



Vol. 38, No. 32

Sydney, Monday, August 6, 1934

Registered at the General Post Office, Sydney, for transmission by Post as a Newspaper.

Our Church Standards---Shall We Abandon or Enforce Them?

A FEW weeks ago, out of a disturbed and burdened heart, I spoke to you from this pulpit on the subject of church standards, and raised the question as to whether the time had come for this denomination to alter its platform and abandon its standards. At that time I took occasion to point out that the rising tide of worldliness observable among us called for a serious decision upon the part of the church leaders, either to maintain and enforce the old, established standards of the faith, or to cast them aside altogether. And I proposed a set of resolutions dealing with the particular evil of church pageants, shows, and acted representations,—resolutions which the executive board later adopted with unanimity, and which, therefore, embody the accepted policy of this church today.

It is a source of peculiar gratification to me to observe how whole-heartedly the various activities of the Tabernacle church have endeavoured to follow the counsel contained in this policy. From both teachers and students, earnest inquiry has been made as to how to bring all activities into compliance with this policy. From the Missionary Volunteer Society, both Senior and Junior, the Sabbath school, the musical organisations, and the women's organisations, the same inquiries have been made and the same purpose has been made evident. This is indeed heartening.

On the publication of the sermon preached here, in the columns of our widely circulated church paper, the *Review and Herald*, a most astonishing response has come, that has nearly overwhelmed me. From north and south and east and west in North America and from many foreign fields, letters have come to me which disclose a widespread, and by me unsuspected, but nevertheless most positive and pronounced, conviction on the part of the writers that the time has fully come for a restatement and a new pledge of loyalty to the old-time ideals, standards, and teachings of this closing message of the gospel. This, too, is wonderfully heartening. Many of these correspondents pointed out that while they deplored these tendencies toward worldly practices

which they observed coming in among us, they nevertheless felt a sense of helplessness and timidity in opposing them, fearing they would be counted "old fogies," and that they would be hopelessly outnumbered and their protest ignored.

Some devoted souls seem to have the impression that the tendency has gone too far to be checked, that the dikes have given way, and there is no use now to resist. I do not believe this position is warranted. The old standards are not lost. The world is not in the church to such an extent that the future is hopeless. There is a glorious triumph just before us. This is no time for despair. Rather, this is a time when God's loyal, faithful people, who recognise and accept the essential, basic teachings and standards of this message, should speak forth vigorously their convictions, and support every effort in the right direction. There is no people on earth so responsive to right and spiritual leadership, so ready to follow right principles, as this people. They are going through to the kingdom.

A Lesson from the Past

I have turned to the Word of God, and endeavoured to bring the light of former experiences to bear upon our present condition. And out of this study I bring to you the text of this morning's sermon.

"The glory of the God of Israel was gone up from the cherub, whereupon He was, to the threshold of the house. And He called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer's inkhorn by his side; and the Lord said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof. And to the others He said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at My sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house." Ezekiel 9:3-6.

The circumstances which form the setting for this passage are these: Ezekiel was among the captives in Babylon. As he was sitting in his house, with the

elders of Judah about him, the hand of the Lord fell upon him. The Spirit lifted him up between earth and heaven, and brought him in the visions of God to Jerusalem to the inner door of the temple. There God displayed to him in successive scenes the iniquity of His people, their departure from right and holy practices, their abandonment of the religion of God. The whole city was filled with iniquity. It had not stopped in the city. It was engulfing even the sanctuary of God. This holy place was desecrated by the polluting devices of wicked men. Seventy of the ancients of the house of Israel, each swinging a censer, offered a thick cloud of incense to every form of creeping things, abominable beasts, and idols, which were portrayed upon the wall, while they said, "The Lord seeth us not; and the Lord hath forsaken the earth." Women were engaged in all the superstitions of their false worship. Even between the porch and the altar of the temple, men stood with their backs to the temple, and worshipped the sun toward the east.

God's Estimate of Sin

Looking upon these varied scenes of guilt, Ezekiel heard the voice of the Lord saying:

"Hast thou seen this, O son of man? Is it a light thing to the house of Judah that they commit the abominations which they commit here? for they have filled the land with violence, and have returned to provoke Me to anger: and, lo, they put the branch to their nose. Therefore will I also deal in fury: Mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: and though they cry in Mine ears with a loud voice, yet will I not hear them." Eze. 8: 17, 18.

At once the fulfilment of this solemn denunciation was shown the prophet. The heavenly heings in charge of the city closed in, each with his destroying weapon in his hand. Six others came from the way of the higher gate, toward the north, and these, too, each had a slaughter weapon in his hand.

The glory of the God of Israel was gone up from the cherubim. The Lord forsook a sanctuary which had been so polluted by man's transgression, and stood at the door of the temple, to direct the work of separation and punishment among the people, which it was now determined to accomplish. His wrath was about to be visited upon them, for all the abominations they had committed, as well as for the hardness and impenitence of their hearts.

There remained some among God's people, however, who had not forsaken or provoked Him. As in the time of Elijah, so there was a remnant who had not been influenced by the apostasy from God. They had retained their loyalty to Him. They had not engaged in these abominations. These must be preserved from the destruction which was coming.

The Mark of Loyalty

And so to the man clothed in linen, with the writer's inkhorn, the Lord said: "Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof."

So were the servants of God dis-

tinguished. They had done all they could to maintain God's authority, to teach God's way, to uphold God's standards. They did not go with the crowd. They did not compromise. Tears of sorrow filled their eyes because men kept not the divine law. Their souls wept in secret places when men would not hear. And God hearkened and heard. Their witnessing was not in vain. A book of remembrance was kept for those who feared the Lord, those who thought upon His name. Now that sudden destruction was decreed upon the faithless apostates, these faithful servants of God were to be preserved. As in Egypt the Israelites were distinguished by the blood on the doorposts, and thus escaped the destroying angel, so these were now marked by divine appointment, that they might escape the evil to come.

The destruction then began at the sanctuary of God, with the ancient men who had engaged in these abominations. The destroying angels went through the city, searching out all who had acted on the conviction that "the Lord seeth us not; the Lord hath forsaken the earth," and had fallen away into corrupt practices. None were spared. No pity was shown. Old and young, maids and little children, and women were smitten. No place, no circumstances, were a protection for impenitent guilt. Only those upon whom was God's mark were delivered.

This Movement of God

These things, "written aforetime," were written for our admonition. They have lessons of guidance, of courage, of comfort, for us. May the Lord, the Spirit, make us wise in their consideration, and faithful in their improvement for ourselves. God has given this people their teachings. He has given them their standards. He has placed before them their objectives. He has assigned them their work. He has given them His Spirit for the finishing of their task. And He has given them special equipment in the varied gifts of His Spirit for the carrying forward of His message.

This movement is God's movement. This denominational organisation belongs to Him. He brought it into existence. He commissioned it. It has a divine call. It is doing a divine work. Men who lead it may and do make mistakes. But God is its real leader. The head of this movement is God Himself. After years of service in this work both at home and abroad, and in various capacities, during which I have seen the weaknesses and sins of men as they have affected the work of God, and seen these men either corrected or set aside, a profound conviction has been created in my soul, which is constantly deepening, namely, that the God of heaven, the Creator of the universe, the Upholder of all things, is in charge of the work of this message, and is carrying it onward to certain victory. A glorious triumph is just ahead.

