their neighbours, and by their offerings, which are given freely. For the past four years the tithe has amounted to £253 1s. 4d.; offerings to missions, £120 12s. 9d.; and Sabbath-school offerings, £82 18s. 8d.

Although no great interest has been manifested on the part of the people, there are some who are searching and inquiring. The little paper is doing much good, and we know by what we hear that the leaven of truth is working. The people delight to receive the paper, and read it and reread it. Five natives, one of whom has since died, began to keep the Sabbath, and studied other phases of the truth. Three have asked for baptism, but one, after studying the principles of the truth, found it so hard to give up some of his old habits that he

returned to them all, counting the pleasures of this world greater than the kingdom. The other two, an elderly woman and a young man, are preparing for baptism. The latter has made remarkable growth in the truth, and we have great hopes for him.

Previous to the visit of Pastors Fulton and Piper, the sanitarium property had been sold, as it was unsuitable for our present needs. During the visit of these brethren special consideration was given to the methods used in trying to reach these people with the truth. As we had no fixed place of abode, it was decided that Pastors Butz and Stewart should come to Samoa to search for a suitable piece of property for mission purposes, away from the centre of the white population. This was done, and thirty-two acres of leasehold land, fourteen miles from Apia, was bought for the remainder of the lease. Our plan is to make this a centre for training those who desire to become workers, and in order that those who are in training may grow their own food, we secured sufficient land for this purpose.

As Brethren Stewart and Butz and I travelled around the two largest islands, Savaii and Upolu, we were greatly impressed with the need of more workers for Samoa. In Savaii alone, where the villages are large and close together, very little work has been done. Brother Butler, who was sent here from Fiji, laboured in this island for a few months, distributing tracts and papers, and he was then recalled to the home field to take up other duties.

These people are like the eunuch who, when asked by Phillip if he understood what he was reading, replied, "How can I, except some man should guide me?" These people read but do not understand, and they desire to ask questions. "How shall they hear without a preacher?" One native from Savaii was asked by another what he thought of the *Lotu Ado Fitu*, the seventh-day church, and he said he thought it was wrong. The question was asked, "Have you tried it by the standard in 1 John 4:1?" and he said, "How can I when no man comes to teach us."

The island of Tutuila has never been entered by the living preacher, and only a few papers and tracts have found their way there. You can see by this that truly more labourers are needed in Samoa if its people are to hear the truth before the Lord comes. Will you send us some this coming year? Do not delay, as a language has to be learned before a worker can do very much. The time is short. Our greatest need is more of the power of the Spirit to turn the hearts of the people to their God, and our next is more labourers to be used by the Spirit.

This, like other fields, will need a boat in the very near future, in order that we may visit places afar, and also as a means of obtaining needed goods, for it is both very inconvenient and very expensive to obtain anything at present. There is a road right to our part of the coast, which we hope will be made suitable for vehicular traffic some time in the future.

There is also another need we would place before you, and that is a small collection of our hymns in the Samoan language. This would be greatly appreciated by us all, as at present we have to use the London Missionary Society's hymn-book. This has two disadvantages,—only a few hymns are suitable, and the natives receive the impression that our church is the same as the London Missionary Society.

Our missionary nurse, Sister Dexter, finds her hands full at times in ministering to the sick natives who come, or are brought, to her home from far and near. Through her work many are inquiring about the truth. Her work among the whites, and half-castes also, is greatly appreciated. The treatments are the means in the Lord's hands of restoring to health many who have been given up by the local doctors as incurable.

We are of good courage in the work and have bright prospects before us, for we feel that the work has truly made a beginning. We know that it will prosper, and that there will be some of these people among the one hundred and forty-four thousand.

May the Lord richly bless you all during this session of the conference, and give you wisdom in planning for the work in the future.

T. AND E. B. HOWSE.

Tonga Mission Field

THE Friendly or Tongan Islands are divided into three distinct groups: Tonga, Haapai, and Vavau, with two inhabited islands lying still farther to the north. Each group takes its name from its principal island.

At the time of the last Union Conference meeting, evangelistic and educational work was being conducted in two of the groups, Tonga and Haapai. During the following year both schools were closed, the three educational workers were called from the field, and Brother Palmer, who had been in charge, returned to self-supporting work; so on our arrival early in 1912, we found things practically at a standstill, except for the meetings, which were conducted in the Nukualofa church by Brother Palmer.

Shortly after we came, Brother and Sister Thorpe, who had had some previous experience here, returned to Vavau, where, as a result of their persevering efforts, some young people have taken hold of the truth and others are manifesting some interest. So far they have been living in a small rented cottage, but we are endeavouring to secure a piece of land for a mission site. We are sorry to say that our plans have been hindered by the sickness of the principal party concerned.

In May, 1913, we were thankful to obtain help from Fiji, in the person of Henry Maafu, a good native worker who has charge of our mission in the Haapai group. Up to the time of his arrival, our few native members there carried on their own meetings, but they were continually calling for

help, and we felt that it was really necessary to have some one to assist them.

