

*H. King Steele*

2291

**MINUTES**  
OF  
**PROCEEDINGS**  
OF THE  
**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
OF THE  
**Presbyterian Church of Australia.**



**HELD IN BRISBANE, SEPTEMBER, 1914.**

**SESSION TENTH.**

---

SYDNEY :  
SAMUEL E. LEES, PRINTERS AND STATIONERS, 81 CLARENCE STREET.

1914.



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1874

Legislative Council of Virginia



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1874

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1874

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE  
**Presbyterian Church of Australia**

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**Right Rev. the Moderator:**

THE REV. GEORGE DAVIDSON, M.A., D.D., Adelaide.

**Clerk of the Assembly :**

REV. GEORGE TAIT, M.A., South Yarra, Melbourne.

**The Procurator :**

THE HON. JOHN GARLAND, M.A., LL.B., K.C., Sydney.

**The Law Agents :**

MESSRS. DAVIES AND CAMPBELL, Melbourne.

**Treasurers :**

THE TREASURERSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE NEW SOUTH WALES  
CHURCH, 23 YORK STREET, SYDNEY.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE  
Presbyterian Church of Australia.

THE THEOLOGICAL HALLS.

ORMOND COLLEGE, MELBOURNE.

FACULTY.

- Rev. DAVID S. ADAM, M.A., D.D., Professor of Systematic Theology and of Church History.  
Rev. J. LAURENCE RENTOUL, M.A., D.D., Professor of N.T. Greek and Exegesis and of Christian Philosophy and Apologetic.  
Rev. ALEXANDER SKENE, M.A., Professor of Hebrew and O. T. Exegesis and of Pastoral Theology.  
Rev. JOHN BARNABY, M.A., B.D., Neil Walter Black Lecturer on Paideutics and English Bible.  
J. HOWLETT ROSS, Esq., Geo. Wilson Lecturer on Elocution.

SENATUS.

- The Professors, with J. H. MacFarland, M.A., LL.D., Master of Ormond College, Rev. John Mathew, M.A., B.D., Convener of Theological Hall Committee, and Rev. John Barnaby, M.A. B.D., Neil Walter Black Lecturer.  
President—Professor Rentoul.  
Secretary—Professor Adam.  
Librarian—Professor Skene.

ST ANDREW'S COLLEGE, SYDNEY.

- Professor of Hebrew and Exegetical Theology of the Old Testament—  
Rev. ANDREW HARPER, D.D.  
Professor of Systematic Theology and Apologetics—Rev. RONALD G. MACINTYRE, M.A., B.D.  
Professor of Exegetical Theology of the New Testament and Historical Theology—  
Rev. SAMUEL ANGUS, M.A., PH.D.  
"Steel" Lecturer in Pastoral Theology and the English Bible—Rev. R. SCOTT-WEST.  
Lecture in Voice Culture and Elocution—Mr. R. BERTRAM KOHM.  
President of Faculty—Rev. PROFESSOR MACINTYRE.  
Secretary of Faculty—Rev. ROBERT STEEL, M.A.

EMMANUEL COLLEGE.

- The Rev. GEORGE EWAN, Lecturer in Practical Theology.  
The Rev. JAMES GIBSON, M.A., Lecturer in Church History  
The Rev. S. F. HUNTER, M.A., B.D., Lecturer in Old Testament Language and Exegesis.  
The Rev. JOHN MEIKLEJOHN, M.A., D.D., Lecturer in Systematic Theology.  
The Rev. E. N. MERRINGTON, M.A., Ph.D., Lecturer in Christian Philosophy and Apologetic.  
The Rev. JAMES COSH, B.A., B.D., Lecturer in New Testament Language and Exegesis.  
The Rev. SAMUEL MARTIN, M.A., Lecturer in the English Bible.



## EXAMINERS.

### ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

Script and Shorter Catechism—Rev. G. B. MURPHY, B.A., and A. S. MCCOOK, B.A.  
English—Revs. A. R. OSBORN, M.A., and J. H. TERRAS.  
Hebrew—Revs. J. V. MCNAIR, and D. M. BARNET, B.A.  
Greek—Revs. J. H. ROBERTSON, M.A., and R. NAIRN, M.A.  
History—Revs. D. MACRAE STEWART, and G. DAVIDSON, M.A., D.D.  
Moral Philosophy—Revs. KARL FORSTER, M.A., and J. EDWARDS, M.A.  
Mental Philosophy—Revs. H. KELLY, M.A. and W. GRANT-FORSYTH.  
English Literature—Revs. A. YULE, M.A., and J. SCOTT-MACDONALD, M.A.

