Secretary's Report

DELIVERED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AUSTRALASIAN DIVISION
OF S.D.A.'s

Held at Wahroonga, November 25-29, 1957

You will note from the above that on June 30, 1949, we had a baptized membership of 25,830. At June 30, 1957, eight years later, this figure had grown to 43,924, an increase of 18,094. But even more wonderful has been the tremendous growth in our Sabbath school membership. From 43,723 at June 30, 1949, to 76,679 at June 30, 1957, an increase of close on 33,000 in eight years!

We should note that the difference between church and Sabbath school membership is very marked in the mission and conferences. But even more, 32,755 unbaptized members of the Sabbath schools!

In harmony with the Lord's commission, we are going into every section of this great division with the message of a soon-coming Saviour. We have now within our territory a total of thirty-six conferences and missions, as under:

Conferences and Missions in Order of Size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference</th>
<th>Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victoria</td>
<td>3,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North New Zealand</td>
<td>3,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Sydney</td>
<td>3,685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North N.S.W.</td>
<td>3,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queensland</td>
<td>1,897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Australia</td>
<td>2,355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Australia</td>
<td>1,778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South New Zealand</td>
<td>1,414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South N.S.W.</td>
<td>1,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasmania</td>
<td>1,052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Queensland</td>
<td>735</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norfolk Island</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26,358</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New Year Consecration

ROBERT H. PARR

The old year dies, the new is born
To shouts of rapturous strain;
The whistle shrill, the tooting horn,
The shallow laugh, cross sentiment,
The tinkling glass in palsied hand,
The vulgar jest, the thoughtless kiss—
These are the ways vain men would stand
To face the year, nor feel remiss.

But we, O Lord, no glasses raise,
No gay hilarity requite
In hopes of joyous pleasured days
And sparkling gaiety by night,
We give each day, O Lord, to Thee,
And do not ask what Thou hast planned;
But grant us, Lord, this humble plea,
A trust to hold the Father's hand.

(Registered at the G.P.O., Sydney, for transmission by post as a newspaper)
The year 1956 was another good year in soul-winning, 3,610 baptisms being reported for the twelve months ended December 31, an increase of 569 over the previous year.

It is interesting to note that our baptisms for 1957 as at June 30 are 170 above the figure for the corresponding period last year. With most of the baptisms coming in the latter part of the year the prospects of a record year for baptisms are bright.

WORKING FORCE

The total working force of the Australasian Division (including students in our Health Food department, ship's crews, and mill workers at home and in the islands) is 3,389, an increase of 181 during the twelve months ended December, 1956. Compared with eight years ago, it represents an increase of 1,920.

NATIONAL WORKERS

Turning our eyes for a moment to the mission field, it is pleasing to note a growing force of national workers there, numbering in all 964, of whom 88 are ordained ministers. (This figure includes ship's crews and workers of every type.)

MISSIONARIES

That the people of Australasia are still missionary-minded is evinced not only in our financial support of foreign missions, but also by the number of our sons and daughters engaged in mission service. Years ago the messenger of the Lord said, "Turn ye to me, and come and be saved," and since that time the number of missionaries and teachers from this division has grown to 26.

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

We are indebted to our departmental secretaries for the following highlights from their respective departments.

PUBLISHING

Brother Gane writes: Many thousands of our truth-filled books have been placed in the homes by our diligent and faithfulness workers. In this way the seed has been sown and an early harvest gathered. Nevertheless to keep our ranks filled and to keep the books circulating our leaders are finding it increasingly necessary to be constantly in touch with our agents to get information as to just what is happening. Our average number of colporteurs per month this year is 162 compared with 179 last year. We conclude last year with a delivery figure of £236,777 compared with £237,546 in 1955. For the nine months January to September this year we are £4,600 ahead of 1956 in delivery value, a 3 per cent increase. What is most pleasing is that each year the retail price of our subscription is raised, which in turn enables us to increase our sales potential. As a result of a recent reorganization of our sales force we have been able to reduce our overhead to an absolute minimum. The result is that we are able to profitably price our books at a lower figure than ever before.

The year 1956 v 1957

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University examinations falling on the Sabbath. As reported a year ago, Sydney University has by action of its Senate granted full permission to those students whose examinations fall on Sabbath to take them under supervision at some other time. Arrangements have been made to this end, and no more trouble should be met with on that score. Similar arrangements have been made with the University of Technology, and a large number of students have been accommodated for their examinations in this board room.