We are located at the mission in Nukualofa, the capital of Tonga, and we are told that the attendance at our church services was never so good as it has been of late. A fine class of native young men attend the Sabbath-school regularly, and we can see that they are making some progress in the study of the Scriptures. Thus we are now carrying on evangelistic work in the three groups, but, as is usual with a new staff of workers in a foreign field, the matter of acquiring the language has hindered us from doing as much aggressive work as we desired. But with the help and blessing of the Lord we have been able, not only to hold our own, but to make some headway.

Four natives have been baptized, and some others are almost ready to take this step. From our acquaintance with the natives, we can see that it is necessary to go slowly with them, and to give them many opportunities of manifesting stability before accepting them as church members.

Our mission paper, the translating for which is done by one of the two Tongan young people at present attending our college in New South Wales, is much appreciated, and the articles appearing therein afford subjects for discussion at many native gatherings. One full-paying Tongan student is attending our school in New Zealand. Others are anxious to go as soon as they can obtain the means.

Within the last two years these islands have been visited by two severe hurricanes, and, as a result, the people have had hard times. Consequently, they have been unable to give much financial assistance; but now the prospects are brighter and we trust that they will be able to do more in helping to support the work.

We have lost some of our European members by their moving to other lands. One brother went to America; another, with his family, went to Norway; while Sister Palmer found it necessary to take her children to New Zealand in order to have them educated.

We were very thankful for the visit of Pastor E. S. Butz from Australia, and Pastor A. G. Stewart and wife from Fiji, during the early part of this year. After counselling with them, we decided to present some matters to the Union Conference Committee for careful consideration, the chief of which is the reopening of educational work in this field.

STATISTICAL REPORT OF TONGA MISSION

Number of churches	...	...	...	...	...	1
Membership	...	...	...	...	...	21
Number of Sabbath-schools	...	...	...	...	...	3
Membership of Sabbath-schools	...	...	...	...	...	40
Tithe for four years	...	...	...	£223	9	3
Annual Offerings	...	...	...	30	9	0
Fourth-Sabbath Offering	...	...	...	17	15	0
Sabbath-school Offerings	...	...	...	65	18	4
Amount for local work	...	...	...	3	19	0

£341 10 7

G. G. STEWART.

Lord Howe Island

NEARLY all the Sabbath-keepers now on Lord Howe Island received their first knowledge of the third angel's message through the efforts of Brother and Sister Baron, eighteen years ago. For sixteen years it seemed that the seed had been sown in vain, but God's Word always accomplishes that which He pleases. About two years ago a lady from Lord Howe visited Norfolk Island. Here she heard the truth, and Brother Ferris held Bible readings with her. On returning to her home, she wrote to Brother Ferris, inviting him to come and to hold meetings. The invitation was accepted and many became interested. About the same time Brother and Sister Cecil Meyers were sent by the Union Conference to labour there. Through the earnest efforts of these workers, and those who faithfully sowed the seed so many years before, a little company has taken its stand for the truth of God.

For the past twelve months my husband and I have laboured on Lord Howe Island. During this time we have seen little or no results for our labours. But the Master says that we are to sow beside all waters, and we know not which shall prosper, this or that. Some day in the future we may see precious souls won for the Master through our weak efforts. That which we sow in weakness the Master will raise in power.

On this little island there is not the opportunity, as in the cities, of doing much missionary work. So we thought a good plan would be to start a Dorcas society. Each member of this class gives sixpence a week. Some who cannot attend on account of distance and for other reasons, also give money. With the money we buy the material for making clothes for our dark-skinned brothers in the New Hebrides. In this way we are able to help dear Brother and Sister Parker in their work, and we also have more work to report.

We have a missionary meeting on Wednesday nights, and many now are reporting work done.

A good company of young people, twenty in number, meets every Sabbath morning. The members seem very interested in the lessons, and always take an interest in learning the texts. There is one bright young man about sixteen years of age, who dearly loves the truth. His mother is an earnest Sabbath-keeper, but the father is very bitter, and does not believe the Bible. For four months the children attended Sabbath-school and church, but now the father insists upon them attending the Church of England with him. Whenever an opportunity presents itself, this young man of whom we speak, reads to our dear old blind sister. Our prayer is that God will soon open the way for him to attend our college at Avondale. He would make a fine student. Our blind sister is ninety-eight years of age. We always receive a blessing when we spend a little time with her. She lives near to the Master and dearly loves Him, and longs for the time to come when the warfare in this life will be over. On account of her health and the distance to walk, she has of late been prevented from attending our meetings.

We have some bright little ones in our Sabbath-school, and if they receive good training, I believe many will follow the Master.

The young people had no class on Sabbath morning when we arrived here, and the offerings were taken in the afternoon only, but now we take an offering from the young people in the morning. From August 30 to December 27, 1913, our offerings have amounted to £14 9s. 11d.

The church membership is eleven, and the attendance, including children, twenty-eight. We dearly love the little ones, and it does our hearts good to see them trying to live near to God. It may be that God will use their young lives to win the older ones to Him.