### EXIT EXAMINATION.

Theology—Revs. A. GILLISON, M.A., and W. GRANT-FORSYTH.  
Church History—Revs. J. KEMP-BRUCE, and A. DUNN, B.A., B.D.  
N.T. Greek—Revs. J. GILLIES, M.A., B.D., and W. W. WATTS.  
Hebrew—Revs. W. F. HOLT, M.A., and H. M. BURNS, M.A., B.D.  
Apologetics—Revs. W. G. MACNOCHIE, M.A., and A. C. GRIEVE, B.A.  
Contents of Bible in English—Revs. J. SINCLAIR, B.A., and G. R. S. REID, M.A.

### H.M. AGENTS' EXAMINATION.

Logic—Revs. T. SCOTT NEIL and W. TAIT, M.A.  
Greek—Revs. H. C. MATTHEW, M.A. and J. H. G. AULD, B.A.  
History—Revs. AENEAS MACDONALD, M.A. and J. J. GILMORE, B.A.  
English—Revs. W. GRANT-FORSYTH, and W. FRASER, B.A.  
Script and Catechism—Revs. H. S. LEGGE, M.A. and J. N. MCGEE.  
Mental Philosophy—Revs. SMITH MACBAIN, B.A., and J. BARNET STEEL, B.A.  
Moral Philosophy—Revs. A. I. DAVIDSON, M.A., and G. CHALMERS

### ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Perth—February 9, 1915, and March 30, 1915.

### H. M. EXAMINATION.

July 6, 1915.

### EXIT EXAMINATION.

September 6, 1915.

## NOTANDA.

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Special attention is directed to the following matters :

**PLACE** and **DATE** of Meeting of next Assembly : At **Sydney**, on the Fourth **Tuesday** of September, 1916, at 7 p.m.

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### REMITTS—

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# Presbyterian Church of Australia.

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## MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA.

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### SESSION TENTH.

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*At Brisbane, and within St. Andrew's Church, Creek street, on  
Wednesday, the 23rd day of September, 1914, at 7 p.m.*

1. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia convened. Public worship was conducted by the Right Reverend the Retiring Moderator (Dr. Rentoul), who preached from Luke 9: 62. After sermon, the Assembly was constituted with prayer by the Moderator. Opening.

2. The Roll of Assembly was submitted by the Clerk. The Roll was declared of *interim* authority, and ordered to be finally revised to-morrow morning. The Roll is as follows:— Roll.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

## ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

## BATHURST.

Rev. W. H. Ash	Mr. Charles Stewart
James Hendry, M.A.	Leslie Currie
Charles Crane, B.A.	

## THE CLARENCE.

Rev. James Carson	Mr. Duncan McFarlane
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## GOULBURN.

Rev. W. A. Williams	Mr. William Affleck
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## THE HASTINGS.

Rev. James H. Terras	Mr. William Thomson
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## THE HAWKESBURY.

Rev. Robert Steel, M.A.	Mr. Walter Morphett
John Paterson	William McIntosh
William Rose Milne	Arthur P. Biddee

## THE HUNTER.

Rev. J. H. G. Auld, B.A.	Mr. John Breckenridge
Alexander Fraser	J. H. Jones
Samuel Brown	E. Richardson

ILLAWARRA.

Rev. Donald McKay Barnett, B.A.    Mr. Alexander Nicholson

THE LACHLAN.

Rev. W. F. Brown                      Mr. D. Kinnaird

MONARO.

Rev. C. F. D. McAlpine              Mr. J. C. Ryrie

MOREE.

Rev. P. A. Smith                      Mr. Hugh Currie  
George Wilson

MURRUMBIDGEE.

Rev. William Tulloch                Mr. Fred Jane  
John Dykes

NEW ENGLAND.

Rev. A. P. Cameron, B.A.            Mr. William McLennan

NORTH SYDNEY.

Rev. J. A. R. Perkins, B.A.        Mr. John Cameron  
J. F. Blair                              John Love  
Alex. Clark                              Donald Smith

RICHMOND.

