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Criticism

WE should welcome the right kind of criticism: it does good to those who would improve. We do not find the word "criticise" in the Bible, but we do have some synonyms of the word. We are told to tell our faults one to another, and we are told to judge righteous judgment. There is a hard, censorious side to criticism sometimes that we should avoid. To censure and condemn and make no effort to win the supposed evildoer, is wrong. It wrongs the one spoken against, and often severely wounds and discourages, or it may harden; but criticism of this kind wrongs most of all the one who indulges in this terrible evil. We say terrible sin, because it was really this sin that caused the rebellion in heaven; and herein we have a graphic illustration of how the one who indulges in the sin of criticism partakes of the character of the evil one, and will, if the sin is persistently cherished, with the chief offender reap a harvest of woe.

But constructive criticism is helpful. "If thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother." "Faithful are the wounds of a friend." A surgeon's knife may hurt, but it is intended to save and to let out the vile matter that otherwise would destroy. A true friend's criticism may be as a mirror to reveal defects we

might otherwise never detect. A false friend's flattery may be as a mirror in which to admire our poor selves to no profit.

As conference officials we need the criticism of our brethren.

"It is a mistake to withdraw from those who do not agree with our ideas. This will

glad by following their counsel, and make ourselves strong through the influence that this will give us. Moreover, if we feel that we do not need the counsel of our brethren, we close the door of our usefulness as counsellors to them."—"Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers," page 500.

May we have your criticism, brethren? Tell us anything that will help us. Don't reserve it for others; send it on; or come to us if an interview is convenient. Every official, every preacher, should be willing to listen to the counsel of his brethren. And more, do not be afraid to come. We are all men of "like passions" with yourselves. Recently I heard a brother say that some were afraid to come to headquarters with their criticism, for fear that they would lose their standing or position; or have their "heads cut off," as was this brother's vigorous way of expressing what he understood might happen. Now I am sorry if any brother has cause to think that any official would use his office to disrate, discredit, or cause another to lose his position or place or influence, because he felt called upon for the good of the work to tell what he thought was

wrong in the workings of the cause. I wish to assure my brethren that I believe our administration is against any such intimidation, and for one I should rebuke any infringement of the right of a brother to speak his mind freely and without fear of suffering thereby.

But criticism of others in little

Pray for a Revival Today

"TOMORROW," he faithfully promised, "tomorrow for revival I'll pray;
Tomorrow I'll plead as I ought to, I'm busy, too busy, today!
Tomorrow I'll spend in my closet, tomorrow I'll humbly bow!"
Yet ever a "voice" kept whispering, "But the Church is languishing NOW!"

Tomorrow, tomorrow, tomorrow—the delay e'er repeated went on;
Tomorrow, tomorrow, tomorrow—till the years and the "voice" were gone;
Till the Church its God had forgotten; till the land was covered with sin;
Till millions had hopelessly perished, and eternity was ushered in.

O members of the body of Christ, O ye Church of the living God,
O editors and leaders and pastors, O saints where our fathers trod!

The "voice" still insistently whispers; answer not, "Tomorrow I'll pray."

The "voice" is one of authority; the Church needs reviving TODAY.

—Selected.

not inspire our brethren with confidence in our judgment. It is our duty to counsel with our brethren, and to heed their advice. We are to seek their counsel, and when they give it, we are not to cast it away, as if they were our enemies. Unless we humble our hearts before God, we shall not know His will.

"Let us be determined to be in unity with our brethren. This duty God has placed upon us. We shall make their hearts

groups of members, and which is never brought to the leaders, only creates discord and ripens into rebellion. Here we see the work of Satan duplicated. Often people who carry on criticism in a church and community or a conference do great harm and sometimes have to be dealt with as Satan was in heaven. Let us not indulge in saying to others what we feel we cannot have courage to say to those who ought to know and who have power to make correction.

We sometimes hear in a roundabout way that things are wrong at the Union Conference office, that money is not wisely spent, and that this and that should be rectified. Well, we do not claim perfection, we only say we are trying by God's grace to do right, and carry on God's work honestly and for His glory; but we do believe it is wrong for brethren to criticise among themselves what may be going on at headquarters, thus engendering a lack of confidence, and not come to us directly or by correspondence, so that we might have the benefit of their counsel. Now we will listen, and there are likely to be matters brought to our attention that will help us. Come and help us. And if you are confused about matters, come. Perhaps we can explain some difficulty. We shall be glad to talk about your perplexity. Let us remember this cause does not belong to the preachers alone, but to God's children, one and all. We are brethren. "Come, let us reason together;" but let us not "bite and devour one another" lest we be "consumed one of another."

J. E. FULTON.

In a Dry and Thirsty Land

O SOUL of mine! We've wandered
In a dry and thirsty land,
With brazen skies above us,
And around us burning sand;
There was neither shade nor fountain
In that dry and thirsty land.

O soul of mine! we've hungered
When we fed the herds of swine;
For in that land of famine
There was neither corn nor wine;
There was neither milk nor honey
When we hired to feed the swine.

O soul of mine! we've listened
When the Father called: "Come home;
In My house are food and raiment;
Why in want and hunger roam?"
And we hastened home in gladness
When the Father called, "Come home."

ELIZABETH ROSSER.

Health Food Department

Perth Branch Sanitarium Health Food Co.

THE past year has been one of progress in our Health Food work. A number of changes have been made in the arrangement of our various departments, and needed renovations carried out, the most important of these being a new shop-window put in by Wunderlich's Ltd., which gives our premises a neat appearance, and which is commented on very favourably by our patrons.

The work is conducted in four departments, as follows: Retail, wholesale, café, and the vegetable margarine manufacturing department, employing in all eighteen workers, who gather every morning to seek God's blessing before taking up the duties of the day. The yearly wages paid amount to £2,700. The tithe paid by the staff is sufficient to keep a ministerial worker in the field continuously.

Retail Shop

This department is now operated by itself, all wholesale orders being packed in the basement. This arrangement enables the shop to be kept clean. The retail sales for the year amounted to £2,132, the best month being December, with a total of £309. The retail sales have been very low, but a steady increase gives us hope of better results in the future, and efforts are being made to build up the sales.