For some months we had a tract round amongst outsiders and were received very kindly by the people. We placed our literature in every home,

upon the island, if lived in keeping with God's will, when compared with that of our opponent, may not be the means of some accepting that which they have so long rejected. We pray that this may be so. There are a few honest hearts on this island. May the Lord increase their number.

H. ROBINSON.

Norfolk Island

ALTHOUGH our report from this little part of the great harvest field will not show very wonderful progress, yet we can thank our Heavenly Father for evidences of His working upon the hearts of a people who have long been accustomed to the sound of the message.

Some changes have taken place in the political aspect of the island. It is now annexed to the



Missionary Volunteers of Norfolk Island, showing Bible Study Certificates

had talks with the people, and sometimes had an opportunity to pray with some of them. But last February a Church of England minister, who is a strong opponent of the truth of God, was sent here. His aim was to banish the Adventists from the island. Since he came, our path has been a hard one. He has spoken against us from his pulpit and has told the people not to admit us into their homes; and has also forbidden them to receive literature of any kind from a Seventh-day Adventist. Almost every one (except our own little company) attends his church. Most of these people have heard the truth. Many have acknowledged it to be right and commenced to keep the Sabbath, but later thought the sacrifice was too great.

At the present time a bitter feeling lurks in many hearts. But God's ways are not man's ways, and who can tell but that the life of the little company

Commonwealth. This will not affect our work, other than that we may in the future be subject to military drill requirements.

Norfolk Island is becoming a tourists' pleasure resort. A number visit here every month. This affords a good opportunity for doing missionary work with our literature.

At present our little company stands rather diminished in number, on account of several families leaving for other lands. A family of five has gone to Vila, New Hebrides, another family of six to New Zealand, and several persons have gone to Sydney. Our church membership stands at forty-two, and our Sabbath-school attendance is about forty. During the past four years, seventeen new members have been baptized and received into church fellowship. Three of our pioneer members have fallen asleep in Christ.

The mission-home property and church building, with the exception of a little depreciation of value in some particulars, still stands at good working value. As we are leasing only twenty-six acres, our quantity of stock is limited. We have eleven cattle, ten sheep, and two horses. Horse-feed is an important item on this island, but we have thus far been able to grow enough for our use. People here grow things for their own use only, as there are no markets for produce. Prospects may improve now that the tariffs are removed.

The tithe, which shows an increase for the past four years, amounts to £107 4s. 1½d. The Sabbath-school offerings amount to £47 6s. 3d.; fourth Sabbath offerings to £25 18s. 5½d.; annual thanksgiving to £14 3s.; and week of prayer offerings to £9 4s.; making a total of £203 15s. 10d. We think this encouraging, considering the limited incomes of our people and the difficulties of earning money.

Twenty-two of our young people have received certificates for the doctrinal studies. In our missionary work we plan to place tracts and the *Signs of the Times* in every home on the island. These are highly appreciated. Nearly all of our young people take part in this work and enjoy doing it. We have some of our literature sent to us, but we purchase most of it. We thank the kind donors who send us a supply of what we require, but we could use more, especially for tourists.

We know that the results of our efforts here are small. While prejudice and opposition are not apparent, yet self-satisfaction and fear of relatives militate against progress, so we do not have well-attended meetings from the public. Yet we are thankful that, in spite of drawbacks, the Spirit of God is finding out some inquiring ones. Two English settlers have lately accepted the truth.

Our chief asset is the fine young people of our denomination. They need careful nurturing. We wish for them a higher standard than has as yet been reached.

We have much to encourage us even amid all the discouragements. The families who have left for other lands are letting their light shine where they are. From here the interest in Lord Howe Island was kindled. A lady visitor from Lord Howe, who attended our Sabbath-school while she was here, gave the Macedonian call, "Come over and help us." We are proud to have a sister company on Lord Howe Island.

Our little church sends greeting to the Australasian Union Conference in session. We are praying that heavenly wisdom will guide in all the conference deliberations and decisions. From over the sea we unite our voices with the brethren and sisters of the home land, for the refreshing of the latter rain and the speedy finishing of the great work. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

A. H. FERRIS.

"TRUE holiness is wholeness in the service of God. This is the condition of true Christian living. Christ asks for an unreserved consecration, for undivided service."

New Hebrides Mission

To the Australasian Union Conference in session, greeting,—

"First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, . . . For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers; making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you . . . that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me."

This field was entered in June, 1913, when Brother H. E. Carr and wife, and Mrs. Parker and myself located at Vila, on the island of Efate. Our first task was to build a house, as it was impossible to rent one. In November I made a trip among the islands of the northern and central parts of the group. By unmistakable evidences the Lord impressed my mind that Atchin was where the cloud of His presence was resting. In February, Brother Carr and I made a special trip to this island, and in March, Pastor Butz was sent by the Union Conference to look over a property which we had selected. All of us concurred that we had been led forth by the right way to our city of habitation. We at once secured the place, and just one year from the time we landed in Vila, Brother and Sister Carr were taking the boat which brought us here to Atchin.