Rev. M. Graham Hart                Mr. Willam Gay  
D. McLennan                            James Davidson

## SYDNEY.

Rev. Geo. Chalmers	Dr. John Marden
George Cranston	Mr. C. A. Clifton
J. T. Lawton, M.A.	W. G. Crane
C. E. James	W. G. Geikie
C. A. Talbot	William Peel
R. Scott West	Henry Perdriau
C. W. Willis	A. F. Cunningham
C. A. White, B.A.	A. K. Murray

## WAGGA WAGGA.

Rev. James McAndrew	Mr. P. Bell Munro
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## YOUNG.

Rev. James Goudie	Mr. David McConaghy
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## ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. John Burgess, D.D.	Captain Craig
Professor Macintyre, B.D.	Hon. T. Brown, M.L.A.
Robert Kay, M.A.	Mr. William Wood
Alex. Smith	John Kirkland
A. S. McCook, B.A.	David McPhail
G. A. Gordon, B.A.	R. Finlayson
Philip Norman	Wm. Ross
Alex. McKinlay	Wm. Gillanders, B.A.
Arthur J. Wade	J. H. Balfour
W. G. Forsyth	S. J. Carruthers, F.C.A.A.
R. H. Waugh, M.A.	P. D. McCormick
J. Kemp Bruce	J. H. Beatson

## QUEENSLAND.

## ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

## BRISBANE.

Rev. James Gibson, M.A.	Mr. T. W. Wilson
P. Robertson	C. G. Blair

## MARYBOROUGH.

Rev. M. Kirkpatrick, B.A.	Mr. George Stupart
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## ROCKHAMPTON.

Rev. James Walker, M.A., B.D.	Mr. J. H. Kessell, M.L.A.
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## TOOWOOMBA.

Rev. Joseph Landie, B.A.	Mr. William Chisholm
William Duffy	Alexander S. Hunter

## TOWNSVILLE.

Rev. George Tulloch	Mr. Alexander Grant
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## ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. Allan M. Mackillop, B.A.	Mr. Alex. F. Whitehill
Richard Kerr	G. R. Milliken

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

## ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

## ADELAIDE.

Rev. George Davidson, M.A., D.D.	Mr. W. L. Ligertwood H. B. Thompson
Thomas Shanks, M.A., B.D.	

## BELALIE.

Rev. T. V. Charlton                      Mr. A. L. McEwan

## ONKAPARINGA.

Rev. D. F. Brandt                      Mr. D. H. Dyke

## ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.              Mr. T. W. Fleming  
Wm. Gray

## TASMANIA.

## ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

## HOBART.

Rev. Alan Leckie                      Mr. H. B. Ritz

## LAUNCESTON.

Rev. W. J. Holt, M.A.                  Rev. W. J. Harris

## MIDLANDS.

Rev. J. Galbraith Miller              Mr. James W eding

## ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. J. Heyer, M.A.                  Mr. G. Meredith

## VICTORIA.

## ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

## BALLARAT.

Rev. John Walker	Mr. Joseph Draffin
J. McL. McIntyre	D. McKenzie
W. J. Murray	Andrew Scott



## BEECHWORTH.

Rev. F. Chisholm	Mr. Neil Sutherland
R. Robertson, M.A., B.D.	Douglas Ferguson

## BENDIGO.

Rev. G. A. Stewart	Rev. J. Darroch
A. I. Davidson, M.A.	Mr. G. Mackay
J. D. Edwards	

## FLINDERS.

Rev. S. D. Hood	Mr. D. McNeil
H. A. Buntine	

## GEELONG.

Rev. R. M. Fergus, M.A.	Mr. W. Anderson
R. Jones	J. Pettitt
A. H. Fletcher	D. McPhee

## GIPPSLAND.

Rev. H. Carroll, B.A.	Rev. A. C. M. Lusted
C. A. Fraser	Mr. H. G. M. Noble

## GOULBURN VALLEY.

Rev. J. A. Lee	Rev. H. E. O'Sullivan
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## HAMILTON.

Rev. W. Tait, M.A.	Mr. M. Miller
K. Forster, M.A.	D. Greig

## MACEDON.

Rev. R. A. Green, M.A.	Mr. J. F. Crow
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## MARYBOROUGH.