This conviction, however, does not blind me to the very obvious fact that practices which formerly were forbidden have made their appearance among our churches. Tendencies which are altogether worldly are becoming too pronounced. Standards are being lowered. Some of our people are inclined to look at things with different eyes than they did a quarter of a

century ago. A tide of worldliness is threatening the church. We recognise the evil, we deplore the drift, we acknowledge the danger, we sigh and cry for the abominations. But I assure you they will not destroy this movement. They will not sweep it away. God is still in charge of affairs. He has not been set aside, nor has He relinquished His control. He and His truth will yet triumph.

The time has come, however, fully come, for every devoted, faithful, single-hearted follower of God, and especially those who recognise and properly estimate the dangers of the present hour and the evils of lowered standards, to take a positive stand in opposition to any further lowering of our standards, and a positive determination to lift them back where they ought to be, where God would have them.

Within the limits of this sermon, it is possible only to point out some tendencies and influences, and direct attention to the principles which they undermine.

CARLYLE B. HAYNES.

(To be concluded next week)



Dedication of the Batuna Church

EVERYBODY woke early on the morning of June 7, and soon Batuna was astir with a feeling of expectancy,—you know that "something-wonderful-is-going-to-happen" feeling. For had not this occasion been looked forward to for years? And now the day had really come at last! Not only did we have three Australian visitors in the persons of Pastor A. H. Piper, Dr. C. W. Harrison, and Brother J. S. Sandeman with us, but it was the day for the dedication of the new Batuna church.

To the native mind it is the most wonderful building in the Solomons. Natives had come to the service from every island in the group where we have mission work. For two days canoe loads had been arriving. Some had to cross wide stretches of water to come here in their large canoes, canoes such as were one time used for war, but now brought believers to worship. They feel that this church is not for the Batuna folk only, but that it is their church also, the big church for the whole group, and all were eager to see it and attend the dedication.

After morning worship and a little whispered conversation between us, some of the students made their way to different parts of the bush to gather fern and palms, and others to the flower gardens. With the help of two of the students, Sister Martin and I decorated the building inside with bowls of flowers and a very pretty dainty creeping fern, the leaves of which resemble the maidenhair fern. The decorations certainly looked very dainty and pretty in their colours of pink and green.

At 2 p.m. all assembled, and the church was filled to its utmost while a large overflow took their seats on the gravel walk surrounding the building. After the open-

ing remarks and words of welcome by Pastor L. A. Borgas, Brother Sandeman announced the first hymn, after which Kata Ragoso asked God's richest blessing on the speaker and all present.

The newly organised church choir next rendered the anthem, "Be Merciful Unto Me, O God," followed by the congregation singing, "The Wondrous Story."

Pastor A. H. Piper gave the dedicatory address, interpreted very ably by Ragoso. He said in part: We have 3,500 Seventh-day Adventist churches in all the world. I have visited a good many of them, but I have never visited a church that was more beautiful in situation than this one. The Marovo Lagoon is known to be the most beautiful lagoon in the world, and this church stands high up on a peninsula with the lagoon on three sides of it, and hills on the other, and dozens of little islands dotted around. But what good will it be to have beautiful surroundings if our hearts are not beautiful? Solomon built the most beautiful temple that was ever erected, but because of sin it was destroyed. The next temple was not so beautiful to look at, but it was more blessed because Jesus in person worshipped in it. It was the presence of Jesus that made it beautiful. So we need Jesus dwelling continually in our hearts in order to have a beautiful church. The glory of God should be seen in the character of each member.

Pastor J. D. Anderson and Pana next prayed, dedicating the church to the Lord, and especially remembering the builders, the pastor, and all who will worship in it.

The choir voiced the sentiment of all when it next arose and sang, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." After Rori announced the closing hymn, Dr. Harrison pronounced the benediction.

As the congregation passed out, the ushers met us at the doors, and a generous offering of £28 was given for church expenses.

When the shell sounded, all assembled once more at the large improvised booth cook-house, where the feast was prepared. At one corner was a big heap of food parcelled up in leaves, while the nice white bark of trees was spread out, running the length of the building, covered by hundreds of bundles of food, all tied up in lots of ten.

Two large troughs were seen here also, 18 by 12 feet in length, in which the food had been pounded and mixed up. One trough resembled a large crocodile, one end carved to resemble the head, and the other end representing the tail. The other trough resembled a pigeon. A little farther on were the big native ovens in which the food had been cooked.

As the name of a district was called, all its people would go forward and receive their food; then another, and another, until 2,332 bundles of food were served to 1,166 people while the 5,140 remaining bundles were divided again among the districts. All the food served in this feast was a gift from the people living in the lagoon.

This was the largest S.D.A. gathering and feast ever held in the Solomons. The last were being served when the bell pealed out for evening worship. So closed one of the most wonderful days to the S.D.A. Solomon Islanders.

EVELYN R. TOTENHOFER.

A Visit to Pitcairn Island

READING in the RECORD of May 28 the description of Pitcairn Island by Brother Roy P. Clark, brought vividly to mind my visit to the island a number of years ago. Thinking it may be of some interest to the readers of the RECORD, especially to those living on the island, I give the following brief sketch:

It was on the third voyage of the ship *Pitcairn* that myself and family were called to do missionary work in the South Pacific Islands. On the morning of May 1, 1895, the little gospel ship sailed out of San Francisco Bay through Golden Gate on to the broad Pacific, headed straight for Pitcairn Island. Hundreds of miles lay between us and our destination. After being sea-tossed for thirty-six days, on June 6 the first mate gave the joyful news that they had sighted the island. The missionaries were all astir, smiling and rushing to the side of the ship to catch a glimpse of the famous island.



Pastor and Mrs. E. Hilliard

Brother and Sister Hilliard, now of Bangalore, South India, spent eighteen years in the Australasian Union, including four years in the Tongan Islands. They are both still active in church work and visiting. Pastor Hilliard conducts services, teaches in Sabbath school, and holds studies, even though he is in his eighty-fourth year. They are regular readers of the RECORD, and express deep interest in the Australasian field although they left our shores twenty-one years ago.

We were in a dead calm. Scarcely a breath of air was stirring. During the entire day we made but one mile, and there were fifteen more to make. But just before sunset a favourable wind arose, and we were soon speeding on our way. As we drew nearer to land, we discovered a huge bonfire on the mountain side. The brethren had sighted our ship and were signalling a welcome. It was, indeed, a most joyful welcome to which our hearts gratefully responded as we thought of meeting those of like precious faith. Soon we were opposite the landing, a mile or so at sea. Presently a boatload of the islanders pulled alongside of our ship. They brought us large watermelons and other products of their island home.

It being after midnight, they remained with us the rest of the night. The next morning after worship and breakfast, the missionaries and part of the ship's crew entered their large row boat, and we were on our way to the landing in Bounty Bay. As we glided over the waters of the great deep, our hearts were cheered by the sweet melody sung by the Pitcairners entitled, "The Wide, Wide World."