Nurse Totenhofer, who was with us all last year, has been called to the Australasian Missionary College, and Nurse E. Morris has now taken up her duties in this department. We are pleased to report that the general public in ever increasing numbers are coming to us for help and advice, and it is our earnest desire to prove worthy of the trust and confidence they manifest in our work.

Wholesale Department

From this department we deal with the merchants and retail grocers. With the latter we have a very good connection, and every shop of any importance in the metropolitan area of Perth is supplied by us with some of our lines.

Brother F. H. Gall, our traveller, is doing good service. His best month's sales amounted to £850.

During last year one and a half million granose biscuits were sold, which is equivalent to four granose biscuits for every man, woman, and child in West Australia. The demand for granose is very keen, and considerable business has been lost through the shortage of supplies.

Our record month for credit sales was December, when goods to the value of £1,735 were sold in this department. For the year 1923, £15,695 worth of business was done; while for 1922, the sales amounted to £10,612, showing a gain in sales of over £5,000.

The prospects for 1924 are good, and while we are restricting sales to our own manufactures we are hopeful that there will be further increases. This will depend largely on the securing of granose supplies. Brother A. W. Nock has charge of this department, with two assistants.

Cafe Department

During the year special attention has been given to this phase of our work, and many improvements in the dining room and kitchen have been effected.

The number of meals served has shown a steady increase month by month. During 1922, 8,120 meals were served, while for the year just closed the number was 16,050. Thus our figures were almost doubled, and we feel the special blessing of God has been over this department. We pray God will use us to bring the saving truth to the many business men of Perth who patronise our dining room.

The year's takings amounted to £853, July being our best month. During the year a profit of £46 was made, which shows that this department can be operated successfully, despite the fact that only four and a half days a week are available for business.

Sister F. L. Baker is in charge of our café, assisted by two regular workers, and other helpers during midday.

Vegetable Margarine Department

The sales in this department amounted to £12,283 for the year, representing an output of 90 tons, or 200,000 pounds of vegetable margarine. May was the best month, with sales totalling £2,433. The Dairy Industry Act has caused a serious drop in our sales, as various restrictions in the Act have prevented us from turning out as good a production as formerly. The low price of butter has also had its effect in decreasing our sales.

During the years 1920 and 1921 many hundreds of tons were sold, and good profits made, and as a result we own very fine premises in Barrack Street, also land, factory, and plant in Murray Street, Perth. About £3,000 was appropriated from us to help pay the indebtedness on some institutions in other States and £1,000 was also sent to help purchase property for the Brisbane Branch. The profit for the year 1923 amounted to £1,585.

Brother E. R. Dadd is in charge of this department, and has two assistants. New plans are being laid for the work, and we hope to increase sales during the present year.

In all departments a total of £30,963 worth of business was done last year, and our office staff of three under the supervision of Brother J. E. Nash has been kept very busy.

At the end of the year the assets of this branch were £14,872, and liabilities £3,334, revealing a present worth of £11,538, with property values increasing rapidly every year.

A need in this State is for treatment

rooms, and we are hoping that these will be supplied soon.

The board and all the workers desire the prayers of God's people, that His blessing may be extended to us in this important work.

May God help us all to step on to higher ground and manifest greater faithfulness in health reform. John 17:17.

W. A. WILTON, *Manager*.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PRESIDENT : L. D. A. LEMKE

SECRETARY : J. TODD

Conference and Camp-Meeting, 1924

ALMOST twenty-five years ago,—in November, 1899,—a little group of loyal Adventists gathered in the Bible Christian Chapel, Young Street, Adelaide, and organised the South Australian Conference. The president of the Australasian Union Conference, Pastor A. G. Daniells, was present, also A. T. Robinson from Victoria, E. R. Palmer from Avondale School, J. H. Woods, and Wm. Knight from Gawler, and about 75 others from different parts of South Australia.

At that time the total church membership of South Australia was 190. The tithe received was about £450; Sabbath school offerings, £50; and there were some eight canvassers at work, who sold about £2,000 worth of literature.

A constitution was drawn up, and officers appointed as follows: President, J. H. Woods; Vice-President, A. W. Semmens; Secretary, J. Higgins; Treasurer, Mrs. Higgins; State Agent, A. H. Piper; Sabbath School Secretary, Mrs. A. H. Piper.

On March 18, 1924, the twenty-fourth session was held at Prospect, when in addition to the three large pavilions about 85 family tents were required to accommodate the delegates who were present from north, south, east, and west, to represent the 16 churches, whose membership is now 637, and who are paying annually a tithe of £4,930. Nine of the organised churches have buildings valued at £5,250, with a seating capacity of 1,020.

There are now 26 Sabbath schools, where 884 scholars meet to study God's Word, and their offerings last year to foreign missions amounted to £621. Eleven Missionary Volunteer societies have been formed for active missionary work, with a membership of 340, who gave £102 to missions last year. In addition to the above, a further sum of £392 was supplied to assist local missions.

The total amount of tithes and offerings for the year amounted to £8,881, an average of £13 17s. 3d. per member. Of this amount £3,352 was paid to foreign missions and the balance used for home mission and local church funds.

At the present date the workers of the conference are four ordained ministers, four licensed ministers, six missionaries, one medical missionary, eight colporteurs, four church school teachers, three office workers, one café manager, and five café assistants—a total of thirty-six.

The present worth of the conference at December 31, 1923, was £2,676, revealing a net increase of £838.

It was especially pleasing to the delegates on this occasion to have present Pastor J. H. Woods and his wife from Victoria. He had been their first president when the conference started in 1899. There were also present on behalf of the Union Conference, Pastors W. G. Turner, C. M. Snow, A. W. Anderson, and Brother H. Stacey, each of whom with Pastor J. H. Woods gave us timely instruction which was much appreciated.

The whole of the business of the conference was disposed of in five meetings, and the remaining time was spent in Bible study and earnestly seeking God. Pastor L. D. A. Lemke presided at all the business meetings. Those present on the ground attended punctually, and the business, after prayerful consideration, was promptly disposed of.