MISSION PROPERTY

The mission property which we have obtained, contains twelve and one-half acres on the island of Atchin, and two and one-half acres on the island of Malekula, making fifteen acres in all. Atchin lies a quarter of a mile off the north-east coast of Malekula.

There were standing on this property, a concrete dwelling house with corrugated iron roof, containing two middle rooms, 14 feet 9 inches by 14 feet 3 inches; two end rooms, 14 feet 9 inches by 6 feet; and four corner rooms, each 6 feet by 6 feet; a copra house, 24 feet by 13 feet, with corrugated iron roof; a two-roomed storehouse, 19 feet 6 inches by 19 feet; and a copra bakehouse, 24 feet by 15 feet. The copra house was almost broken down, and the posts were all ant-eaten. The store was a complete wreck, riddled by ants, with no roof, and the walls had fallen in. All the buildings had concrete walls.

The dwelling house has been enlarged 3 feet 8 inches, making the front and back verandahs 10 feet lacking 4 inches; the end rooms 14 feet 9 inches by 10 feet; the two front corner rooms 10 feet by 10 feet; and the two back corner rooms 10 feet by 6 feet. All the floors have been renewed; old posts replaced by new ones; two kitchens, 10 feet by 8 feet, and two bath-rooms, 8 feet by 5 feet 4 inches, have been added. The house has been newly guttered, and has two one-thousand-gallon galvanized iron tanks, and two four-hundred-gallon iron tanks. The verandahs, bath-rooms, and the two back corner rooms have concrete cement

floors. This house will now accommodate two families.

The copra house has been repaired; a concrete cement floor, windows on each side, and a half-glass door at each end have been put in. The building has been whitewashed inside and out, and the rafters, tiebeams, and posts have been painted. It is well seated, and has a good rostrum and pulpit. We dedicated it as a church and school-building, on January 17 of the present year. It will accommodate from sixty to seventy persons.

A good iron roof has been placed on the store-house, which makes a convenient place for a workshop as well as one in which to store things. The walls of the bake-house have been built up again, a good iron roof put on, and a concrete floor put in. This house is guttered, and has a one-thousand-gallon galvanized tank. This building we intended for the use of our native worker from Fiji. A nine-wire, barbed-wired, pig-proof fence of one hundred yards square has been made around the buildings. A twenty-two-foot bell tower and belfry has been placed in front of the church, from which, with metallic voice, the summons rings forth, 'Tis time for man-Atchin and man-Malekula to pray.

Last, but not least, is the launch-house, which is an iron-roofed building, thirty-two feet by fourteen feet, surrounded by a seven-foot stone wall, plastered and whitewashed. From this house a track leads to the ocean, and a trolley and winch tell the rest of the story. Thus our launch, which we have called the *Raam* (light), can be quickly drawn to a place of safety from the maws of a turbulent ocean. We have a splendid anchorage for our boat, and a good, sandy beach. Again we thank the Union Conference and our dear people for their sacrifice of love in giving us such a beautiful, comfortable, and convenient boat. You have been very thoughtful and considerate of all our needs.

The roofs of all the buildings have been painted with red oxide, which gives a very neat effect in contrast to their snowy walls.

There were 187 cocoanut trees on the mission property, and more have since been planted. The purchase price of this place was £150. Registration and a lawyer's services have cost £35 9s., which makes the total cost £185 9s. We believe that the Lord's hand has specially guided in the purchase. It is virgin soil, and is an open door to the great heathen population of Malekula, and is quite free from malaria. Santo, the next island in point of population, is only forty miles away; Ambrym, sixty miles; Oba and Pentecost about the same distance; and Epi only eighty miles away. Thus our mission is in close proximity to the bulk of the population of the New Hebrides.

At present we have complete control of the missionary operations on this island, as the Presbyterians have taken away their two native teachers on account of the massacre of their workers on Malekula; for they charge the Atchin people with being the instigators. Walla, which is only four miles away, is the port of call for the steamer each month. Up to the present time we have been

favoured with a monthly call from the steamer. We trust this will continue.

SCHOOL WORK

On January 19 of this year, we commenced our school for this people. Mrs. Parker has charge of the school, and has done most of the teaching. Some days the attendance has reached seventeen and eighteen, but the average has been eight. Those who have been regular in attendance are doing good work, and are an inspiration to us. The lessons are all taught in English, mixed with the few words our limited knowledge of the vernacular enables us to use. It is our aim to use the Bible as a reading book, and from it the first rudiments of reading are taught. The school opens by singing such hymns as, "Precious Name," "Power in the Blood," "Let Jesus Come into Your Heart," "Tell Me the Story of Jesus," "Don't Forget the Sabbath," and "We'll Build on the Rock." A short study from the Bible on Old or New Testament subjects, follows. These are illustrated by pictures from the picture roll. Then on bended knee we commend the boys to the great Teacher. Reading, simple arithmetic, geography, and general information are taught.