PERSECUTION

Turning now to the Religious Liberty, Public Relations, and Temperance activities, Pastor Hare declares: In a land of freedom such as ours, the Religious Liberty department is not given to the tooting of trumpets or the clashing of cymbals. Nevertheless, a wary eye needs to be kept on happenings day by day lest some cherished liberty we fondly believe to be ours has disappeared like the mists of the morning.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Turning now to the Religious Liberty, Public Relations, and Temperance activities, Pastor Hare states: These activities have increased in number and in scope. The year 1956 has seen a great increase in the number of colporteurs and the number of literature-evangelists. In this way the seed has been sown and an early harvest gathered. Nevertheless to keep our ranks filled and to keep the books circulating our leaders are finding it increasingly necessary to be constantly in touch with our agents to get information as to just what is happening. Our average number of colporteurs per month this year is 162 compared with 179 last year. We conclude last year with a delivery figure of £236,777 compared with £237,546 in 1955. For the nine months January to September this year we are £4,600 ahead of 1956 in delivery value, a 3 per cent increase. What is most pleasing is that each year the retail price of our subscription is raised, which in turn enables us to increase our sales potential. As a result of a recent reorganization of our sales force we have been able to reduce our overhead to an absolute minimum. The result is that we are able to profitably price our books at a lower figure than ever before.

THE AUSTRALASIAN RECORD

The Australasian Record is published monthly for the Australasian Division of Seventh-day Adventists, 19-21 Market Street, Sydney, Australia. Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Sydney, N.S.W. under the Act of March 3, 1879.

1956 v 1957

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ACCESSIONS BY BAPTISM AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>1955 12 months</th>
<th>1956 12 months</th>
<th>Increase 1955 v 1956</th>
<th>1957 6 months</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bismarck-Solomon</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Pacific</td>
<td>554</td>
<td>549</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>107</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coral Sea</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>1,180</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>277</td>
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<td>552</td>
<td>634</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trans-Tasman</td>
<td>837</td>
<td>834</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission</td>
<td>1,802</td>
<td>1,842</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>540</td>
</tr>
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<td>1,459</td>
<td>1,486</td>
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been assisted by an over-enlarging and efficient team of church press secretaries who have performed a noble work in bringing the work of church news into the columns of the newspapers. Public relations shows the church in action, and is in fact "applied Christianity." We believe that a full-time Public Relations secretary in each local conference is rapidly becoming a must in our organization.

AUSTRALASIAN TEMPERANCE SOCIETY

At last, after nearly three years of effort, your Temperance Society has reached and passed its goal of 5,000 members. This was only made possible by a concerted drive throughout the whole field which commenced in May of this year. At the beginning of May our membership stood at 1,543 and was steadily dropping; by September 30 we had picked up our membership to 5,212, and seven conferences of the eleven in the home field had exceeded the goal set for them.

Within the last few days an important council of the division Temperance secretaries has been held, and a full report of that meeting will be rendered to this committee when it meets on Wednesday night as a Board of Governors. No doubt this report will contain a number of suggestions to further the work of the Australasian Temperance Society.

We have been heartened by the visit of Pastor W. A. Scharffenberg to this division. Already he has gotten into his full stride and has addressed the Queensland Temperance League and has assisted in the formulating of plans for the holding of a World Regional Congress during October, 1958, in Brisbane. This congress, sponsored by the Queensland Temperance League, will be attended by a number of overseas men, and will mark one of the greatest achievements thus far in the history of the temperance movement in Australia. During this year the Executive Secretary of the A.T.S. attended the meeting of the General Council of the various State Alliances. It was gratifying to note that a great deal of the old prejudice to Seventh-day Adventists had disappeared. Two factors entered into this: first the excellent public relations work that our local temperance secretaries are doing in connection with their local State Alliances, and the way our people have entered wholeheartedly into the various campaigns that have been run, and secondly the magazine "Alert." This is generally acclaimed as being the best temperance magazine before the Australian public at the present time.