The first Sabbath morning the pavilion was well filled, and after Sabbath school was over Pastor A. W. Anderson, assisted by the ministers present, conducted a consecration meeting. The Master's good Spirit, as promised by Him, was present, hearts were softened, and many came forward and were instructed how to find the better way to live the "victorious life." Some who had known the truth for twenty years and more, had grown cold, and now as they came forward to give their lives anew to their Maker it rejoiced the hearts of all.

On the Saturday night the delegates and a number of visitors were shown pictures on the screen of the Solomon Islands. Pastor W. G. Turner, who has lately been to the islands, explained the views which gave us some idea of the beauty of the scenery in the islands, and also vividly portrayed the contrast between the Solomon Island native in his heathen condition before the third angel's message found him and his present condition. It is said by our missionaries that the native who takes a definite stand for the truth never goes back to the filthy practices of his former life, so great is the power of the Holy Spirit's working in their lives.

On the last Sabbath Brother E. Roenfelt was set apart for the gospel ministry by the laying on of hands, the Union Conference delegates taking part in this most impressive and solemn service. Pastor L. D. A. Lemke gave the charge. God says to our young men, "I have written unto you young men, because ye are strong, and the Word of God abideth in you." 1 John 2:14. It is encouraging to see our young people giving their lives in consecrated service to the Master. Quite a number of young people have left South Australia for Avondale to make preparation for better service.

The closing meeting was held on Sunday night after the public service. Many expressions of gratitude to a kind Heavenly Father were heard, and we returned to our homes and duties very much encouraged. The meeting throughout was marked by a very quiet, peaceful spirit. The weather was mild, all that could be desired for camping, and all felt that the presence of God's Spirit was very manifest.

The committees final reports were as follows:—

Office-Bearers

PRESIDENT : L. D. A. Lemke.
SECRETARY-TREASURER : J. Todd.
RELIGIOUS LIBERTY SECRETARY : T. A. Brown.

EDUCATION SECRETARY : L. D. A. Lemke.

FIELD MISSIONARY SECRETARY : A. T. Start.

HOME MISSIONS SECRETARY : Miss R. V. Stratford.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER SECRETARY : Miss R. V. Stratford.

SABBATH SCHOOL SECRETARY : Miss B. A. Heise.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE : L. D. A. Lemke, L. J. Imrie, F. T. Pitt, A. Zeunert, T. A. Brown, W. H. Nolan, A. Moseley.

Credentials and Licenses

ORDAINED MINISTERS : L. D. A. Lemke, L. J. Imrie, D. G. Meyers, A. H. Rogers.

FOR ORDINATION AND CREDENTIALS : E. Roenfelt.

LICENSED MINISTERS : H. A. Kent, W. Chapman, C. Head, J. Todd.

LICENSED MISSIONARIES : A. T. Start, A. H. Weil, R. Reye, Miss B. A. Heise, Miss R. V. Stratford, Miss E. M. Todd.

LICENSED MEDICAL MISSIONARY : Nurse Ruth Behrens.

LICENSED TEACHERS : G. Currow, Mrs. E. Vear, Miss D. M. Blucher.

LICENSED COLPORTEURS : J. S. Sweet, Joe Sibley, Paul Sibley, Mrs. M. Badcock, Miss E. Sorrell, Mrs. A. Sibley, Miss M. Luke.

As space does not permit our giving the plans and recommendations in full, we give in brief the following : In recommending that our entire membership be enlisted in definite, continuous, systematic soul-winning work, each one aiming to bring at least one soul to the Master during 1924, two valuable aids were suggested, the *Signs* for systematic distribution and the new special pocket edition of "Steps to Christ" for presentation to those who would signify their willingness to read it carefully. Nearly one thousand copies of this book in the cheap 6d. edition were ordered by the campers.

In view of our need in these days to review the counsel contained in the "Testimonies for the Church" and other writings of the Spirit of Prophecy, it was urged that all our members procure and study these precious volumes. As the world is flooded today with pernicious, soul-destroying literature, it was recommended that we as parents give careful attention to the class of books and papers coming into the hands of our young people and children, and that we provide them with our books and periodicals, encouraging them to take advantage of the Reading, Standard of Attainment, and Spirit of Prophecy Courses.

God's cause has greatly benefited by our people investing their means in the Australasian Conference Assn. Ltd., and as we are facing wonderful opportunities for extending the work, our people were encouraged to place their valuable means with the Union Conference through its banking system. The Appeal for Missions and Big Week effort received consideration, and the respective aims of £1,200 and £200 were heartily adopted.

As the present offerings received by the Union Conference for mission work are not sufficient to cope with the present urgent needs, and as this work can be finished only through sacrifice on the part of all, it was recommended that all our people be led first freely to give

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Education Department

Jottings by the Way

SO often the question is asked, What do you mean by Avondale and Cooranbong and Dora Creek? Why use the various names and what have they to do with the College? Let us explain. Dora Creek is our railway station, three miles distant from the College; Cooranbong is the postal village about a mile and a half from the College; while Avondale is the village of Adventists which has grown up just beyond the school estate on the Maitland Road, and distant one mile from the buildings. The Australasian Missionary College was so long called the Avondale School for Christian Workers that "going to Avondale" will ever remain synonymous with "going to College," for the name "Avondale" is hardly likely to die.

THE Avondale church was built in 1897, and for many years served the whole community. As the village grew, consequent on the development of the Industries, the building became too small to accommodate the worshippers. In 1919, therefore, another church was formed known as the College church, made up largely of teachers and of students residing in the College, and meeting in the College chapel. In the Avondale church are a large number of "out-door" students, who reside in their homes and attend classes daily. This will explain the references in these columns to the Avondale and the College churches.

A NOVEL device for encouraging giving was used in the intermediate section of the Avondale Sabbath school last quarter. The children watched eagerly the building of a bridge span by span, Sabbath by Sabbath, as the day's contributions reached the aim. Neat carpentry work was done and the finished bridge was some five feet in length. In symbol it reached across the gulf of sin, conveying wayfarers in safety to realms of bliss.