MEETINGS

Services are held on Wednesday and Friday evenings, and three times on Sabbath, beginning at 6 a.m. The attendance has been good, and reaches eighteen and nineteen at times. They all take a great interest in using a "Christ in Song" hymn-book, though it is sometimes held upside down. We read each stanza before singing, and generally sing each twice. The boys (here we call the men, boys) do well in singing, and it causes a peculiar sensation in one's heart as these voices, which have so long been the instruments of Satan, swell the great anthem of praise, "Whom have I in heaven but Thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside Thee." In our talks we have covered many of the simple Bible subjects. We are slow of speech, and our words at times, no doubt, are difficult for them to understand; but they seem anxious to learn, and they come and pay the most respectful attention to all our blunders, as well as to that which is clear.

Our picture rolls are a great aid in illustrating, but they cover a very limited number of characters and events. The boys love to look at these pictures, and will ask many questions. We would be glad of more of these rolls.

A stereopticon, with a connected series of slides on the Old and the New Testament, would be a great help to us, and would draw most of the people on the island. We trust that this may be obtained for the work here.

The portable Estey organ which our Victoria-Tasmania young people so kindly gave to the work, is doing splendid service in our school and church work.

MEDICAL WORK

In the medical branch of our work we are kept busy. As many as forty-two treatments are given

in a day, and over five hundred in one month. This means a considerable outlay in medicines and bandages, besides other necessary appliances. But "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me." This ministry is binding the affections of this people to us. The treatments given from January 1 to June 30, number 2,111. We do thank the donors of bandages and clothing. These have been much appreciated, and helping hands have thus been stretched across the waters that lie between.

GENERAL

During the last six months, 250 papers, besides twenty-seven *Life and Health* have been given away, and over one hundred letters have been written. A number of very favourable answers have been received from both natives and Europeans.

We are grieved that in our first year of mission experience in the New Hebrides, death entered the mission circle and claimed the infant son of Brother and Sister Carr, who finally had to leave the field. We thank the Union Conference for the aid they have sent us in the person of Brother Wright.

We want to thank our Union Conference brethren and all our dear people for the many comforts and conveniences given us with which to propagate this message amongst those who sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death.

"Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the church by Jesus Christ throughout all ages, world without end." C. H. PARKER.

New Guinea Mission

"LET them give glory unto the Lord, and declare His praise in the islands." We in New Guinea, the largest of these islands, desire to give glory to God, and to praise Him for His abundant goodness and love to us during the past four years. We realize that God has been continually with us, and His power and protection have been manifested in His dealings with the work and workers in Papua.

Four years ago the work was in its infancy at Bisiatabu, where 150 acres of land had been secured from the Government after considerable delay. It was decided to engage boys for clearing and planting the mission property, and at the same time to take the opportunity to teach them the first principles of the everlasting gospel. From year to year, new boys have been employed. These return home after working for twelve months. They receive their wages in goods to the value of from four to six pounds. From time to time these boys are visited in their mountain villages, and we have had the joy of seeing some do their best to live up to what they have been taught while at Bisiatabu. At other times we have been made sad as we saw, apparently, no results.

School is held daily for the boys at work on the plantation, but as the lads remain for twelve months only, they are not able to learn enough of the elements of education for it to be of much practical use to them. We have tried, at various times, to persuade them to stay as students after a year's work. We were successful once, but the devil stepped in and succeeded in leading two of our most promising boys into sin, and, much to our sorrow, we had to dismiss them. One small lad who remained with us is making good progress at school, and so far has advanced spiritually. We were greatly rejoiced when he asked for baptism. After the necessary instruction, he was baptized recently in the presence of seventy natives representing seven different tribes. We are deeply grateful for the first-fruits of the third angel's message in New Guinea.

WORKERS

To fill the vacancies left by Brother Gordon Smith and wife, Brother A. N. Lawson arrived in October 1911, and was joined later by Sister Lawson. After three and a half years of faithful work, Benny left for Fiji. In a few months he and his wife returned. They are doing a good work, and have won the respect and esteem of the Papuans. In November 1913, Mitieli and wife arrived from Fiji to help in the work, and we greatly appreciate the spirit manifested by the Fijian Mission in giving so freely of its best, especially when the ranks of the workers in Fiji have been so thinned by death. The companionship and help of Brother and Sister Chaney during a part of 1911, were much appreciated, as also was the visit and timely counsel of Brother C. H. Pretymann, in November 1913. On the whole our health has been good. Our new Fijian helpers have experienced repeated attacks of malaria. They are not discouraged, however, but desire to press forward in the work. This past year has been the worst for sickness that we have known, and fourteen of our nineteen lads have had to be sent home at various times, for rest and change.

BUILDINGS AND STOCK

For the comfort and safety which we now enjoy in having a good two-family mission house at Bisiatabu, the combined gift of the General and Australasian Union Conferences, our hearty thanks are due. For the Port Moresby cottage, the Sapphire Creek store, and Benny's house, we are indebted to our Sabbath-schools, and we are very grateful for the untiring labour of Brother F. L. Chaney in the supervision and erection of the two first-mentioned houses.