After landing we were assigned different homes for a week's stay. What a

pleasant change from the storm-tossed sea to the quiet resting places of our kind-hearted brethren and sisters! This change, however, created a rapacious appetite. But the cornmeal cake, arrow-root puddings, pineapples, oranges (said to be unrivalled for their sweetness in any other part of the world), and wholesome bananas abundantly supplied our cravings of hunger.

It was interesting, indeed, to visit the picturesque scenery of this noted island. On one side are what is called the "Blow Holes," the great banyan tree covering a large space of ground, and the spring of pure water conveyed in pipes to the settlement below. On the opposite side of the island near Bounty Bay is St. Paul's natural rock-shaped cathedral, with its massive spires pointing heavenward. Just over the mountain top down a slight descent is the cozy resort of "Shady Nook," so inviting in the heat of the day.

A little in the distance is their chapel, built by hard labour. The boards were sawn by hand in the pit and carried to the place of building. Here during our short stay we met from time to time, sang, prayed, held Bible studies, and preached the third angel's message to these dear people, who greatly appreciated the services, and our own souls also drank from the fountain of life.

But at last the morning came for the exchange of good-byes, after which the brethren took us back in their large row boat, and we were soon sailing again over the broad seas for the Society Islands.

Some have been laid away to rest since we bade them farewell, and we trust they are sleeping in Jesus. If we are faithful to the end we shall meet them where social circles will never be broken by death, but where we shall hark in the sunlight of God's love during the endless ages of eternity. Let us all be faithful to the end. What a gathering that will be!

E. HILLIARD.

Bangalore, India.

Wedding at Aore, New Hebrides

AT the time of our recent visit to Aore, it was requested of me to conduct a wedding. I acceded to this, and soon the happy day came. The contracting parties were named Isaac and Sarah. It would have been more interesting to all if it had been Abraham and Sarah, or Isaac and Rebecca. However, an air of activity in preparation was very apparent, and when the hour arrived the church was filled to the doors. The church was beautifully decorated with palms and flowers, which reached a climax in the charming arch under which the bridal party was to stand. The blending of colours, all from the bush, was good, and all the work was done by the natives themselves and revealed good taste and design. Pastor Turner was so much impressed that he took a flashlight picture of the scene.

A hush came over all when the bride entered, dressed in a neat frock, with a crown of frangi-pangi flowers around her curly head, and carrying a beautiful bouquet of cream hibiscus. She was attended by a maid suitably dressed. When the bridal party was correctly arranged, the congregation was led in singing the beautiful hymn, "'Tis Love that Makes Us Happy." It was quite appropriate, too.

When the service was completed and the certificates signed up, the happy couple proceeded arm in arm to the front door of the church, not to jump into a white-ribboned motor car, oh, no. Here they stood at the door, and first the men and then the women filed past, shaking hands and giving congratulations. The bride then went to her domicile, followed by the women, while the bridegroom took his place among the men. But please do not misunderstand. They love each other all right. It is just the New Hebridean way. We pray that God will greatly bless this young Christian couple.

H. E. PIPER.

Week of Prayer in Samoa

OUR Week of Prayer is now over, but its blessings remain. Mr. Howse and I had the privilege of being with the Apia brethren during their prayer season, and also a little later with the church and school at Vailoa. The invitation of our Father, "Seek ye My face" (Ps. 27:8), met with a ready response in the hearts of His children. In Apia, besides the usual evening meeting, we had a prayer season at 6.30 to 7 a.m. from Monday to Friday, inclusive. Sabbath, according to our custom here, we met at 9 a.m. for Sabbath school and service and on Sunday we met at 8 a.m., as we held to our custom of holding our usual preaching service in the evening.

As regards the early morning meeting, it was left entirely to the choice of the individual as to whether he would meet with the brethren or observe that season in his own home. It would seem from the goodly attendance that all who possibly could gathered daily at every hour appointed. Distance seemed to be annihilated, and untoward weather conditions (which were few indeed) were disregarded, so genuine was the hungering and thirsting after God and His righteousness.

No less was the interest manifested on the part of the children. Not only did all the children of our members attend, but many others were present, all entering heartily into the worship. Much freedom was apparent in the opportunities afforded for prayer and testimony, both among adults and children.

I will relate a little incident in connection with the children. At the close of the lesson one day, the leader announced the hymn, which was heartily engaged in, and we were then dismissed with prayer. Not content with this, immediately following the "Amen" a very youthful laddie in a strong, clear voice, offered his petition to God. This was followed by another and another, until practically all had taken part. If the legs of some grew a trifle weary with standing, they surely were weary in a good cause.

Following the Week of Prayer in Apia, we experienced a full week of very inclement weather, heavy rains almost daily, both by night and by day. As we drove down to Vailoa in the school van on Friday, June 1, the rain increasing in strength as we journeyed till by night it was a real tropical downpour, we were a little apprehensive concerning our Week of Prayer that was to begin on the morrow. Not merely was the weather a matter of

concern, but there was an undefined feeling that the season might not be so fully entered into here as it was in Apia. But our faith in a God who answers when His children cry to Him was firm, and we committed all things to Him.

The morning dawned fair and beautiful, the forerunner of a very blessed Sabbath day. A good work was begun in many hearts, and gave evidence of steady continuance. The theme for meditation and request in prayer was a heart-preparation for the infilling of the Holy Spirit. The enemy of souls was alert; for was not his kingdom being invaded? Knowing full well how great a matter a little fire kindleth, he sought to control the hearts and use the tongues of some who were ignorant of his devices. We did all in our power to bring about a reconciliation, and seemed to make some headway. But while we were musing the fire burned, the fire from beneath. The peaceful quiet of the early prayer season was disturbed by a volley of words, hurled at one of our young people, who was not at fault. The saints were distressed. A season of prayer followed, and quietly but sadly the people returned to their homes.

Then followed a little quiet talk with the young person, in which it was suggested that he go and seek to make matters right between him and the offended brother. This advice was followed, the result being that the one who had said he would fellowship with us no more, was among the first to arrive at the evening meeting. A blessed Sabbath followed. Brother Leeder led out in a consecration service, and the invitation to go forward at the close of the meeting met with a very hearty response on the part of the people. In the opportunity given afterward for testimony, confession of sin was made by those who had erred. Two young women, members of another church, rose and signified their desire and purpose to follow where God would lead.

The closing hours of the hallowed day found us all in the church, as with the voice of prayer and praise we farewelled the sacred hours. Thus closed a very profitable and long-to-be-remembered Week of Prayer by those who were privileged to attend.

EDIE B. HOWSE.

The Happiest Place

The happiest place on earth for me
Is where my Lord would have me be.

The happiest thing that I can do
Is work my Lord has called me to.

The happiest song my heart can sing
Is that of praise to Christ my King.

The happiest path my feet can make
Is that I tread for Jesus' sake.

The happiest sight my eyes can see
Is sight of Christ-like purity.

The happiest sound my ears can hear
Is that my Saviour draweth near.

—Selected.