THE senior division presents a unique chart in the form of a large cheque whereon the gold of the lettering is attractive, so too are the words themselves. "The Bank of Heaven" is the safe bank drawn upon. "Pay to the Australasian Union Conference the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds" is above the signature of the school, and thus represents the aim of the Sabbath school as a whole.

ANY of our Union Conference brethren who visit the College for the week-end may be assured of a warm welcome and a busy time. Friday night service in the College, Sabbath service in the Avondale church, and Missionary Volunteer Society meeting at either place is the usual programme, and Pastor A. W. Anderson filled the plan energetically during the Easter week-end. Several other visitors were present during these few days, some

relatives and friends of the home students bringing pleasure with them.

EASTER Monday was wet, but whoever knew of rain sufficient to dampen the enthusiasm of students enjoying a hard-earned holiday? Nine a.m. saw the Industries barge slip away from the wharf with a happy crowd of teachers, students, and visitors off to the point at the mouth of Dora Creek, where many happy hours have been spent. The vigorous games "taught e'en toil to please," and the wholesome exercise in the open air proved a profitable relaxation.

ON Saturday evening, April 27, the College chapel was opened to students and friends, the occasion being a lecture by Miss S. Schardt of the Ryde Home for Incurables, Sydney. This lady, herself blind, has twice before visited us in the interests of the afflicted ones cared for by this institution, and her story of great need and of suffering bravely borne, called for the sympathy of the listeners. The sum of £16 13s. to be forwarded to the Home is one result of her visit, increased gratitude for the "common" blessings is another.

PASTOR Fulton is ever a welcome visitor, and both churches appreciated his ministrations on a recent Sabbath. His appeal in the chapel for reconsecration met with a sincere response, and his stirring talk in the Avondale church was a call to old time simplicity of faith in the message and its ultimate success.

THE Avondale church has gathered £11 more than its Harvest Ingathering aim, and next week plans to send out several members to finish its territory.

MAY 3 was "Mothers' Day," and both Missionary Volunteer societies planned appropriate programmes, the Avondale Church working out a happy thought in giving the meeting over to mothers,—leaders, speakers, readers, reciters, and singers displaying talent unexpected, but evidently appreciated by the hearers.

A CAMPAIGN of a local nature has been started by the Avondale church. All have the privilege of contributing to a Signs fund to pay for copies to be used in the missionary effort. Bands of volunteers have been formed to distribute these fortnightly in the district round Awaba, Fassifern, and Toronto, our nearest railway centres to the north. The first visits have been made, by sisters on the Monday and by young men on the Friday

afternoon, the latter being the only time free from work and study. We solicit the prayers of RECORD readers that souls may be won as the work proceeds.

THE young men of the College homiletics class—the training class for Bible workers and preachers—are conducting a series of meetings in the Avondale church under the direction of their teacher, Pastor W. W. Fletcher. The attendance is increasing, and an effort is being made by poster advertising to secure the presence of near-by villagers not of our belief. This activity also is a call to prayer as you think of the College and its work.

Making the Drum

"O LOOK! Come and look! Thara's got his head in a big tin. Come and look."
 "I wonder what he's making."
 "It looks as if it's going to be a rubbish tin or something."
 "Look at all the rivets he's putting in."
 "Thara,—O Thara!"
 "Yes, boys, what's the matter?"



The Drum

"Thara, whatever is that big thing you're making?"
 "Why, boys, this is going to be a drum for the band. You see all bands have drums."
 "Where do you hit it, Thara? Is that the kind of noise it will make, the kind of noise you're making now?"
 "No, no, boys, you just wait and see."
 "Say, did you see Thara with that cow hide last night?"
 "No. Which cow hide?"
 "The one the tiger killed at Mezing last week. I saw him take it down and put it to soak in the river. He was saying that one side would have a tiger claw hole in it. I wonder what he meant."
 "Perhaps he is going to make the—"
 "Oh yes, I know, I know. Like my uncle made a drum, only he made it with wood and he stretched the hide over the open end, and the other end had a foot on it, and when he wanted to play it he stood it up on the foot and slapped it with his hand."
 "Yes, but this thing that Thara is making hasn't any foot."

And so they wondered and argued and wondered and argued till at last the drum was made. Then they all decided that



it was the best sounding drum they had ever heard and hoped that sometime when no one was looking they could get a chance to have a hit at it.

As for Thara [teacher], every time he heard it beaten it made him glad. It was No. 23 for the Burma Brass Band, and Thara could see the band standing in a circle in some village somewhere conducting a meeting to the glory of God; and his thoughts reverted to the ninety-eighth psalm where it says, "O sing unto the Lord a new song. . . Sing unto the Lord with the harp; with the harp, and the voice of a psalm. With trumpets and sound of cornet [and a big drum made of galvanised iron and green-hide], make a joyful noise before the Lord, the King."

E. B. HARE.

[This contribution was sent in for the school paper, *Far and Near*, and we gladly pass it on to a wider circle, illustrating, as it does, that a missionary in far-off lands must be prepared to do anything that comes to hand.]

Conference and Camp-Meeting, 1924

(Continued from page 3)

themselves to God, then in the spirit of sacrifice so to give of their means that there shall be ample funds flowing into the treasury to meet the needs both at home and abroad; and to this end we joined with other conferences in setting our aim on the basis of an average of 2s. 10d. per member per week for foreign missions.

Appreciating the action of the Signs Publishing Company in enlarging our weekly pioneer paper to sixteen pages, and recognising that this has doubled the cost of production and the Signs Company has taken a great financial responsibility in thus improving the paper, it was recommended that we endeavour to increase the circulation in this conference to an average of at least five copies per member.

The Spirit of Prophecy has given us definite instruction concerning the importance of educating our children in our own schools, and the statistics compiled by our General Conference show that 85 per cent of our children educated in the schools of the world are lost to the cause and 85 per cent of those educated in our own schools are saved to the cause. It was therefore strongly recommended that all our people wherever possible take advantage of the privileges afforded in our church schools and other educational institutions; and further, that all our people who have not already done so, adopt the one per cent plan for the support of our church schools.