The mission has lost two horses since the last Union Conference, but we were able to raise and train three others, and two foals were added last season, which now brings the mission stock up to five horses, four mules, and two foals. These are kept busy in taking produce to Port Moresby, and in bringing goods out on the return journey.

LITERATURE

There are sixty subscribers to *Life and Health* and the *Signs of the Times*. Good results are being seen by the breaking down of prejudice, and the increased demand for the health foods. Our thanks are due to the Warburton friends for the clubs of *Signs* and *Life and Health* which we distribute on the steamers as well as on land. The bundles of the *Little Friend* sent by others are also being used to advantage. As Rome is making special efforts in Papua, the *Protestant Magazine* is being sent to twenty-three stations of the Anglican, London Missionary Society, and Methodist Missions. This excellent magazine, followed by our prayers, will doubtless do a good work.

FINANCIAL

The following are the receipts from various sources in New Guinea during the past four years:

	1911	1912	1913	1914
Tithe ...	£43 15 1	£47 15 7	£40 1 3	£42 15 9
Donations ...	nil	7 15 0	12 14 6	25 12 0
Sabbath-school Offerings	7 17 3	10 15 7	14 19 1	24 13 5
Week of Prayer Offerings	8 16 0	10 0 0	11 1 6	14 11 10
Produce ...	5 12 0	48 2 11	120 13 2	99 2 3
Books ...	2 9 6	6 3 9	9 9 0	18 0 0

Totals: Tithe £174 7s. 8d.; Donations £46 7s. 6d.; Sabbath-school Offerings £58 5s. 4d.; Week of Prayer Offerings £44 9s. 4d.; Produce £273 10s. 4d.; Books £36 2s. 3d.; also mule earnings £34 7s. 10d.; Rent £126 7s. 2d.; Poultry £20; making a grand total of £813 12s. 2d.

BISIATABU

Four years ago application was made to the Government for a transfer of Bisiatabu from S. W. Carr to the Australasian Conference Association. This led to a correspondence with the Department of External Affairs, Melbourne, and full advantage was taken of this to bring before the Minister in charge the principles of health reform and religious liberty so dear to us. For various reasons, among them being the frequent changes in the Commonwealth ministry, the reply to our application was delayed till this year, when it was eventually granted.

OPERATIONS

In the past we have used the Motuan language exclusively in our work. While this is understood to some extent by the inland tribes, yet we felt that we were not making sufficient headway in evangelical work, so for several months we have been learning Koiari, the local language, and also the Efogi dialect, as the boys at work with us are from the Efogi district, three days further inland. We have not been able to make rapid progress as these languages have not been put into writing. Special effort is also being made for the tribes near Bisiatabu, and it is evident to us that they appreciate this and our efforts to learn their language. A good response was made by them in offerings of produce during the week of prayer, and our four-

teen boys gave armlets to the value of twenty-five shillings. Giving without looking for something in return, is so foreign to the Papuan native that we were much encouraged with the good response made to our appeal for help.

Twice during the past four years attempts have been made on the lives of our boys, but Satan was foiled both times in his efforts to break up the work. Many times we have realized that the angels that excel in strength were commissioned to protect God's unworthy servants, and that His people were remembering us in their prayers.

As a united mission family, we look forward to the coming year with hope and confidence that God will bless our combined labours for Him in giving us souls who in turn will search out and find other souls just as needy, to present to the Master, and thus hasten His coming. S. W. CARR.

The Maori Mission, New Zealand

AT the time of the Napier camp-meeting, in 1893, which was the first camp-meeting held by Seventh-day Adventists in Australasia, the Lord, by His servant, Sister White, impressed upon us the necessity of working for the salvation of the New Zealand Maoris. Even at that time the Mormon missionaries were at work teaching their erroneous doctrines.

Although the first missionaries to New Zealand landed in 1814, they had to wait fifteen years before they baptized a convert; by the year 1893, all the natives had renounced idolatry and had become believers in the true God. Nearly all the adults claim to be members of some denomination. The sects largely represented among them are, Church of England, Wesleyan, Roman Catholic, and Mormon. The former is the longest established, and probably has the largest following.

Dr. Caldwell was the first Seventh-day Adventist worker sent out to the Maori people. He, with his wife, settled at Raglan, on the west coast of the North Island, not far south of Onehunga and Auckland. On account of the death of his wife, Dr. Caldwell soon left the work, and finally went to America.

About that time a company was raised up at Tolago Bay, north of Gisborne, under the labours of Pastor Farnsworth and others. Some members were of the Maori race, and others of mixed parentage. Some of the company still remain witnesses for the truth in that place.

Early in the year 1906, Brother W. J. Smith, who had been selected for the native work in New Zealand, chose Gisborne for the home of the mission. Later he was joined by Brother Redward and wife, trained nurses from the Sydney Sanitarium.