"PRAYER goes by faith into the great fruit orchard of God's exceeding great and precious promises, and with hand and heart picks the ripest and richest fruit."

Colporteurs' Summary

JUNE, 1934

Victoria

	Hrs.	Ord.	Helps	Total
<i>Bible Pictures and Stories—</i>				
I. Bitcon	128½	12	£1 15 6	£24 11 0
T. Brash	125	16	3 16 6	33 18 6
A. D. Brown	81	3	1 18 6	7 17 0
L. Lawrence	58½	5	18 3	9 6 9
Miss D. Lean	67½	14	1 17 6	27 5 0
Miss S. Reeves	46	4	6 0	7 0 6
Miss E. Sorrell	35	7		12 11 6
W. I. Taylor	62½	1	2 15 0	4 13 6
Mrs. E. Tyrrell	69½	8	14 0	16 16 6
Miss D. Young (del.)	91½	14	3 3	23 3 3
Asst. Field Mission Sec.		1		1 18 6
Miscellaneous		4		7 8 0
<i>Bedtime Stories—</i>				
Mrs. G. Swinden	14½	8		3 3 0
<i>Desire of Ages—</i>				
Mrs. E. M. Clarke	27	3	6 6	8 6 0
<i>Christ's Object Lessons—</i>				
Mrs. A. Wyatt	98	31	13 0	9 19 0
<i>Home Physician—</i>				
A. B. Archer	20½	2	4 6	4 5 0
Mrs. L. Dickins	49½	14	3 0	28 13 6
Mrs. A. Hayden	10	1		1 18 6
Mrs. S. Hornett	21	3	8 0	6 7 0
Mrs. Laughlin	13½	3	8 6	6 11 0
A. Lyall	7	1		2 2 0
R. Mackey	112	27	11 6	55 7 0
E. W. Pick	46½	10	3 0	20 9 0
J. E. Ross	80	16	1 3 6	32 10 0
Mrs. G. Swinden	15½	3	8 0	6 7 0
C. A. Whitehead	114½	21	1 6 6	43 17 0
Mrs. F. Willis	123	22	9 0	44 11 0
<i>Helps—</i>				
Mrs. H. Devine			3 11 6	3 11 6
<hr/>				
1522½	254	£24	1 0	£454 2 6

North New South Wales

	Hrs.	Ord.	Helps	Total
<i>Home Physician—</i>				
C. T. Parmenter	157½	43	£2 8 6	£88 19 0
A. Jorgenson	20	6	19 6	12 18 0
J. P. C. Smith	122	14	9 0	28 19 6
E. Norris (del.)	110	12	3 11 2	26 10 2
F. J. Reynolds	122	19	12 0	42 9 0
<i>Practical Guide—</i>				
E. Norris		1		1 0 0
Field Mission Sec.		11		11 0 0
<i>Bible Pictures and Stories—</i>				
J. Howse (del.)	152	39	11 10 0	55 10 6
W. A. Baines	95	66	17 14 6	75 6 6
O. Knight (del.)	128	15	4 10 0	22 7 6
E. Norris		1		1 12 6
<hr/>				
906½	227	£41 14	8	£366 11 8

South Australia

	Hrs.	Ord.	Helps	Total
<i>Bible Pictures and Stories—</i>				
J. W. Fraser	92½	7	£4 0 0	£16 7 6
<i>Home Physician—</i>				
Mr. & Mrs. A. Ball	125	37	8 9 3	78 0 3
P. Claus	144	37	3 12 6	78 18 6
L. Robins (del.)	124	28	3 7 6	60 4 6
Mrs. M. Josephs	22	7	4 6	14 8 0
<i>Our Day—</i>				
E. Lomman	9	3		1 17 6
<i>Helps—</i>				
Miss Cahir			1 4 6	1 4 6
<hr/>				
516½	119	£15 18	3	£251 0 9

South New South Wales

	Hrs.	Ord.	Helps	Total
<i>Through Turmoil to Peace—</i>				
F. L. Taylor (del.)	140	6	£2 8 3	£13 12 9
W. L. Gill (del.)	120	15	16 6	19 12 6
<i>Daniel and the Revelation—</i>				
E. G. Foster	15	13	1 7 6	10 0 5
F. Sutton (del.)	27	1	1 7 0	2 0 6
R. Price (del.)	134	27	2 3 6	18 10 6
A. Peach	114	10	3 15 0	6 18 0
<i>Home Nursing—</i>				
S. H. Wood (del.)	83	15	4 4 6	28 13 0
Miscellaneous	118	8	1 4 0	16 11 6
R. H. Earles (del.)	141	36	4 13 6	66 15 6
<i>Home Physician—</i>				
W. J. Murray	86	12	1 2 6	26 7 0
J. S. Trim	88	5	12 0	10 18 6
Miscellaneous (del.)	43	8		17 6 6
D. Sutherland (del.)	157	17	1 1 0	34 11 0
Miscellaneous (del.)	154	50	5 6	99 15 0
<i>Ladies' Handbook—</i>				
A. Tinson	81	18	5 0	38 1 0
Mrs. R. C. Watts	27	1	1 3 0	3 1 6
<i>Bible Pictures and Stories—</i>				
E. Armstrong (del.)	52	3	1 10 6	6 14 0
P. J. Hardymont	167	27	4 8 6	55 0 6
F. Bagham	172	29	3 18 6	49 16 0
Miss A. Jones	98	10	2 9 0	21 8 0
F.M. Secretary	2	6	0 0	8 4 8
C. Dyason	1	7	6	3 0 0
<i>Desire of Ages—</i>				
R. Richardson	43	2	5 0	4 0 6
G. M. Hughes	14	1	5 6	1 15 0
<hr/>				
	2084	317	£45 13 3	£562 13 9

North New Zealand

	Hrs.	Ord.	Helps	Total
<i>Home Physician—</i>				
J. H. Burton	120	28	£4 2 9	£60 2 9
J. Ivey (del.)	129	43	12 0	88 9 0
H. A. L. Freeman (d.)	116	26	3 17 0	57 1 0
B. H. Matthews	103½	10	2 1 6	22 18 0
C. Kermodé	151½	10	2 7 0	22 13 0
<i>Bedtime Stories—</i>				
J. H. Burton	1			7 6
Miss E. B. Butt	1			7 6
<i>Home Nursing—</i>				
Miss E. B. Butt	67½	5	4 9 6	10 19 6
<i>Bible Readings—</i>				
I. Broad (del.)	18½	1		10 6
C. Kermodé	1			1 0 0
<i>What Is Coming?—</i>				
J. H. Burton	6			1 12 6
H. A. L. Freeman	2			15 0
H. Thompson (del.)	46	11	19 6	4 9 6
R. H. Matthews	1			7 6
<i>Christ's Object Lessons—</i>				
Miss S. J. Langdon	19	6	12 0	2 2 0
R. H. Matthews	1			12 6
<i>Bible Pictures and Stories—</i>				
Miss S. J. Langdon	15	2	14 1	4 13 0
<hr/>				
	776½	155	£19 15 4	£279 0 10