L. D. A. LEMKE, *President*.

J. TODD, *Secretary*.

CHURCH members, let the light shine forth. Let your voices be heard in humble prayer, in witness against intemperance, the folly, and the amusements of this world, and in the proclamation of the truth for this time. Your voice, your influence, your time,—all these are gifts from God, and are to be used in winning souls to Christ.—"Testimonies," Vol. 9, page 38.

SOUTH NEW SOUTH WALES

PRESIDENT: J. M. COLE
SECRETARY: W. H. HOPKIN

WE were made glad to receive a very encouraging report from our president, Pastor J. M. Cole, on his return from the country, concerning the progress of the work at the various centres visited and the bright prospects for the future.

Albury Mission

Under the able leadership of Pastor G. G. Stewart good solid work is being accomplished at Albury. A baptism service was held last Sunday, April 20, when about a dozen persons were baptised. The interest is still good and we feel confident that a strong church will be organised at this centre. The workers in Albury are Pastor Stewart, Brother J. Eggins, and Miss L. Pascoe.

Epping Mission

Pastor A. W. Kent, assisted by Brethren J. Thompson and Stafford Smith, has been conducting a mission at Epping. The interest has been fairly good and we believe some souls will be won for the kingdom.

Goulburn Mission

Pastor L. R. Harvey is in charge of the work at Goulburn, and has associated with him Miss Eva E. Perry as Bible worker. Brethren C. J. Griffin and L. R. Fawcett have also been connected with the work at Goulburn, but Brother Griffin is now labouring in Arcadia and Brother Fawcett is linking up with the Epping mission. The work has been hard at Goulburn, but some have accepted the message.

Cootamundra Mission

The work at Cootamundra is most encouraging, and the prospects are bright for a successful effort. Brother E. G. Whittaker is in charge, assisted by Brethren S. R. Maunder and N. Ferris. The tent has been well filled since the meetings commenced, and the interest is growing. We are planning to send a lady Bible worker in the near future. Remember the work at Cootamundra in your prayers, that a rich harvest of souls may be gathered in.

Leadville

Pastor Ellis Behrens reports good meetings in Leadville. He has secured the use of a hall, and almost every family in the town was represented at his opening meeting. Although up to the time of his commencement at Leadville no other church services were held there, the Church of England has now begun Sunday evening meetings. We believe that the work in Leadville, under the guidance of the Spirit of God, will be crowned with success.

Strathfield Mission

This mission is being conducted by Brother A. Shannon, assisted by Brother E. R. Gane. From the commencement, the attendance has been good, and inquiries are now being received for Bible studies. Brother J. Thompson from Epping is joining this mission staff, and will be able to give effective help in the conduct of the meetings. We are having

a new forty-foot circle tent made for use in connection with this mission.

Woollahra Mission

Great success has attended the work at Woollahra, and some fine people have been won for the truth. Pastor W. G. Turner conducted this mission, assisted by Brother Parsons and Miss D. Watt. Brother Parsons and Sister Watt are still working in that locality. Most of the new converts have taken an active part in the Appeal for Missions, with good success, in fact the new Sabbath-keepers' band, led by Sister Watt, was the first to reach its goal, receiving upwards of £30, and all rejoiced in the work.

Pastor Mitchell is at Bowral endeavouring to consolidate the work there. Brother Farrell, our field missionary secretary, has just returned from the country where he has been working with one of our new canvassers. One of the new converts from Woollahra has just commenced canvassing our new medical book, and the prospects are bright. This young lady has had a good business training, and we feel sure will make a successful canvasser.

The work is going forward to victory. Let us see to it that as the message advances we advance with it, and finally triumph together with all God's people.

WALTER H. HOPKIN.

VICTORIA-TASMANIA

PRESIDENT: F. A. ALLUM
SECRETARY: J. L. SMITH

Ordination Service

THE North Fitzroy church was well filled on Sabbath afternoon, April 26, when Brethren S. L. Patching and A. W. Knight were ordained to the gospel ministry. The ministering brethren present included Pastors F. A. Allum, W. G. Turner, C. M. Snow, T. H. Craddock, and the writer. The service was a very solemn one. Pastor W. G. Turner, secretary of the Union Conference, who was passing through from South Australia, preached a very instructive and helpful sermon on the work of the gospel minister. The speaker took as his text the words found in Psalm 80:1, "Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, Thou that leadest Joseph like a flock; Thou that dwellest between the cherubim, shine forth." From the many duties of the Shepherd, as well as the under shepherds, the subject was developed. The selection of proper food, vigilance in service, courage in danger, as well as the great responsibility, were some of the points presented. Pastor Snow offered the ordination prayer; Pastor Allum presented the charge; while Pastor Craddock welcomed the brethren into the gospel ministry. The benediction was pronounced by Pastor Patching.

J. H. WOODS.

MANY not of our faith are longing for the very help that Christians are in duty bound to give. If God's people would show a genuine interest in their neighbours, many would be reached by the special truths for this time. Nothing will or ever can give character to the work like helping people just where they are.—"Testimonies," Vol. 6, page 280.

NORTH NEW SOUTH WALES

PRESIDENT: A. H. PIPER
SECRETARY: R. E. G. BLAIR

Visit to Avondale

WE are glad to speak of the good work being carried forward at the Australasian Missionary College, at the Avondale Industries, and in our churches at the College and in the village. God is blessing the brethren and sisters connected with these institutions. The writer had a very pleasant visit there over Friday, Sabbath, and Sunday, May 2-4.

A sweet spirit prevails in the School homes, and we had a most excellent meeting on Friday night with a response from the students of cheering, encouraging testimonies that would have done our parents and people everywhere much good could they have heard them. There was no urging; many were on their feet waiting to give their word of courage: and we had to close the meeting with many still rising to speak. It was one of the best meetings the writer has experienced in a long time.

We were also happy to meet with the village church on Sabbath, where a large congregation assembled, and talk with them upon the subject of "Christ in the Sanctuary," which is very present truth for these last days.

Both the College and village churches are to be congratulated on reaching their aim in the Appeal for Missions campaign; and they have not stopped at this, but are still pushing forward their work, meeting the people with the truth-laden literature, and gathering funds for the work. We thank God for the loyal people—both young and old.