The first number of our monthly Maori paper was published in July, 1907. This paper was printed in New Zealand for four years as a four-page paper. Since that time it has been printed at the Avondale Press, and has increased to an

illustrated, eight-page paper. From one to two thousand copies are sent out monthly. Literature was freely distributed by Brethren Smith and Redward in the east coast Maori settlements, from Wairoa to Tuparoa. At the close of the year 1907, Brother Smith was called to connect with the school at Cambridge, and Mrs. Carswell and I went to New Zealand to labour among the Maoris. Tent-meetings were suggested and tried for a time, but with no apparent results.

Brother Redward, who, with his wife, had done good work among the sick natives, resigned from the work about the middle of 1908.

In October of the same year, Brother Read Smith and wife, who were also trained nurses, came to New Zealand. They laboured faithfully in Tolago Bay and Tokomaru Bay districts, and many sick people were restored to health through their labours. Mrs. Carswell and I at that time laboured in Puha and Whatatutu, endeavouring to present the message.

In September, 1910, after less than two years' labour, Brother Read Smith laid down his life while caring for the sick among the Maoris, and Sister Smith left that work; but remained as teacher of a Maori school for some time.

In 1911, we heard of an interest in the extreme north of New Zealand, and planned to visit there. On account of Mrs. Carswell's sickness, I was obliged to go alone, and after five months' labour in the north, I found it necessary to follow Mrs. Carswell to Australia. In several places where the message has been presented, some have professed to believe the truth, and we have reason to believe that a few are still faithful.

At the beginning of the present year, Brother R. K. Piper and wife were asked to take up work among the Maoris. They are labouring in the Bay of Plenty district, and as there are a number of Ringatu, or Seventh-day Maoris in that district, it should be a good field in which to labour. I feel sure, though, that to make much of a success we must have a school for the Maori youth, and we hope that one will be established. In addition to our Maori paper, which is preaching the truth in all parts of New Zealand, and in regard to which we have received many letters of appreciation, we have tracts on the following subjects, "Christ's Second Advent," "The Sabbath," "The Way of Salvation," "The Saint's Inheritance," "The Resurrection," and "Tea and Tobacco." Besides these, we have "Christ Our Saviour" in Maori, and a book of Bible readings prepared by Pastor Fulton for the island fields, is just off the press.

The work has been largely carried on among the Maoris of the North Island, where most of the race is found, but on account of the wide dispersion of the people, it is a difficult work. By means of the printed page, as well as by the living messenger, God will search out His jewels from this people. His Spirit is searching for them. Shall we not pray that many may be garnered home in the great harvest ingathering?

W. R. CARSWELL.

The Aborigines of Australia

THE number of Australian aborigines is variously estimated at from one hundred and fifty thousand to two hundred and twenty thousand, but there seem to be no reliable figures relating to those inhabiting the Northern Territory and the northern parts of Western Australia, though in the other states the census is known to be fairly accurate.

The table below will give some idea of the number in the Commonwealth:

State	Aborigines	Half-castes	Total
New South Wales	1,917	5,177	7,034
Queensland	20,000	2,000	22,000
South Australia	4,000	820	4,820
Victoria	133	136	269
Western Australia	32,000	1,475	32,475
Northern Territory (estimated)			90,000
			<hr/> 157,598

Of this number a large majority still remain in the darkness of heathenism; one-third are more or less civilized, while a much smaller proportion has come under the influence of Christianity. Of the latter, a few here and there have been truly converted, and show an earnest desire for the better life, realizing the degradation from which they have been saved.

Some noble efforts have been made by the Anglicans, Presbyterians, and other denominations, and by unsectarian missionary societies, to reach these people with the gospel, and in some places a measure of success has followed their efforts. But the general effect has been to civilize rather than to Christianize the natives, as the greater portion never seem to get past the formality of ceremony in the religion they are taught to follow. Hence comparatively few hearts are fully surrendered to the Saviour.

From the short experience our denomination has had with this people, we are confident that a good work can be done among them, especially among the children, young people, and those below middle age. The older ones are extremely difficult to reach, owing to the effects of the wicked treatment they have received at the hands of Europeans and Asiatics, and on account of their being so deeply steeped in heathenism. Several natives have accepted the advent message, and are keeping the Sabbath; and we believe that a well-directed effort among the young people of this race will result in many of them accepting the message in the immediate future.

Notwithstanding the depths of heathenism in which these people as a whole are sunk, and the great difficulty of reaching their darkened hearts and minds, there is the gratifying knowledge that some have already responded to the message for this time.

The problem of how best to reach the aborigines of Australia with the message in all its fullness, is a most perplexing one. Our experiences at Barambah and Monamona plainly show this; yet there is good evidence that the Spirit of the Lord is at

work among them in some places. This should encourage our people to continue the good work, till all the aborigines of Australia have had the opportunity of hearing the last message of mercy to the world. We can faithfully sow the seed, and confidently leave the results with our dear Heavenly Father.