Rev. J. D. Walker	Mr. David Gordon
H. A. Erskine	

## MELBOURNE NORTH.

Rev. W. Agnew	Mr. C. Mackinnon
J. M. James, B.D.	R. Moffatt
A. McNeilage	J. Elvins
F. Milne, M.A., B.D.	C. J. Graham
B. Williams	J. M. Scott
T. W. Leggatt	W. Brockett
G. M. Connor, M.A.	Dr. Agnew
C. Neville	

## MELBOURNE SOUTH.

Rev. P. J. Murdoch, M.A.	Mr. J. S. Darton
J. Sinclair, B.A.	J. M. Bryant
W. H. Cooper, M.A., B.D.	H. D. McBean
G. Carson	A. G. Proudfoot
W. Goyen	
J. Smiley, B.A.	

## MORTLAKE.

Rev. Andrew Dunn, B.A., B.D.	Mr. John Anderson
Robert Nairn, M.A.	J. G. Baker

## PENGLA.

Rev. R. W. McLean, M.A.	Mr. V. G. Petherick
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## SEYMOUR.

Rev. F. C. Vickerman, B.A.	Mr. Jas. Morrison
J. Garde	

## WESTERN PLAINS.

Rev. J. H. Shallberg	Mr. R. McKenzie
E. A. Forbes	

## WIMMERA.

Rev. S. H. Dorman

Rev. Thos. Gray

## ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. J. Crookston, M.A.	Dr. J. H. MacFarland
J. Meiklejohn, M.A., DD.	Mr. A. L. Pryde
J. Mathew, M.A., B.D.	J. M. Campbell, LL.M.
George Tait, M.A.	R. K. Gillespie
D. A. Cameron, M.A.	G. S. Mackay
F. H. L. Paton, M.A., B.D.	H. Hopkins
J. Barnaby, M.A., B.D.	Hon. A. McLellan
Professor Rentoul, M.A., D.D.	H. H. Kemp
F. W. Rolland	J. R. Crowther
Professor Skene, M.A.	D. MacMillan
J. C. Coutie, B.A.	W. Rain
A. Stewart, M.A.	W. Sanderson, M.A., LL.M.
W. Borland, M.A., B.D.	J. Birtchnell
George Paul	J. Elvins

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

## ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

Rev. W. F. Shannon, B.A.

Mr. Robert Bracks

## FREEMANTLE.

## GOLDFIELDS.

## PERTH.

## ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. W. F. Turton

Mr. F. A. McMullen

Moderator.

3. The Moderator, having intimated that the Moderator and ex-Moderators of the General Assembly, and the Moderators of the State Assemblies, had agreed to nominate for the Moderator's chair the Rev. Dr. George Davidson, Minister of the Flinders Street Presbyterian Church, Adelaide, the nomination was approved by acclamation, and Dr. Davidson declared the Moderator of the Assembly. Dr. Davidson was conducted to the chair, and delivered a suitable address.

Ex-Moderator.

4. On the motion of the Rev. Professor Macintyre, seconded by the Rev. D. F. Brandt, the Assembly resolved:—"That the cordial thanks of the Assembly be given to the ex-Moderator for the earnest sermon preached by him at the opening of the Assembly, and also for his valuable services to the Church during his two years of office."

Business Committee.

5. The Report of the Business Committee was submitted by the Rev. Professor Macintyre, who moved:—"That the hours of meeting be—Morning Sederunt, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (with an interval from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.); Evening Sederunt, 7.30 p.m. to 10 p.m., and that the order of business proposed for to-morrow be adopted."

The motion was seconded and approved.

6. The following were appointed the Business Committee for the Session:—Revs. Professor Macintyre (Convener), George Tait, Dr. Burgess, Richard Kerr, Wm. Gray, Robert Steel, W. F. Turton, A. Stewart, W. Goyen, Messrs. T. W. Fleming, George Stupart, J. M. Campbell, and the Hon. T. Brown.

Selection Committee.

7. The following were appointed a Committee of Selection to nominate Assembly representatives to the Judicial Commission, the Board of Missions, and the Standing Committees, with instructions to meet on Friday at 9 a.m., and to give in the names proposed at the morning Sederunt:—Revs. C. H. Talbot, G. A. Gordon, D. F. Brandt, J. Heyer, J. Barnaby, A. I. Davidson, W. F. Shannon, Joseph Lundie, Wm. Wood, A. L. Pryde, C. G. Blair, J. H. Beatson, Joseph Driffin.