EDUCATION

Doctor E. R. McDowell writes, in regard to our educational work: From the administrative viewpoint, the most outstanding feature of our educational work this year was the visit of the associate educational secretary of the General Conference, Dr. R. L. Hammill, Dr. Hammill spent exactly eleven weeks in the Australasian Division, arriving in Fiji on August 5 and departing from Sydney on October 20. Half of that time was spent in the mission field. Those who were privileged to hear him at some length on educational philosophy were not a little surprised that so much valuable educational counsel could be gleaned from the writings of Ellen G. White. If his visit were to do no more than to stimulate those teachers who heard him to study more intensely her writings, then the visit would have been well worth while. But of course, it did much more than that. Many schools, especially in the mission field, received the benefit of a critical analysis by a penetrative educational mind deeply grounded in the things of God. Detailed reports of Dr. Hammill's inspection of the major educational institutions within this field have been placed in the hands of those concerned, and I am sure the Australasian Division is grateful for this invaluable help, so generously given.

Our total school enrolment in the mission field remains fairly constant. The Bismarck-Solomons Union Missions shows an increase, but a ten per cent drop in the Central Pacific Union Mission enrolments. The home field shows an overall increase of 8 per cent in the primary enrolment, 20 per cent in the secondary, and 10 per cent in the three colleges. West Australian Missionary College and New Zealand Missionary College have record enrolments. Detailed figures are in the table below.

Increasing enrolments, of course, denote increase in teaching staff. Fortunately the A.M.C. this year graduated a record number of teachers, sixteen from the primary course and ten from the secondary. Despite this large number they will all be absorbed in 1958. There still continues to be a dearth of lady secondary teachers.

The response of our teachers to mission service has been splendid, so much so that we have not only been able to meet all calls from our mission field, but we have been able to assist Southern Asia and the South-eastern section of Australia are not sufficiently close to those centres in order to attend our own high schools. The chief problem, in fact the only serious problem, in the provision of these necessary educational facilities, is finance. We have not yet solved the problem of finding finance for capital development in education. It is one to which conference officers and educational leaders should address themselves.

SABBATH SCHOOL

Our genial Sabbath School secretary brings greetings to the annual meeting from 78,679 members which, he declares, makes an increase in membership of 4,331 in the twelve months ended June 30, 1957. Further, Brother Weis states that during the same period organized Sabbath schools, now numbering 1,120, increased by sixty. At this rate we are organizing approximately one new school every Sabbath day during the year, and three every thirtieth Sabbath. Since the supreme objective of the Sabbath school is the winning of souls to Christ, new Sabbath school plans were studied during the past year, and high aims set before our people. Vacation Bible Schools, which are a new venture in Sabbath school evangelism,
were launched in 1956, with outstanding results to date; this has brought new vision, hope, and courage to the hearts of our believers throughout the field. Reports received from pastors and workers in the field; every one of them is a prospective church member. We believe this together with the vacation Bible schools which are geared to bring the message of the Sabbath school to the youth of the world, to be one of the greatest soul-winning agencies God has given us to quickly finish His work in the South Pacific. We are also conducting at the present time 101 branch Sabbath schools, Sunday schools, and community Bible schools. It is a matter of rejoicing that statistics reveal a gain in offerings each year. This will be noted in the Treasurer's report.

HOME MISSIONS

Since presenting our last Home Missionary report this department under the blessing of God has continued to set new records of attainment. This has been especially true in our Appeal for Missions campaign. At the close of 1954 we reached $112,974. In 1955 the sum of $114,541 was raised. In 1956 we reached the all-time record of $121,920, and while the figures for 1957 are not complete at the time of writing, we are happy to report that the goal of $125,000 has been reached and passed by $6,000, making a total to date of $131,000 and final figures for the year will probably reach $132,500.

A great layman's movement is developing in this field. Reports from every conference indicate that souls are being won to the message through the efforts of our lay people. It is our sincere conviction that the next great forward stride will be made by minister-church officer-layman co-operation in the final preaching of the everlasting gospel.

Our 1957 "Signs" campaign has had encouraging results, with several thousand subscriptions obtained. Many conferences show splendid gains in this respect. Hundreds of lay members visited their neighbours with the printed page and distributed over two million pieces of literature in the first six months of 1957. Dorcas Societies numbering 257 are engaged in welfare ministry, bringing relief and work and welfare activities amounted to $144,434. The signs indicate that we have little time left in which to work for the Lord; let us unitedly endeavour to make Home Missionary churches in Sydney and Melbourne at the very beginning of television in Australia. Ours was the first regularly sponsored telecast in both cities. After one year of operation we can report that our viewing audience has settled to a commendable 30 per cent of sets tuned in Sydney and 40 per cent of sets tuned in Melbourne. Already souls won through this medium are attending our churches in Sydney and Melbourne.

MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

Pastor Burnside, who a few months ago was appointed division Ministerial Association secretary, writes of the activities of the association: As I have been Ministerial Association secretary for just six months I can report on this period only. At the time of the North Queensland camp-meeting an evangelistic campaign was conducted in Townsville by myself and the younger workers there. Evangelists' and workers' meetings have also been conducted in South Australia, Tasmania, and Greater Sydney, where soul-winning methods were the main topic of discussion. Several talks were given to the ministerial students at the Australasian Bible College, and in addition there have been many visits with individual workers, counselling them on their own peculiar problems.

A brief survey confirms the fact that this is truly the golden hour for evangelism. Recent months have found our evangelists working in the largest audiences in the history of the division, and results are excellent. The T.T.U.C. expects an all-time record of souls won to God's truth when probably 1,000 will be baptized this year. Strong efforts have been conducted in Rockhampton, Brisbane, Wellington, and many other cities and towns. Canberra, a difficult centre to work, promises to yield fifty converts, and the other conferences of the T.T.U.C. also look forward to good harvests. Truly the work of God is onward in this time of golden opportunity for evangelism as civilization approaches its sunset.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT

Brother Vince draws our attention to the highlights of his departmental activities as follows: The period of 1956-1957 reviewed by this report will be outstanding in the MV and in the lives of the youth of this division as the time of the Youth Congress in Melbourne; the visit of Pastor T. E. Lucas; and the MV Golden Anniversary Year (1957) with its significant new developments in the MV programme.

Division Youth Congress. Over 1,750 youth and about 200 conference workers and congress staff attended this largest youth congress in our history at the Nunnawading Grounds in Melbourne, December 24-31, 1956. This means that one in four of the youth in the home unions were present, and nearly thirty nationals from the island unions. In this connection the congress spirit was manifested early when the Victorian youth gave $171 to assist the island delegates, and the South Australian youth also sponsored one
national teacher from the Kambubu school. Planning for the congress made great progress. Sixty-three Master Guides were invested at the congress, and an increase of ninety was recorded. Preparing Pathfinder Club exhibits developed enthusiasm in this group, and a pre-congress temperance contest aroused new interest in this department. The visit of Pastor T. E. Lucas lighted the congress, and his spirited messages and personal appeal brought great blessing to the assembled youth during congress and as he itinerated around the division.

1957 Golden Anniversary Year. The visit of our world leader and the congress itself appropriately heralded 1957, the Golden Anniversary year of Missionary Volunteering. In 1957 the MV department received its charter TO HOLD OUR YOUTH AND TRAIN THEM FOR SERVICE. With this in mind, significant new developments in the MV programme were announced and emphasized during congress workshops. They were the introduction of Revised Pathfinder Counsellor Course, and Leadercraft Course for training MV officers, two new Master Guide courses, distinctly for Junior and Senior Youth Leadership, an Explorer Course to bridge the gap between Companions and Guides, thirteen new vocational honours largely emphasizing outdoor activities, and the Voice of Youth plan of evangelism. All of these are now successfully operating in some areas. The Voice of Youth project provides a guidebook of organization and thirty complete sermons for use by young people in public evangelism. In Adelaide a particularly successful programme is being carried on, and in Christchurch, Auckland, Perth, and Mullumbimby its adaptability to this division has been shown. Such an advance in our real work of evangelism adds significance to the declaration of the servant of the Lord, "With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world."—"Messages to Young People," page 196.

HEALTH FOOD WORK

And now our concluding report, from the pen of the secretary of the Health Food department, Brother B. O. Johanson. He writes: Twelve months ago it appeared that our sales and earnings had been affected by the slight recession which proved even more serious for many business concerns. At the time it was suggested, however, that the Health Food business was again on the upgrade, and it was felt that the next report would indicate definite improvement. We are pleased to be able to state that this hope has been fully realized, for not only have the downward trends been arrested, but there have been very encouraging increases in both sales and earnings resulting in the figures for the twelve months ended June 30, 1957, being the highest yet attained. By comparison with the previous twelve months the total sales for both wholesale and retail interests increased by approximately 12 per cent, and earnings by almost one-third, (31.5 per cent).

The amount budgeted as available to the division for 1958 for other features of the work shows a comparable increase, and the workers of the department hope that this will prove a definite help in connection with the division's budget for the coming year.