South New Zealand

	Hrs.	Ord.	Helps	Total
<i>Home Physician—</i>				
T. Chick	113	24	£1 19 6	£48 15 6
N. Neill	61	34	3 13 9	67 17 9
W. J. Hawken	125	33	3 13 0	69 2 6
V. H. Saunders	117	12	1 19 0	25 16 0
L. Whitford	100	47	16 19 0	110 2 6
Miss M. Hoggack	44	10	1 16 6	19 18 6
Miss N. Levitt	49	14	4 0	29 18 0
<i>Bible Pictures and Stories—</i>				
F. Fox	34	2	1 7 0	4 16 0
R. H. Heggie	37		10 6	10 6
E. Stonyer	33	1	9 11 6	11 10 0
Miss L. Bonnington	29	3	15 0	9 4 6
<i>Bible Readings—</i>				
A. Bucknell	65	15	3 14 6	25 4 0
A. E. Newton	49	8	2 1 0	11 2 0
W. Rudge	62	10	1 5 0	14 4 0
<i>Miscellaneous—</i>				
			14 11 0	14 11 0
<hr/>				
	918	213	£64 0 3	£459 12 9

Queensland

	Hrs.	Ord.	Helps	Total
<i>Home Physician—</i>				
J. W. Nixon	106	34	£6 5 0	£76 14 6
W. F. Reid	150	33	4 18 0	71 14 6
E. B. Morris	54	32	1 0 0	68 4 0
H. Paice	64	29	2 8 0	62 5 0
W. G. Hodgkinson	90	15	18 0	31 10 6
C. L. Rowland (del.)	35	4	3 2 6	11 3 6
<i>Home Nursing—</i>				
E. Stevens	87	19	1 16 0	33 5 6
R. Gray	95	12	2 0 6	22 2 6
<i>Our Day—</i>				
D. Livesey	98	6	1 5 0	9 10 6
<i>What Is Coming?—</i>				
D. Livesey	3			1 2 6
<i>Coming King—</i>				
D. Livesey	1			7 6
<i>Bible Pictures and Stories—</i>				
W. F. Reid	4			6 16 0
<i>Daniel and the Revelation—</i>				
W. F. Reid	5			2 3 9
<i>Bible Readings—</i>				
W. F. Reid	1			1 0 0
<i>Bedtime Stories—</i>				
H. Paice	9			13 6
<hr/>				
	779	207	£23 13 0	£398 13 9

Tasmania

	Hrs.	Ord.	Helps	Total
<i>Our Day—</i>				
J. H. Laredo	44		£1 3 6	£1 3 6
J. R. Young	77	4	4 7 0	8 4 0
A. A. Cox	78	3	3 7 0	5 19 6
<i>Home Physician—</i>				
J. Pearce (del.)	95		15 0	15 0
Miss S. Bennetto (d.)	8½	1	1 0	2 3 0
Miss D. Knight (del.)	11½	2		4 0 6
L. O. Sontor	4			7 14 0
<i>Bible Pictures and Stories—</i>				
F. Umfreville	59	8	3 13 6	16 13 6
L. D. Umfreville	70	5	9 7 0	18 2 6
A. Gallagher	73	13	2 4 0	24 1 0
G. Burnside (del.)	81	24	3 7 6	47 2 6
<i>Ladies' Handbook—</i>				
L. O. Sontor	127	27	7 12 0	54 5 0
<i>Daniel and the Revelation—</i>				
L. O. Sontor	2			10 0
<hr/>				
	741	93	£35 17 6	£190 14 0

West Australia

	Hrs.	Ord.	Helps	Total
<i>Home Physician—</i>				
G. Haymer (del.)	154	44	£3 14 0	£95 4 0
T. Austin	98½	26	1 13 0	55 16 0
L. Maxwell	58	10	2 0	21 2 0
A. J. Gathercole	38	6		12 3 0
<i>Bible Pictures and Stories—</i>				
C. Hill	118½	54	1 4 0	100 2 0
E. R. Tucker	109½	34	12 6	65 5 6
<i>Coming King—</i>				
A. P. House (del.)	85½	4	1 11 6	3 1 6
<hr/>				
	662½	179	£8 6 6	£352 14 0

Totals for June, 1934

	Colptrs.	Hrs.	Ord.	Value
South N.S.W.	23	2084	317	£562 13 9
South New Zealand	13	918	213	£459 12 9
Victoria	24	1522½	254	£454 2 9
Queensland	9	779	207	£398 13 6
North N.S.W.	8	906½	227	£366 11 9
West Australia	7	662½	179	£352 14 8
North New Zealand	9	776½	155	£279 0 10
South Australia	6	516½	119	£251 0 0
Tasmania	10	741	93	£190 14 9
<hr/>				
Union	109	8966½	1764	£3315 4 0

"Banner" Conference, June:
North New South Wales
113 Hours per colporteur.

"Banner" Colporteur, June:
Longest hours:
F. Basham, 172;
Most sales:
L. Whitford, £110 2s. 6d.

Finding Joy in the Colporteur Work

THE colporteur work, in the language of the Spirit of Prophecy, is "missionary work of the highest order." Not only does it present wonderful opportunities for placing the truth-filled literature of the Advent message in the homes of the people, but it also affords an avenue for various phases of gospel ministry. It is in this work that the writer has been engaged during the last eight months.

My field of labour is perhaps as interesting a piece of territory as will be found in all North New South Wales. The Hunter Valley, girded on three sides by lofty mountain ranges, is famed, not only for the fertility of its soil, but also for its rugged mountain grandeur. Dairying, cattle, sheep, and coal-mining are its principal industries. The valley contains three virile country centres, Singleton, Muswellbrook, and Scone, as well as a number of smaller towns. All degrees of temperature prevail in it during the course of a year, from the scorching noonday heat of summer to winter frost and snow and biting winds.

During my stay in this field I have carried two medical works, "Home Nursing" and "Home Physician." Having entered into conversation with hundreds of men and women in many walks of life, my observations lead me to conclude that the general public of today appreciates the medical and Health Food work of this denomination. On numerous occasions I have listened to glowing accounts of the good accomplished by the efficient, loving ministrations of our Australian health institutions, as well as to unstinted praise concerning the practical value of some of our earlier medical books. And very rarely have I discovered a home where neither Granose Biscuits nor Weetbix are eaten!

One might dilate at great length on the practical benefits of the colporteur work to the colporteur himself. The least that can be said is that it develops faith and prayerfulness of spirit. "Have faith in God," the Master's encouraging admonition to His disciples as He faced the crisis hour of His ministry, takes on a new significance when one is faced with some of the exigencies of this work. The writer calls to mind how, on one occasion, after having to secure petrol and lodgings on the promise to pay, the Lord blessed the following day in the course of a few hours with three orders, seventeen shillings in deposits, and ten shillings' worth of helps sold.

Although the colporteur work may have its difficult days and trying experiences transcending all these is the joy of service

What greater joy can one experience than, for instance, to watch the light of hope kindle in the eye of some interested soul as together they study concerning "that blessed hope" of Jesus' near return? Both in Muswellbrook and Scone it has been my privilege to conduct studies in the homes of interested folk, as well as to assist the local companies in the usual appointments of the Sabbath day. One lady in Scone with whom I am studying is particularly encouraging. On more than one occasion she has stated her dissatisfaction with her present church connection, and has expressed herself as praying earnestly that God may lead her to a knowledge of His truth and His true church. O the joy of ministering the Word to such a one.