Ballot.

It was agreed to receive additional nominations up to the close of Monday morning's Sederunt, and that a ballot, if required, be taken on Tuesday, at 12.45 p.m. The following were appointed scrutineers of the ballot, with instructions to prepare voting papers:—Revs. C. A. White (Convener), A. S. McCook, Messrs. S. J. Carruthers and A. K. Murray.

8. The Rev. J. Kemp Bruce gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move:—

“ That a Committee be appointed to prepare and submit to the next General Assembly the draft of a Book of Common Order for the guidance of Ministers, Licentiatees, and Lay Preachers.”

Book of  
Common  
Order.

9. Mr. A. L. Pryde gave notice of his intention to move to-morrow morning:—

“ That the Finance Committee be instructed to meet to-morrow at the close of the afternoon Sederunt.”

10. Mr. H. H. Kemp gave notice of his intention to move to-morrow morning:—

“ That the following rule apply to all motions brought before this Assembly, unless it is varied by resolution of the Assembly for special matters as they arise.

“ Opening speakers to be limited to 30 minutes, seconders of motions and proposers of amendments to have 20 minutes, and all other speakers not more than 10 minutes.”

Limitation of  
Speeches.

11. The Rev. J. H. Shallberg gave notice of his intention when the communication from the New Zealand Assembly is before the House to move:—

Communica-  
tion from  
New  
Zealand.

“ That this Assembly of Australia receive the said communication, thank the Assembly of New Zealand for its timely overture, and cordially reciprocates its fraternal greeting, and prays God's richest blessing may rest upon the New Zealand Church in her Christ-like endeavours to extend God's kingdom of peace.

“ And inasmuch as Christian nations are making deadly war upon one another, causing untold misery to God’s children in many lands, and hurling thousands of the choicest of our manhood to premature death; and inasmuch as war, like politics, is a reflex of the moral condition of the Church, as the custodian of the people’s moral and religious welfare, this General Assembly of Australia resolves at a fit time to seek the co-operation of other branches of the Christian Church, in the direction of bringing the united influence of the Churches to bear upon the Governments of the nations with the view to the establishment of permanent peace.

“ That every encouragement be given to private and public prayer, and that an annual international peace Sunday be observed.”

**12.** The Presbytery of Sydney applied for authority to meet to-morrow at 8 p.m.

The Presbytery of Seymour applied for authority to meet on the 30th September.

The authority in each case was granted.

**13.** The Assembly adjourned, to meet to-morrow at 10 a.m. for the observance of the Lord’s Supper, and at 11 a.m. for the transaction of business, which, having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

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## SECOND SEDERUNT.

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*At Brisbane, and within St. Andrew’s Church, Creek street, on  
Thursday, 24th September, 1914, at 10 a.m.*

**Communion.**

**14.** The members of the Assembly united in a Communion Service, conducted by the Moderator, assisted by the Revs. W. F. Shannon, C. E. James, A. McKillop, and Messrs. George Wilson, R. Gillespie, John Kirkland, T. W. Fleming.

At the conclusion of the service the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

15. The Minutes of the First Sederunt were read.

16. It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Burgess and seconded by Mr. W. Sanderson:—

“That the Minutes be confirmed and that the final revision of the Roll be postponed till the opinion of the Law Agent be obtained on the question as to whether Article III. of the Deed of Union allows a State Assembly to relegate the appointment of its representatives to a Communion.”

The motion was approved.

Authority was given to the Home Mission Committee to meet during this Sederunt.

17. Mr. H. H. Kemp moved the motion of which he had given notice, and which is recorded in the Minutes of the First Sederunt. The motion was seconded by Mr. J. H. Beatson.

Limitation of  
Speeches.

The motion was disapproved.

18. Mr. A. L. Pryde withdrew the motion of which he had given notice.

19. The Report on Sabbath Schools was submitted, on behalf of the Convener, by the Rev. Wm. Goyen, who moved:—

Sabbath  
Schools.

(1) That the Assembly receive the Report.

(2) Recommend the adoption by the Sabbath Schools of our Church throughout Australia of the Graded Lesson principle and

authorise the Committee to confer with the Welfare of Youth Committees in the various other States with a view to completing the preparation of a scheme of graded lessons.