We had a number of interviews with young men and young women about their future work. We are glad for the interest they are taking in their studies, and we are sure that the faculty are bending every energy to help the young people forward.

We also met the large band of workers in the Avondale Industries. Many of them are intent on doing their work well, and we are thankful for the degree of prosperity that has attended the work of this branch.

The Lord has blessed the work at Avondale this year, and we believe that a strong work is being built up. Increasing facilities are now offering, and many young men and young women throughout Australasia should be in attendance, gaining an education to fit them for their life's work.
J. E. FULTON.

Christian Marriages in the Solomons

FOUR years have passed since we began work in the Western Solomons, but not until October 30, 1923, did we celebrate a Christian marriage either in Dovele or Ranonga. On October 30, Gorapava, our leading mission boy, and Malipago, our leading mission girl and deaconess, were happily united in marriage in Dovele. Until this time all marriages were performed in the heathen way, and

one would not know a word about a marriage until one would accidentally come across a council of twenty to fifty natives who were bidding a price for the bride. When the expected price was obtained, nothing more was said. The couple would then leave to go to a plot of land which was chosen for them, to begin a garden for themselves. They, would be absent anywhere from a month to six weeks. Gorapava and Malipago were married in a Christian manner and no money was paid over. But they were unable to go to their assigned piece of land, as Gorapava was urgently needed at his mission station in Choiseul, which had been started only six weeks before this. So they travelled in a native cutter to their appointed work forty miles away.

The same rites were conducted at Ranonga, where four couples were married in a Christian manner. They had waited nearly twelve months to be married in the "worship" custom, as they call it. This is a long time for a native to wait, as their marriages take place very quickly, perhaps with only an hour or so warning.

EMILY TUTTY.

NORTH NEW ZEALAND

PRESIDENT: H. M. BLUNDEN
SECRETARY: P. G. FOSTER

A Dedicatory Service

WE are thankful to God to be able to tell RECORD readers about our new church at Papatoetoe, nine miles from Auckland. Pastor Kent came all the way from Christchurch to conduct the dedicatory service. There was a good attendance of about two hundred. Some came by train, some in motor cars, and some on bicycles. The weather was perfect, and everybody was in the best of spirits. We know that the Lord was with us. Our seating accommodation was taxed to the utmost. The Town Hall authorities kindly lent us about fifty chairs for the occasion. Our offering was £31, and beyond our expectations.

We have several people here who are interested, and we expect, with God's help, to build up a large church. Our membership is forty-six, and is practically the outcome of the work of a canvasser, which goes to show that our canvassers can do big things. Two years ago Brother Tackaberry was canvassing Otahuhu,—not for orders only, but for souls, and he secured eleven of us. We are thankful to God that he did. The next step was to form a Sabbath school at Otahuhu. Then it was decided to hold a mission at Papatoetoe, which was successful, and the Otahuhu company joined up with Papatoetoe. We thank God that we now have a church in which to worship.

We have had good workers in Pastor Kent, Sister Knowles, and Brother Thompson, who is now in Australia, not forgetting Pastor J. E. Steed who has worked hard in putting us on a sound footing. He gave a splendid sermon on reverence in the house of God, and we have all greatly benefited by it. May God bless us all.

B. DAVIES.

Standing of Subscription List "Signs of the Times"

May 1, 1924

State	Clubs	Singles	Total	Av. per member
South New Zealand	111	137	68	2.45
West Australia	1372	441	1813	2.36
Victoria-Tasmania	2766	1268	3974	2.23
South Australia	837	522	1359	2.19
South N. S. Wales	2533	488	3041	2.18
North New Zealand	1629	240	1879	1.89
Queensland	806	365	1171	1.66
North N. S. Wales	807	290	1103	1.09

11291 3697 14988

Total average in all States 1.99 per member

Total Circulation for April

Victoria-Tasmania	...	15,583
South New South Wales	...	12,450
North New Zealand	...	7,544
West Australia	...	7,276
Queensland	...	6,588
South Australia	...	5,217
North New South Wales	...	4,423
South New Zealand	...	2,604

61,685

OBITUARIES

COULSELL.—Sister Elsie May Coulsell was laid to rest in the Melbourne General cemetery, April 8, 1924, at the age of twenty-seven years. Her birthplace was Ballarat. She was only married two years when an attack of pneumonia, lasting six days, rendered the heart too weak to perform its function. She took her stand at one of our winter series of meetings, and now rests in the hope of that glorious appearing. The burial rites were performed by the writer.

J. H. WOODS.

SOPER.—George Frankland Soper of Francis Street, Lidcombe, near Sydney, aged ten years, was killed instantly on April 26, through being run over by a motor bus. George was a member of the Auburn Sabbath school, his parents having recently learned of the truth through the labours of Sister Arthur Dawes. A large number of relatives and friends assembled at the graveside. Among those present being his teacher and class of boys from the State school, to pay their last token of respect to their deceased pupil and comrade. We laid him to rest in the Rookwood cemetery on April 28. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family in their sad bereavement.

J. HINDSON.

BROTHER E. Rosendahl passes on the good word from Darling Range School: "I am sure you will be pleased to know that we have a very fine spirit of consecration and co-operation in our school this year. I think some of our young people are as promising as any I have ever seen in our schools. They seem to be possessed of an earnest desire to have a part in the closing work. School is now in going order, and matters seem to be progressing without a hitch anywhere. We are all of real good courage, and hopeful for the best year of our school work."

Our Seventh Appeal for Missions Campaign

Reports from Conferences to May 3

Conference	Weeks	Amount	Per cent of Goal
South New Zealand	7	£1,100	129
North N. S. W.	6	1,217	110
West Australia	5	1,017	101
Victoria-Tasmania	7	3,291	101
South Australia	4	1,063	88
North New Zealand	11	2,724	83
South N. S. W.	7	2,184	79
Union Conference		£12,596	83

THE Port Pirie church, South Australia, reached its aim of £50 in 15 days, and in 17 days had £8 more. They are still continuing in their work.