P. B. RUDGE.

Monamona Mission

THERE are many thousands of aborigines in Australia who have not yet heard the message of mercy. In their natural, wild condition, the aboriginal race was one of the lowest types of humanity, but by coming in contact with the lower classes of

entirely under the control of our own denomination. Finally, it was decided by the Union Conference that the Queensland Government be approached with the object of securing suitable land for mission purposes. This was done, and our request was very favourably received by the Home Secretary. Brother Rudge and the writer were sent to North Queensland to inspect blocks of land that were available for the purpose. In due time, a grant of a piece of land comprising four thousand acres, was received. This land consists of grassy forest ridges, and abounds with permanent creeks. There are about seven or eight hundred acres of jungle scrub.

The property is now known as the Monamona Mission, and is situated thirty-six miles from Cairns, and eight miles from the railway. At the present



A Bible Class of Aborigines

white men and learning their vices, they have, in some cases, sunk lower.

More than three years ago, the members of the Murgon Church, under the leadership of Sister Ruth Cozens and Brother J. H. Cooper, began work for this people at the government settlement of Barambah, and a good interest was created.

The first effort for them under the direction of the Union Conference, was made nearly three years ago, when Brother and Sister P. B. Rudge were sent to Murgon to work among them. It was soon found, however, that the conditions prevailing on a government settlement hindered the progress of our work. Time after time, as Brother and Sister Rudge laboured hard and long, and obtained a few interested ones, these would immediately be sent away, and the work would seem to be in vain. The difficulty with which the work was carried on, soon showed the great need of establishing a mission

time we have seventy-two natives on the mission premises.

The aborigines do not believe in a God who loves them, but they believe in a devil-devil whom they fear, and regard as their enemy. They also believe in their magic-doctor, who has great power over them. Should any one come under his displeasure, he points a bone at him, and when this is done, the offender expects to die in a few days. So strong is their belief in the magic-doctor that, in many cases, they do die. The aborigines are decidedly weak in character, and are easily influenced to do that which is evil. One of their bad habits is clay-eating. Almost all persist in doing this in spite of our best efforts to teach them otherwise. We have been very successful in treating some for the morphia habit. I am sure the Lord has helped us.

At present we clothe and feed all the people at

the mission. This is done in the most economical way possible. Most of the cooking is done by Sisters Roy and Branford, as the native women are very wasteful. We hope that the mission will soon be self-supporting. These people do not like work, but they will work if a white man works with them, and directs them.

We have now been on the mission ten months, and have built two four-roomed houses, one large dining-room where all dine, a schoolroom, and thirteen cottages for natives. About three miles of fencing have been made, and six acres of land cleared, and twenty acres of scrub felled. We have also built seven bridges,—one fifty-five feet span, one twenty feet span, and five nine feet span.

The prospect of reaching these people with the message does not appear to be very hopeful, as they know so little about God. Before they can understand their need of a Saviour, they will need to be taught as little children. The one thing that appeals to us in connection with the work here is their great need. We feel confident that some of the poor people on this mission will enter the pearly gates and walk the golden streets. God's Word says that some out of all nations, and kindreds, and peoples, and tongues, clothed with white robes and palms in their hands, will stand before God's throne.

J. L. BRANFORD.

Delegation to the Union Conference

AT LARGE: A. G. Daniells, J. E. Fulton, M. Lukens, J. M. Johanson, G. Teasdale, G. S. Fisher, E. H. Gates, C. H. Watson, J. M. Cole, W. W. Fletcher, A. H. Piper, L. D. A. Lemke, Mrs. A. L. Hindson, Dr. W. H. James, C. H. Pretzman, A. W. Anderson, R. Hare, W. L. H. Baker, W. J. Smith, D. N. Wall, P. B. Rudge, W. R. Carswell, G. Hubbard, B. Judge, A. Mountain, Mrs. Waugh, J. Mills, Dr. Sherwin, J. P. Gregory, Mrs. A. G. Daniells.

MISSION FIELDS: A. G. Stewart, G. G. Stewart, F. E. Lyndon, S. W. Carr, C. H. Parker, G. L. Sterling, A. H. Ferris.

NEW SOUTH WALES: A. H. White, W. G. Brittain, C. A. Paap, E. S. Butz, J. Hindson, A. W. Cormack, D. M. Little, R. Salton, W. N. Löck, G. E. Marriott, A. J. Dyason, Miss E. M. James, P. G. Foster.

NEW ZEALAND: W. H. Pascoe, W. J. Westerman, C. K. Meyers, H. E. Piper, F. G. Rampton, G. A. Brandstater, Dr. Eric Caro.

QUEENSLAND: W. G. Hodgkinson, J. H. Mills, H. J. Cooper, B. Cozens.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: C. P. Michaels, J. J. Potter, C. Davey, T. A. Brown.

VICTORIA-TASMANIA: J. H. Woods, T. H. Craddock, A. E. White, E. Watson, J. A. McAlinsh, A. H. Rogers, H. C. Harker, S. V. Stratford, Miss A. S. Higgins, J. Todd, Mrs. Lukens, H. Mitchell.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA: L. J. Imrie, E. Behrens, R. H. Constandt, L. R. Harvey.

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OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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