Good progress has also been made with the company's building programme. The new Brisbane factory building is now completed and paid for, and the engineering team is already on the job caring for the machinery. The plant, which was readied within the last twelve months include the new wholesale branch buildings in Perth, W.A., and Wellington, N.Z., the office, store, and packing department building for the Melbourne retail branch, and a further extension to the premises of the Sydney factory and wholesale branch as to stir the factory building is well under way, and likewise the extension to the retail branch in Perth. In the retail section five new shops have been opened, i.e., Degraves Street, Melbourne, and Glenignt and Grenfell Streets, Adelaide, Bank corner, Newcastle, and Murray Street, Perth. The Health Food workers, numbering approximately 1,120 (including 140 students of our three colleges who assist in our factories), are of good courage, and appreciates the part they have in this section of the work. They are grateful, too, for the very evident blessing of the Lord in making the present good results possible and for the opportunity of service, both in the work and in our churches and communities where they reside.

IN MEMORIAM

We would pause for a moment to honour the memory of some of our workers and workers' wives who since our last annual meeting have been laid to rest. Those whom we call to remembrance are Sister E. E. Faulkhead, Brother Roy Thomson, Sister M. E. Tank, Brother V. H. Bowes, Sister Winifred Schowe, Sister Florence Butz, Brother A. L. Were, Brother W. A. Wilton, Sister Edith B. Bowes, Sister A. M. Cott, Brother W. G. Hodgkinson, Sister Clara Hughes, Brother F. J. L. Fletcher, Sister Ruby C. Britten, Sister Elizabeth Britten, Sister Mary E. Kellington, Sister M. F. E. Butz, Pastor S. N. Haskell concerning the introduction of Seventh-day Adventist teachings in Australia and New Zealand, and published by the denominational press in Basle, Switzerland, in 1886, with reports from other countries, in a book entitled "Historical Sketches of the Foreign Missions of the Seventh-day Adventists."

This intimate record of the experience of the pioneer missionaries from America and those who became their first converts is such as to stir the emotions of us who have followed after them.

How Our Attention Was Called to Australia

In 1861 Miss Hannah More, who had charge of the Mendil Mission in Africa, was making a visit in New England, and for the first time attended a meeting where she heard presented some points of present truth. We stayed one night with a family where she was visiting, and had some conversation with her on religious subjects. She soon returned to her mission in Africa, and through correspondence and the reading of publications she finally embraced the Sabbath of the fourth commandment.

As the mission was supported by friends in England, upon accepting these views she resigned her position; but before leaving Africa she visited the different missions in that country, where she distributed publications, and through her influence Alexander Dickson, a missionary from Melbourne, accepted the Sabbath. Soon after this we learned of forty in a French settlement at Bengal who were observing the Sabbath.

At that time we had correspondence with Mr. Dickson, but after he returned to Australia we lost all knowledge of him. For years we laboured by correspondence to learn his whereabouts. Finally we found him in San Francisco, he having renounced the Sabbath. This only removed the Sabbath from his heart, for he had spent a small fortune, without success, in publishing and travelling to get people to keep the Sabbath.

At a meeting held in Battle Creek, Mich., in 1874, Sister E. G. White said there were many nations that would receive the present truth, and that she had
MOSES, THE PEERLESS LEADER

Part 2

The deliverance of Israel was accomplished wholly by divine action through a human instrument. When God does such outstanding things the medium may not be perfect, but it must be dedicated.

At the end of his forty years' tutelage in Midian, Moses "placed his whole dependence upon divine power." (Education," page 64.) In due time the man who was "self-distrustful, slow of speech, and timid," "overwhelmed with a sense of his incapacity to be a mouthpiece for God," became symbolic of obedience, "and he became eloquent, hopeful, self-possessed, and well fitted for the greatest work ever given to man. This is an example of what God does to strengthen the character of those who trust Him fully, and give themselves unreservedly to His commands."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," page 255.

1. The vicarious burden bearer (Ex. 32: 11-32; 33: 12-23; 34: 1-9). More than any other man, Moses assumed the place of the people he led. In Exodus, chapter 32, this is seen in one of the Bible's most remarkable dialogues, following the worship of the golden calf.