There is joy in Christian service

That is deeper, truer far
Than the gayest worldling's frolic,
And the empty laughs that jar.
'Tis a joy transcending pleasure,
Pomp, and pride, and outward show;
'Tis a joy that only helpers
In the work divine can know.
'Tis the joy that thrilled the spirit
Of the Master ere He died,
As he saw His bitter travail,
And His soul was satisfied.
O the joy of being workers,
In the saving of the lost,
With the Father, Son, and Spirit,
And adoring angel host!

ALFRED S. JORGENSEN.

Colporteur Experiences in the Far West

"HOW beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings." The prophet here speaks of the mountains, but our experiences have been among the plains, where few have had the joy of bringing the good tidings of peace and salvation.

Many and varied are the experiences of the faithful colporteur as he labours for the Master in these remote places. At the close of last camp Brother F. Basham and the writer set off by car for Bourke, more than 500 miles from Sydney. As we look back over our experiences we can truly say, Surely the Lord was in this place; and we knew it not. (Gen. 28:16.)

Shortly after our arrival at Bourke, we encountered heavy rains and had our first experience of being bogged in the black clay. But even the mud is no respecter of persons, for the Governor of New South Wales, Sir Philip Game, was our brother in affliction. However, after three days the mud had dried sufficiently to enable us to continue our work. Later the writer set out for the Queensland border by motor cycle and side car, only to encounter heavier rains and floods; but the Lord enabled His servant to continue his journey on to Hungerford, after having to push his machine over one mile of flooded country where the water was eighteen inches deep. It was here that I felt that the Lord is a very present help in time of trouble, for without His aid I could not have pushed my load of 5 cwt. through the torrent of water.

Although we met these difficulties, we had the joy of coming into contact with people who were most interested in our work, and of placing into many homes

"Bible Pictures and Stories" with a year's subscription for *Our Little Friend*. Many of these isolated folk never see a minister or Christian worker from one year's end to another. They value the message the colporteur brings to them, and gladly open their hearts and their homes to receive what he has for them. What a splendid field for service is open for the one who is willing to go into such isolated places! The dark experiences along the way fade into insignificance when one remembers how a benign Providence overrules for good and enables His servant to leave a message of hope in every home.

While working in Nyngan, the writer had the happy privilege of meeting a young man and his wife who are intensely interested in the message. These young people were both educated in a convent, but becoming tired of pomp and ritualism, they left their church and began to study the Bible for themselves. While they were doing this, a Christadelphian preacher visited the town and held public meetings. Mr. R., desiring to receive more light on the Scriptures, attended these services and received literature. On studying these he could not harmonise their belief of no personal devil and the non-pre-existence of Christ with his study of the Bible, so he laid them aside. Some time afterward a Russellite visited the town and began introducing his literature. Mr. R. got in touch with this man, and found that he taught there are not three persons in the Godhead. This did not satisfy his search for truth, for he had been taught in the Catholic Church about the Trinity.

Read about Us in the "Sunday Sun"

Later, however, the *Sunday Sun* began to publish investigations into various religions of the world and give a statement of facts concerning them. This interested Mr. R., and he cut these reports out and studied them in conjunction with his Bible. These did not bring any satisfaction until a report of the beliefs and work of Seventh-day Adventists appeared in the paper.

About this same time I was canvassing the town and staying in a home nearly opposite. I canvassed Mrs. R. during the day and obtained her order for "Home Nursing." She manifested an interest in spiritual things, and during the conversation I told her I was a Seventh-day Adventist. That night she came over and asked if I would come to their home, because her husband was anxious to speak to a Seventh-day Adventist. I gladly accepted the invitation, and spent a very profitable time answering his questions until 2.30 a.m. Here I found a very genuine interest, and before leaving that morning I was able

to sell "Daniel and the Revelation" and "Bible Pictures and Stories," in addition to the order for "Home Nursing" taken earlier in the day.

This man is now diligently studying the book "Daniel and the Revelation," and shows every prospect of stepping over the line and keeping the Sabbath. Pray for him, brethren, because he has no other help than the books he is studying. If he takes his stand for the Lord, he will be the farthest situated S.D.A. in the conference, 400 miles from Sydney.

It is experiences like these that bring joy and gladness to the colporteur. Our colporteurs all over the Commonwealth and New Zealand are meeting similar experiences, and souls are responding everywhere and throwing in their lot with the remnant people of God. The Spirit of God is speaking to honest hearts, and the colporteur is finding these people in the highways and the byways. This fact should inspire every colporteur to arise and shine, for the glory of the Lord has risen upon him. Soon the last word will have been spoken and the last book sold, and then we shall see the reward of our efforts in souls eternally saved in the kingdom. What joy this will bring to the faithful colporteur.

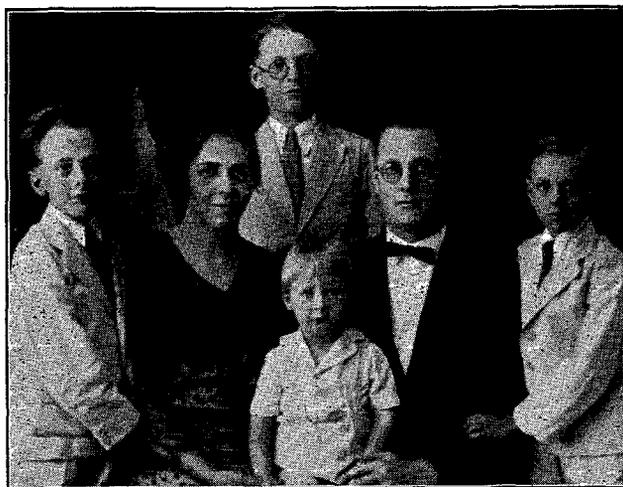
P. J. HARDYMENT.

Our Work in Colombo, Ceylon

SEVERAL of our people have passed through Colombo on their way to Australia without knowing that we had any mission at that port. Through some mistake, the 1933 and 1934 Year Books give only the address at Kandy, a small branch of the Colombo work, seventy miles from the port. Following is the address which will be of use to people travelling that way:

S.D.A. Mission,
"Ionia," 4 Bagatelle Rd.,
Colombo, Ceylon.

Pastor and Mrs. H. Christensen are living at this mission home, and Sister Christensen, who is an Australian (the daughter of Pastor and Mrs. Hilliard), has asked us to give their address in the RECORD, with the statement: "We shall always be delighted to meet people passing through, and are very sorry this mistake has occurred. We do not know how it happened. When we

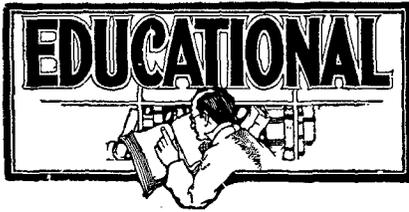


Pastor and Mrs. Christensen and family, of Colombo, Ceylon

hear of people going through without our knowledge we always feel disappointed. The work has been going on here for about twenty years, and we have a church organisation and a church building in Colombo, with Sabbath meetings and Sunday night and Wednesday night services. Our church is 'Bethel Chapel,' Alfred House Gardens, Colombo, and it is just around the corner from our house."