THE Warrnambool church, Victoria, which was the first church in that conference to reach its aim, has more than doubled its goal of £50,—having £104 to its credit.

IN fifty days, the South New Zealand Conference gathered in their £1,100. God blesses the efforts of His children when they co-operate to make His work a success.

NINETEEN churches of the twenty-nine that have definite aims in the South New South Wales Conference have sung their song of Jubilee. During the week no less than £275 was passed in to the mission treasury from this field.

WE rejoice with the Victoria-Tasmanian Conference in the accomplishment of their task. Although four companies have not yet been able to start their work, they have exceeded their goal of £3,250 by £41.

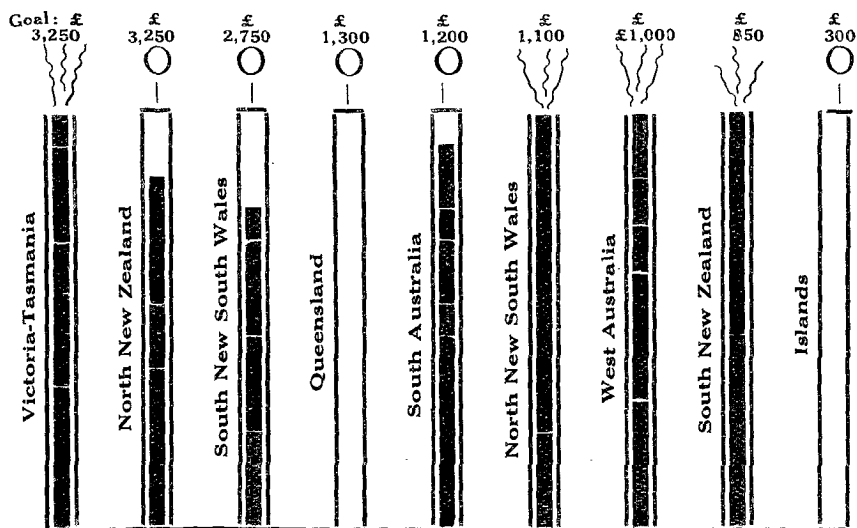
BROTHER Lock's telegram: "With pleasure we report aim reached five

weeks thousand seventeen pounds." This brought joy to the Union Conference office. We congratulate West Australia on the victory gained in such a short time. Our members in that field have proved that "the front door to success lies through the garden of duty."

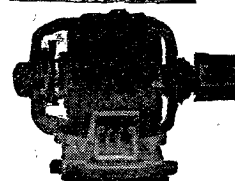
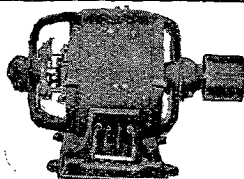
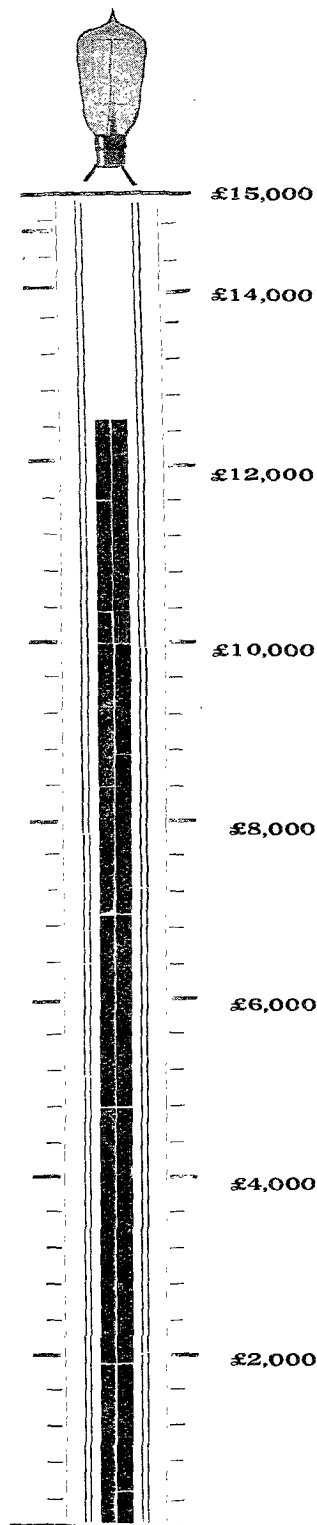
FROM South Australia we learn that the thousand-pound mark has been passed, and with their continued enthusiasm and zeal we expect to hear their song of triumph next week. It looks as if they would join South New Zealand and West Australia in getting through the campaign in five weeks.

"ONE of the most interesting experiences of the week," writes Sister Stratford of South Australia, "was reported by Sister Heise, who is assisting the Broken Hill church. She obtained permission for Sister Sibley and herself to stand at the gates of a certain large mine from 11.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. with collecting boxes, soliciting donations from the 500 miners as they came out of the pay office. Sister Heise had requested the office workers to make this a matter of special prayer. We did so, and asked the Lord to give £10. We are pleased to hear from Sister Heise that £10 was the amount received in their collecting boxes."

THE heart of God yearns over His earthly children with a love stronger than death. In giving up His Son, He has poured out to us all heaven in one gift. The Saviour's life and death and intercession, the ministry of angels, the pleading of the Spirit, the Father working above and through all, the unceasing interest of heavenly beings,—all are enlisted in behalf of man's redemption. —"Steps to Christ," page 24.



Union Conference Goal, £15,000



Australasian Record

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WEEK of Prayer, June 7 to 14.

PASTORS J. E. Fulton, W. G. Turner, H. C. White, and Dr. Freeman are in attendance at the Queensland camp-meeting which convened on May 6.

A BROTHER in one of the Sydney churches has made a gift of £12 14s., with the request that it be used for the specific purpose of assisting in the work of the New Guinea Mission where Pastor G. F. Jones has been labouring.

THE South N. S. Wales Conference has acceded to the request of the Union for Brother C. R. Farrell to temporarily carry the duties of Union Field Missionary Secretary, thus releasing Brother H. Stacey for a much needed furlough.