Our lesson pointed out God's use of the possessive, "Thy people... have corrupted themselves." God then suggested rejecting Israel and fulfilling the Abrahamic covenant through Moses. Moses returned the people to God, so to speak, by using the same word: "Why doth Thy wrath wax hot against Thy people?" In Ex. 33: 13 he asked for more knowledge of God and the ship of the golden calf. God then suggested rejecting the people to God, so to speak, by using the same word: "Why doth Thy wrath wax hot against Thy people?" In Ex. 33: 13 he asked for more knowledge of God and the reaction to public criticism (Num. 11: 4, 10, 13-29). Trusting God in a forbidden desert was harder for the Israelites than depending upon Egyptian oppressors, so "the people complained" and "the mixed multitude" (see Ex. 12: 38; Deut. 20:11) longed for the food and protection of serfdom. Petulant tears were common among them (Num. 14: 1). But this time it was more than petulance. The Septuagint says: "The people murmured sinfully." The Lord was angry. Moses was displeased, and he knew that these burdensome situations would eventually kill him: "I am not able to bear all this people alone... Kill me, I pray Thee... and let me not see my wretchedness." In all this Moses remained convinced that these poor wanderers were the Lord's own people (see Num. 11:12). The result was the appointment of seventy elders to share his burden, where Miriam died at the age of about 132 years. Aaron died a few months later at the age of 133 years (Num. 33: 38, 39).

Christ "caused the waters to flow out of the rock for them" (Isa. 48: 21). "They drank of that spiritual Rock which followed them; and the rock followed them about in the desert." (Num. 20: 5).

4. Moses' reaction to family criticism (Num. 12: 1-2, 23). This passage introduces one of the most astonishing incidents in the Old Testament. The miraculous supply of water from the desert rock at the time the camp suddenly ceased near Kadesh, where Miriam died at the age of about 132 years. Aaron died a few months later at the age of 123 years (Num. 33: 38, 39).

Christ "caused the waters to flow out of the rock for them" (Isa. 48: 21). "They drank of that spiritual Rock which followed them; and the rock followed them about in the desert." (Num. 20: 5). After forty years of divine provision "it was the Lord's purpose again to test His people" to see whether this generation had risen above the unbelief of their fathers (Id., page 413). Immediately "the people reviled Moses" (Septuagint) "and said that they saw a 'false spirit' in Canaan "this evil place." Moses and Aaron interceded with God, who told Moses to speak to the rock, with "the rod of God" in his hand (cf. Num. 20: 11; Ex. 4: 20; 17: 9). Instead, Moses lost his temper, struck the rock twice, and "the rock became symbolic of obedience, "and he became eloquent, hopeful, self-possessed, and well fitted for the greatest work ever given to man. This is an example of what God does to strengthen the character of those who trust Him fully, and give themselves unreservedly to His commands."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," page 255.

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AND ADVENT WORLD SURVEY

WEDDINGS

BASHFORD-HUGHES. The church at WallSEND, N.S.W., was well filled and suitably decorated on Sunday afternoon, November 10, 1957, for the joining of two lives in one by the God-ordained service of marriage. Both the bridegroom, Gordon Matthew Bashford, and his lovely bride, Carole Hughes have been for a considerable period members and helpers in the church in which their mutual vows were exchanged. The congratulations showered upon them at the subsequent reception indicated the esteem in which these young people are held. With other friends, we wish their future home, set up in the local community, the grace and blessings of the God of marriage.

T. A. Anderson.

MARTON-JERKOVIC. Two very happy people stood at the flower-bedecored altar at the Spotswood church, Victoria, on Sunday, November 17, 1957, to consecrate their vows of marriage. Joe is a Hungarian who has been in Australia a few years. Jelka came all the way from Yugoslavia to be with the man of her choice, and arrived only two weeks before the wedding. A friend of the bride interpreted the vow, and many loving hands tastefully decorated the church and provided a very nice wedding breakfast. Jelka has no relatives in this country. May God's richest blessings be with Joe and Jelka in their future home, set up in the local community. May the Lord continue to bless and uphold them as they set up home in this land of their adoption.

Keith S. Parmenter.

BARRETT-LAIRD. In the cool of the day, as the evening shadows lengthened on November 27, 1957, Pastor A. R. Barrett of Kadina, S.A., and Miss Jessie Laird of the Voice of Prophecy staff, were happily united in the sacred bonds of matrimony in the homely atmosphere of the prettily arranged lounge room at the residence of Pastor and Mrs. A. W. Knight, Fox Valley Road, Wahroonga. Witnessing the ceremony was a group of relatives and friends who bestowed their warmest felicitations. Pastor and Mrs. Barrett will be living at Kadina, where he ministers to the members of the local church and community. May the Lord continue to bestow His benediction upon the united life and service of these devoted workers.