The Colombo address has been mentioned before in the RECORD, but since then several of our people have passed through without knowing of the mission, even though they had to spend Sabbath in port. Letters for delivery at the boat have also been wrongly addressed to Kandy. So we are giving a recent photo which we happen to have of the Christensen family, and repeating their cordial invitation.

V. M. R.



The Great Barrier Reef

ON being asked, "What and where is the Great Barrier Reef?" probably most of us would have replied that it is a large coral reef off the Queensland coast; and there our information would have ceased. But since Mr. Boardman of the Australian Museum took us, with the aid of the magic lantern, for a short tour of inspection among the attractions of that great coral structure we are better informed. Now you would be more likely to hear of it as "One of the natural wonders of the world," "A fairy-land of marine life," "A gorgeous collection of the rarest colour schemes possible to find," or any such superlative terms as one might use to describe the indescribable.

On Saturday night, July 7, in the college chapel, Mr. Boardman introduced his lecture by a map of the Queensland coast, along which lies the Great Barrier Reef. Stretching from about two hundred miles north of Brisbane right up into the gulf of New Guinea, at a varying distance from the coast, it forms not only a natural breakwater from the sometimes tempestuous seas without, but also fifteen hundred miles of more lovely and exquisite scenery than one could see in another equal distance anywhere. Corals, shells, fish, reptiles, animals, birds, and trees combine and vie with each other to provide a riot of artists' dreams.

As one would judge, coral attracts much attention. On the screen we saw mushroom corals, star corals, brain corals, and staghorn corals; there were blue corals and pinks, mauves, greens, and greys.

The coral insect is just a tiny creature, but these miles and miles of rainbow-shaded fortresses which he calls home, testify that he knows his place in life, and practises co-operation to the last degree.

Evidently one can experience a number of sensations in a short time on the reef. For instance, we were charmed by the magnificent tintings of the fish swimming in the crystal clear waters, so transparent that the bottom, fifteen fathoms down,

seemed but a foot away. Then we were amused as the lecturer related how some folk are really deceived by this apparent shallowness, and at times jump out of the boat to "walk" the rest of the way.

Again, delight in the pleasing red and brown colour scheme of the filmy-finned fire fish changed to a shudder of disquiet as we imagined those long, poisonous spikes on his back penetrating the foot of some luckless investigator to cause him no little pain and inconvenience. Quite the opposite in appearance, although similar in his power to annoy, is the stone fish which, lying still and indiscernible on the coral for hours, also carries death-dealing spikes along his back.

However, a certain amount of peace of mind is assured whilst bathing, for the sarks, the terror of our southern beaches, are so well fed on the abundance of fish which live in these waters that their attention is scarcely to be considered.

Another inhabitant of these waters deserving mention is the turtle. Such an awkward big thing she appears to be, laboriously crawling up the beach to do her duty in providing turtles for the future. But in the water nothing more graceful can be seen than she. Following her up the beach where she has gone under cover of night, we find that, having painstakingly prepared a hole big enough to inter two men, she lays her eggs, numbering about one hundred and sixty, in twenty-five minutes. Then covered over, they are left to a friendly tropic sun to be transformed into future representatives of the turtle race. Sea birds devour many of the young, but others reach the sea, where, without tuition, they proceed to swim happily ever after.

Along the mainland, there are many other things to see and wonder at. There is the mutton bird, which, burrowing to form a nest, sets traps all over the land for unwary feet. Many a bird has been left lamenting as the novice explorer's foot, crashing through, turns her egg into an omelette. Living on the ground, these birds require a good run to take off, and here and there may be seen a well-beaten track to the cliff from which the daily flights begin.

The mangrove swamps are vast groves of silence, broken only by bird cries. Here amid the tangle of interlacing roots may at times be seen the walking fish. Scorning to use their fins for anything but legs, and having power to breathe air undiluted, they journey over good distances "on foot."

Space fails for telling of other things—of cowrie shells, known as money-cowries because sometimes used as a basis of exchange, and familiar to most of us because of their presence on our mantel-shelf rather than as the home of a living creature; or of the spiky sea-urchins; varieties of crabs; pearls and pearling fleets; bêche-de-mer (the heart of a Chinese soup); the parrot fish which, with the beak of that bird, nibbles the coral; the giant clam shells that, on being entered, trap as in a vice the object, man or thing, and refuse to be opened by less than a crowbar.

Nevertheless these few of our national wonders sufficiently impressed us all that, although remote from the hub of the world, our homeland was in nowise overlooked when the Creator lavished His skill upon the world.

We appreciated the discretion with

which Mr. Boardman presented his subject, for his descriptions were descriptive, and the glory of that wonderland became real through his words. Now, should occasion offer, it would be easy to persuade any of those present that night to visit in person the Great Barrier Reef.

W. LAUDER.

An Encouraging Letter

IN response to a letter sent out recently on the question of faithful stewardship, a letter was received which said, in part:

"I am afraid there are too many Adventists who think it would be terrible to do everyday work on the Sabbath, yet who are literally stealing money from God. . . . I frankly admit that there was a time when the tithe seemed a burden to me, but I am truly thankful that it has long since become a pleasure. I fully believe that there are other people who are as badly mistaken as I was, and that if they could be made to see the thing in the right light, they would be faithful in tithe paying."

The letter closed with a prayer for means to win the lost. Will not every member be equally faithful to the Giver of all?

WEDDING BELLS

Germaine-Jenkins.—The Moonee Ponds church, Melbourne, on May 3 was daintily decorated by the many well-wishers of Brother Herbert Germaine and Sister Amelia Jenkins, who in the presence of an assemblage that overcrowded the building, were united in the sacred state of matrimony. As before God they took their troth, each to the other, all present wished them the divine blessing for future life prosperity. It just seemed as though a fresher from Eden blew along Hotham Street as the bridal pair lightly waved their departure, then turned the corner into the great thoroughfare of men.

H. A. HILL.

OBITUARY

Gilmour.—On July 3 Brother John Bell Gilmour of Guyra, N.S.W., aged seventy-nine years, passed into his last sleep. Brother Gilmour accepted present truth as a result of visiting the Sydney Sanitarium as a patient some eight or nine years ago. A loving wife, one married daughter, and four sons are left to mourn their loss. After speaking words of comfort at the home and a short service at the graveside, we laid him to rest in the Guyra cemetery to await the call of the Life-giver.

G. F. BOHRINGER.

AN anonymous remittance of £4 from "A friend" was safely received at the Avondale Industries, and placed in the tithe fund. We thank the sender.

Wanted.—Share farmer or tenant for orchard in good bearing. Best offer to suitable person. Apply to LOFTS, Dora Creek, N.S.W.