PASTOR A. H. Piper sailed on the *Niagara* on May 8 for Fiji, having been requested by the Union Conference Executive Committee to attend the annual council of the Fijian Mission as a representative of the Union. Pastor Piper expects to be away for about two months.

WITH sadness we record the death of Brother Ainslie Reekie of Wahroonga, which occurred as the result of heart trouble on Tuesday, May 6. Brother Reekie accepted the message in the very early days of the work in the Australasian field, and is known to many of our readers. An obituary notice will appear later.

THE next issue of the RECORD will be the Week of Prayer Special, which will bear date of May 26, and will take the place of the ordinary issue for that week. This Special number is being sent out thus early to our subscribers that all may have it in good time for our prayer season. Our next regular number will bear date of June 3.

BROTHER R. F. Scarfe, who has been connected with the work of the Avondale Industries, has been appointed to the position of farm manager of the Monamona Mission, and sailed with his wife by the *Canberra* on May 3 for his new field of labour. Brother Scarfe will be entering upon his work at an opportune time, owing to the bountiful rains that have recently fallen in Northern Queensland, thus breaking the severe drought that has seriously interfered with the farming operations at our mission station.

For Sale

FOUR-ROOMED house, most elevated situation, all conveniences. Planted with fruit trees, efficient water supply, well and tanks. Price £380. Apply D. WOOLSTON, Alton Road, Cooranbong.

SISTER M. Ferguson writes from Tonga: "It is now three weeks since I arrived in Vavau, after a very pleasant voyage. Every one gave me a hearty welcome, and all have done their best to make me comfortable and happy. The school has an enrolment of forty-two, with the prospect of several more to come in the near future. We are all endeavouring to help forward the work in Vavau, and pray that the Lord will bless every effort."

WRITING from Pitcairn Island on April 17—eighteen days after their arrival—Pastor Hare says: "We have been waiting several days for a boat, hoping to get letters, but thus far the vision of the 'white wings' has not materialised. We are very happy in our work, and are getting acquainted with the people. They are all very kind and we could not help loving them with their simple ways. We pray earnestly that the Lord will help us to help them. Nothing could be nicer than our situation here. It is charming, and full of peacefulness. The great sea rolls before us, and its music is ever with us." Pastor Hare gives us an insight into the "Home life on Pitcairn Island" that will appear in our next regular issue.

An Appeal

OUR Week of Prayer is now about to begin. The readings prepared present subjects of great importance, and we ask for them a careful and prayerful reading. We need these annual reminders of our duty and privileges. For many years now they have been of great uplifting power to God's people. The times are perilous; iniquity abounds; and the love of many grows cold. We are all in danger and need to renew our strength. "Unmistakable evidences point to the nearness of the end." God grant us help during this season. Who of us can afford to regard lightly this opportunity, and neglect our souls? But with our constant cares, we are in danger. Dear brethren and sisters, let us seek God together. As workers we must seek God with you; and as parents let us plead together, with our children, for the divine power so graciously promised, that we may have more constant victories in our individual lives. We do need to pray. The way is dark; and the clouds are ominous of the coming storm. "Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near."

And we appeal also on this occasion for a liberal offering for our mission fields. Our work is rapidly developing in new fields. We are glad to pass on the fact that in New Guinea and the New Hebrides—two dark cannibal lands—God has manifestly stretched forth His hand. We must send additional forces there. Even in the public press favourable mention is made of our work in the Solomon Islands. We are thankful to God for His help. But we must press the battle there. Additional equipment, homes, boats, as well as new missionaries, are called for. At our coming council we must take steps to furnish more help to all these fields. Then our work in the older fields must be kept supplied. There are soldiers falling at the front in sickness, and from time to time are recruited home. This is the history of missions. Let us from our

base of supplies, like loyal subjects of the King, send forward the help required. This takes constant supplies of money. Shall we complain? Let the following pertinent quotation from the "Testimonies" be our guide in these matters:—

"Let not our church-members complain because they are so often called upon to give. What is it that makes the frequent calls of necessity? Is it not the rapid increase of missionary enterprises? Shall we forget that we are labourers together with God? From every church prayers should ascend to God for an increase of devotion and liberality. My brethren and sisters, do not plead for retrenchment in evangelical work. So long as there are souls to save, our interest in the work of soul-saving is to know no abating. The church cannot abridge her task without denying her Master. Not all can go as missionaries to foreign lands, but all can give of their means for the carrying forward of foreign missions.

"There are new fields to be entered, and we must have your help. Shall we ignore the commission given us, and thus forfeit the fulfilment of the promise accompanying the commission? Shall the people of God become careless and indifferent, and refuse to give of their means for the advancement of His work? Can they do this without severing their connection with Him? They may think thus to economise, but it is a fearful economy that places them where they are separated from God."—*Vol. 9, pages 55, 56.*

In the 1921 Week of Prayer we gave £4,800 for missions. Our constituency is now considerably increased. We are nearer the end of our work. The brethren thought we should make an aim of at least £5,000 this year. This will greatly help in forwarding our work. Shall we count on you to help make up the sum required to reach this aim? It can be done by co-operation on the part of all. Let us talk the matter over at once in our families and prepare a good offering for the closing Sabbath of the Week of Prayer.

"We are to place in the Lord's treasury all the means that we can spare. For this means, needy, unworked fields are calling. From many lands is sounding the cry, 'Come over and help us.'"—*"Testimonies," Vol. IX, page 49.*

Let us pray for spiritual power for a new conversion. Let us pray for our missionaries. Pray for the quickening Spirit upon the native people. And do not forget the aim of £5,000.

J. E. FULTON.

FROM Melbourne, May 1, Pastor F. A. Allum writes: "You will be sorry to hear of the illness of Brother A. W. Knight. He was ordained on Sabbath last, and on Saturday evening he was prostrated by several hemorrhages of the lungs; and while his condition is more hopeful than we at first thought, he is still very weak. A specialist who examined him says that it will be at least twelve months before he will be able to do any preaching work. We know you will join with us in praying for Brother Knight's restoration that he may continue in his soul-winning work." It will be with much regret that our readers learn of this sudden illness that has come to our brother, and we know that many prayers will ascend on his behalf.