A. G. Stewart.

GREGG. In the recent passing of Miss Lizzie Gregg we are reminded of the fact that her name is found among the very young people of this country to be employed in the organization. With her parents and sister, Miss Gregg accepted the Adventist message when there were not many Adventists in Australia. She early connected with the Tract Society and Sabbath School Department. Miss Gregg has been a member of our Osborne Park church and was fifty-eight years of age. Sister Morris realized that the next voice she would hear would be the voice of Jesus calling forth His sleepers in the name of the Lord. She leaves to mourn her loss her sister Lydia M. Simpson, and to whom we express our sympathy.

A. G. Stewart.

G. M. P. SMITH. The church at the Port Adelaide church, assisted at the graveside. J. C. H. Perry assisted at the graveside. Witnessing the ceremony was a group of relatives and friends who bestowed their warmest felicitations. Pastor and Mrs. Evans and the many friends. Pastor Leonard R. Harvey conducted the service.

HARVEY. On November 5, 1957, after a short illness, Pastor Leonard R. Harvey passed to his rest after forty-four years in the ministry of the Adventist Church. His name will be sincerely missed by many of the members who found Christ under his successful ministry. Once more the glorious promises of the resurrection day brought great comfort to the growing loved ones. To Sister Harvey and the lovely sons Ron, Austin, and Irwin, we extend our deepest sympathy in the hour of great loss. Our brother Harvey was laid to rest in the South Brisbane cemetery, where he resided in life, and Pastor O. W. Knight conducted the service.

A. G. Ratcliffe.

MORRIS. On November 14, 1957, Freda Morris was laid in her last resting place in the Adventist section of the Karrakatta cemetery, W.A. Miss Morris came from Melbourne about twenty years ago and made her home with Brother and Sister Evans of Mount Hawthorn. They took her in as their daughter. She was a member of our Osborne Park church and was fifty-eight years of age. Sister Morris realized that the next voice she would hear would be the voice of Jesus calling forth His sleepers in the name of the Lord. She leaves to mourn her loss her sister Lydia M. Simpson, and to whom we express our sympathy.

D. A. Speck.

UNTIL THE DAY BREAK

Plummer. On November 19, 1957, Brother Thomas Percival David Plummer was laid to rest in the Cheltenham cemetery, Adelaide. He passed away at the good age of seventy-four years, fully trusting in his Lord to mourn that loss his wife, who is holding fast to all God’s promises and also four daughters and one son. A number of friends were present who brought many beautiful flowers. Brother Wilkinson, elder of the Port Adelaide church, assisted at the service.

E. R. Tucker.

WATTS. The relatives and friends of Mrs. Violet Matilda Watts gathered to pay their tribute of respect to her on November 18, 1957, in the Adventist section of the Karrakatta cemetery, W.A. Mrs. Watts, when we first knew her, lived at Bremer Bay, but after the death of her husband came to live in Perth. She was the mother of Brother Ted Watts who is employed in the factory of the Sanitarium Health Food Company at Carmel. To Brother Watts, her wife, and family, and other relatives we extend our sincere sympathy.

D. A. Speck.

The treasurer of the Greater Sydney Conference gratefully acknowledges receipt of £30 anonymous tithe on November 26, 1957.

WANTED, new or secondhand, vegetable shredder, or address of any company supplying same. Apply this office, Wahroonga, N.S.W.

YOUNG CONFERENCE WORKER and wife are urgently in need of a flat in Sydney. Please reply to E. Schoonhoven, Box 18, Strathfield.

WANTED by missionaries, small iron frame piano in good condition, Sydney or Melbourne. R. Harrison, Morisset Road, Cooranbong, N.S.W.

PASTOR AND MRS. TAYLOR of Ballarat offer their flat to approved couple during their absence at Seminary, Dec. 8-30. Write to them at A.M. College, Cooranbong, N.S.W.

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SALE, OR EXCHANGE, Sydney suburbs, fibro house, newly painted, handy to college and transport, 3 bedrooms, lounge, d.k., kitchen, kettle, all conveniences, electric, fuel stoves, large glassed-in-veranda (suitable flat), with or without 1-acre block. W. de la Mothe, care S.H.F. Co., Cooranbong, N.S.W.