For Sale.—Eleven acres, good soil, fenced, mostly cleared and grubbed, absolutely deep water frontage. Torrens £250, or reasonable offer. LOFTS, Dora Creek, N.S.W.

Australasian Record

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
AUSTRALASIAN UNION CONFERENCE
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Acting Editor: Viola M. Rogers

Single Subscription, per year, post paid - 5/
Order through your conference office, or send
direct to the Avondale Industries,
Cooranbong, N.S.W.

Advertising rate 2s. 6d. for each insertion
All copy for the paper and all advertisements
should be sent to Miss Rogers, "Mizpah,"
Wahroonga, N.S.W.

Printed weekly for the Conference by the
AVONDALE PRESS (A.C.A. LTD.), COORANBONG, N.S.W.

A TELEGRAM from Tasmania states that that conference reached its year's aim for book sales in less than seven months. By July 20 the Tasmanian colporteurs had taken orders for books to the value of £1,219 11s. 3d. Congratulations to Tasmania!

THERE are some very interesting features connected with the June summary of colporteur work found on another page of this paper. Last year it was thought that the bookmen did very well to put up a total summary of £2,851 during the month of June, but this time they have done better by £464. Their sales were £480 higher than the aim for the month. Western Australia caught up to its aim to the end of June, making a total of five conferences that are now well ahead. For the first half of this year, the combined efforts of the colporteurs have resulted in orders totalling £18,619. How does this compare with the first half of last year? you ask. It is higher by £2,554. There is much to encourage in the colporteur work.

BROTHER A. S. ATKINS sends us the sad word that Salau, our leading Solomon Island teacher on Mussau, lost his wife in death on June 16. We quote: "You will remember that it was Salau who with Oti accompanied Pastor Jones when the work was first opened in Rabaul. Salau is an earnest Christian, possessing fine qualities. He has proved himself to be a true missionary, and his work has been richly blessed of God. Last year he went to visit his home in the Solomons, and then brought his new wife back with him. And now our hearts are saddened that his young wife is no more. They were very devoted to each other. I have not been able to ascertain clearly the cause of her death, but at first it appeared to be dengue fever, with more serious developments later." The hearts of the believers in the homeland go out in deep sympathy to our bereaved brother, who is a member of our family of RECORD readers.

A Happy Surprise

SINCE publishing our final report for the Appeal in the RECORD dated June 25, we have received further sums from several conferences. North New Zealand has surprised us with another amount of £153, or a grand total of almost £2,000 (the aim was £1750). South New Zealand reports £80 more, bringing its total up to £155 above the aim suggested by the Union. South New South Wales reports another £36, or a total of £2,166 (aim, £2,100);

while North New South Wales' additional donation of £8 gives that conference an overflow of £137. The home field has gone £1,050 above its aim. This is splendid, and we feel deeply grateful to every one who has helped. A grand total of more than £12,000 has been received in the homeland, and the islands themselves and North Queensland are still aiming to gather their £700 to add to this. "To God be the glory; great things He hath done."

From Sumatra

TO OUR DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS
IN AUSTRALASIA,

As we read your names in the pages of the RECORD and in some general letters which we receive from time to time, a great longing comes to write you all individually; but that would take too much time, so through the medium of the RECORD we send you all greetings.

The years are passing rapidly and we are getting old, but so far God has given us good health, and as long as He does we want to use it in His service. We have never enjoyed working more than we have here in Battakland. Since freedom was granted us, we have tried to occupy the territory as widely as possible by holding efforts in different places. Many have recognised the voice of the Good Shepherd and have followed Him, and are rejoicing in the hope of His soon coming.

We read with much interest of the commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the Wahroonga church, and the testimonies borne by those early members have cheered our hearts. It surely is a wonderful message that came to us in those days, and it has lost none of its freshness through the years. Instead, it becomes more real as we see the signs of His coming fulfilling before our eyes. The preparation of a people to meet Jesus is the only thing of real importance and value. What a glorious reunion it will be when from all nations God's children will gather in the earth made new, where sin and sorrow shall be no more!

We are always glad to hear from any of our friends. Our present address is Padang Sidempoean, Tapanoeli, Sumatra.

Your brother and sister in the blessed
hope,

GEORGE AND ANNA WOOD.

June 14, 1934.

Awakening in Samoa

SAMOA has been a hard and trying field for many years, the experience of our missionaries labouring there being one of more or less disappointment right along. Within the last few years, however, there has come a remarkable change, the outlook now being as encouraging as it was disheartening before. There is today a very definite awakening in Samoa, and hundreds who were resting self-satisfied are now eagerly inquiring after the truths of God for our times. From the unentered islands of the group definite calls are coming for us to come and make the teachings of the Bible clear. As one of our charter members expressed in a recent letter, "It is quite different now. Before the people made fun of us and pointed the finger at us, but now they praise us."

The following are further extracts from Samoan letters recently received. Brother S. T. Leeder, who is at present superintending the field, tells of the onward trend of the work: "We are glad to report that the blessing of the Lord is still resting on this work. There is still a marvelous interest. Our public meetings in Apia, Vailoa, Tufulele, and Vailele, are well attended. Last Sunday night Afāese spoke on the subject of Spiritualism, and our little Vailoa church was packed to the doors. The interest at Tufulele [some miles west of Apia] has reached fervent heat. Sauni's house is packed with interested listeners whenever a meeting is held."

Referring to the Tufulele meetings, Sister H. T. Howse writes: "There is a remarkable interest at present. Afāese went out there on Wednesday and returned on Sabbath afternoon. Wednesday night a crowd came to hear the message, and they came every night and in the daytime, too, both Catholics and Protestants. One night Afāese could not get to bed until the cocks crew toward morning. The attendance on the last night was 140."

When I preached my farewell sermons just before leaving for our present furlough, I pointed out to the believers that this great work is not founded on man, but upon the power of the living God. I had been with them for so long, and we had become much attached to one another, and some felt that my departure would have an adverse influence on the growing and expanding work; but now one of those very fearful ones writes, "Misi, the work in Samoa is onward. You were right when you told us that this work is not based on man."

Four years ago Sabbath services in Samoa were conducted in but one place, Apia. In fact, the whole extent of the work in Samoa was just the Apia church. Today regular Sabbath services are being held in four different centres, with interests developing in at least three other places. The interest was practically nil four years ago. Today four missions are being operated, drawing splendid attendances. Brother Leeder reports that there are now four Sabbath schools with a total membership of between 180 and 200. Two M. V. Societies have been organised, with a total membership of 140. And at Vailoa a fine school has been established, of which I shall tell in another report.

We thank the Lord of the harvest for this fruitage. We thank Him for the fellow labourers who are at present carrying the burden of the work. We thank Him for the patience He gave during the years of toil when it all seemed in vain. At present we are broken in health. Dear RECORD readers, pray for the progress of the work in Samoa and for us that we might be restored to that degree of health and strength which will enable us to take up our labours anew.

R. AND R. E. REYE.

Important Dates

Annual Council: August 28 to September 6.

Camp Meetings:

Northern Rivers, N.S.W.: September 13-17.

Queensland: September 18-30.

South N.S.W.: October 2-14.

North N.S.W.: November 20-December 2.