FOR SALE. New 152-page vegetarian cookbook, contains 450 meatless recipes plus helpful charts and sample menus. It was prepared by the Women's Auxiliary of the School of Medicine Alumni Association at the College of Medical Evangelists. Order details Anderson, Box 230, Murwillumbah.

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**AUSTRALASIAN RECORD**

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**BREVITIES**

On November 25 Brother and Sister F. S. Behrens returned to Papua after furlough.

A call from the Southern Asia Division for further reinforcements has been passed on to Pastors T. R. Potts and H. Josephs.

The half-yearly meeting of the division will be held April 15, 16, and the quadrennial session will convene at Cooranbong December 1-6.

Immediately following the disastrous fires in the Blue Mountains, conference and S.H.P. Co. trucks left with food, clothing, and bedding to bring relief to those so suddenly left destitute.

When Miss Olive Hodgkinson leaves the Voice of Prophecy office for the office of the Trans-Commonwealth Union in Melbourne, the vacancy will likely be filled by Miss Ruth Gardiner, a 1957 graduate of N.Z.M.C., as the position has been offered to her.

An increasing volume of work warrants the addition of another stenographer in this department, who will be Miss Laoma Battey, who recently graduated at A.M.C.

Arrivals for furlough at the end of November were Brother and Sister J. T. Pearce of Jones Missionary College, New Guinea, and Miss Daphne Chapman of Fulton Missionary College, Fiji.

Brother W. Idris Owen and Mrs. Owen from Wales, passed through Sydney recently and left for Auckland before going on to Auckland. Brother Owen was a teacher of French and music at our French college for eighteen years, and for the past eighteen years has been part-time French teacher at the Stan-borough secondary school, England. Brother Owen has conducted Seventh-day Adventist choirs for a long period of time, and hopes to find musical employment as he settles in New Zealand.

In the month of November last, fire destroyed the sawmill at Muna Muna Mission, North Queensland, the building and machinery being a total loss. A telephone quantity of timber was being put through the mill, and the loss of profits until it can be rebuilt and re-equipped will be serious. Pastor N. A. Ferris reported that all was well when the mill was shut down in the evening, but soon after it was found ablaze from one end to the other. Good news from the same centre is that eleven aborigines were baptized about the same time. The newspapers reported that a number of the Muna Muna folk who were at the Cairns beach were stung by sea nettles. As soon as a few persons had become interested in the truth by Bible readings and personal labour we met with most bitter opposition from ministers, people, and the press. We could secure but few places in which to place our tract distributors, and these were in shops. But in the different parks we placed papers in the tops of the iron fence posts. These were taken by those who passed through the parks to and from their work. Over twenty thousand papers were distributed thus, and in depots and other public places.

The secular papers, although unde-nominational, could not be prevailed upon to publish articles which contained views contrary to those endorsed by the public sentiment, or which in any way presented us favourably. This was in marked contrast to what we afterward found in New Zealand, where the papers are ready to publish, as news, that in any way contributes to the interest of the reader. In one of the largest papers of the city there were three articles in one issue warning the people against us and our work. Ministers of various denominations seemed to take pride in "exposing those Adventists who came from America."

Sometimes when Bible readings were appointed, men would come determined to break up the reading, and in one or two instances they succeeded. Others came to learn the truth. No means which law could permit or religious bigotry prompt men to make use of, was left untried to prevent our success. When visiting families we were frequently told it would not be necessary for us to call again. But there were most noble exceptions. One name worthy of mention is that of Mr. Brown, an Englishman, who had visited America, and who, though he never accepted our views, rendered us much assistance in various ways.

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**From Police Force to Literature-Evangelism**

Victor Castro, a colporteur from Lima, was formerly a policeman and felt a desire to canvass among his friends in the police force. He sold them many books, talked to them of the truth, and several became interested. As he did not have time to instruct each one separately, he organized a Bible class and gave them lessons with a projector. Fifteen policemen began to attend. The local priest, upon hearing of this, started a strong campaign against them, but the interest grew until there were thirty. At the recent colporteur institute, Brother Castro reported thirty-five interested people, eight keeping the Sabbath, four baptized persons, and three policemen that wanted to enter the canvassing work. One of these was at the institute getting ready to start canvassing immediately. — "Literature-Evangelism," May-June, 1957.