(3) Express its satisfaction with the carrying into effect in Victoria of its previous recommendation as to the appointment of a Superintendent of Sabbath Schools in each State, and its desire that other State Churches should take a similar course whenever practicable.

(4) Recommend the more general adoption of the "League of Young Worshippers."

(5) Cordially commend the institution of "Young People's Day," and appoint the third Sabbath of October as the date of its next observance.

(6) Urge upon all our Ministers the importance of teacher-training, and recommend them to arrange for the study of text-books on teaching by the teachers, where special training may be impracticable.

(7) Express the high regard which the Assembly feels for all our Superintendents and Teachers in Australia, who spend so much time and strength on the work of Sabbath School teaching, and whose influence for good on the young life of our community cannot be over-estimated.

The motion was seconded by Mr. W. Sanderson.

The motion was approved.

**20.** The nomination of the future Welfare of Youth Committee was remitted to the Committee with instruction to report to to-morrow's Morning Sederunt.



**21.** The Report on *The Record* was submitted, on behalf of the Record.  
 Convener, by the Rev. Wm. Goyen, who moved:—

(1) That the Assembly receive the Report.

(2) Express satisfaction with the increase in the circulation of the Magazine, but recommend its wider use in our Sabbath Schools throughout Australia.

(3) Request the Conveners of Foreign Mission Committees of the Church who have charge of Missions in the New Hebrides, to communicate with their respective Missionaries in the Islands, as to sending from time to time, suitable matter for *The Record*, and so assisting the Editor in his work.

(4) Thank the donor of the prizes annually given to readers of *The Record*, in connection with the "Ethel Reid Essay Competition."

(5) Note with gratification the royalties annually paid to the various Churches by the publishers, according to the circulation of the Magazine in each State.

The motion was seconded and approved.

**22.** The Overture anent Beneficiary Funds was introduced by Beneficiary Funds.  
 the Rev. W. F. Turton.

**23.** It was moved by the Rev. W. F. Turton, and seconded by the Rev. W. F. Shannon:—

"That the Overture be sustained, and the whole question raised therein as regards Beneficiary Funds for Ministers, widows, and orphans remitted to a Committee with instructions to report to next Assembly, and that in the meantime no actuarial expense be incurred."

The motion was approved ; and the Rev. W. F. Turton (Convener) and the Rev. Robt. Steel and the Rev. John Walker were appointed a Committee to nominate the Committee.

**24.** The Rev. Peter Robertson gave notice of his intention, at a future Sederunt, to move:—

Nomination of  
Moderator.

(1) That a Committee be appointed to prepare rules for the guidance of the Committee in whose hands the duty of selecting and nominating the Moderator of Assembly rests.

Presbyterian  
Council.

(2) That the Assembly take steps to secure its rightful place in the Pan-Presbyterian Council.

The War.

**25.** The Rev. Dr. Rentoul gave notice of his intention, at a future Sederunt, to move:—

“ This General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, in keeping with the spirit and principle of the Kingdom of God the Father in His Son Jesus Christ the King of love and peace, rejects at all times the Spirit of war, as antagonistic to the Fatherhood of God and the teaching and mission of our Lord who died as Saviour of all mankind. The Assembly further expresses its profound sorrow and disappointment that, in this Twentieth Century, when men had hoped that questions of International variance might be determined by International Arbitration, not by the inhuman and cruel method of appeal to armed force and the decision of the sword—the great nations of Europe have suddenly been plunged into dreadful war—a war seemingly unparalleled in history in the vast numbers of the contending hosts and in the appalling might and variety of the scientific armaments and weapons of ruin employed in the conflict.

“ The Assembly deplores the widespread and ruthless destruction of gallant men and of inoffensive steed and cattle already caused by the war, and the merciless and wanton devastation of human homes and slaughter of the civic population, the sweeping away of town, village, and precious works of art and results of human industry which has attended the invasion of Belgium, France, and other regions. The

Assembly earnestly protests against such acts as a defiance of the laws of that God who 'preserveth man and beast,' and whose grace is precious, and as an outrage also against modern civilisation and the instincts of humanity.

"The Assembly, further, is of opinion that this war is due mainly to the spirit of German and especially Prussian militarism, and with its determination to become dominant in Europe, in disregard of the rights of the smaller nationalities, the binding sanctity of treaty obligations and pledges of neutrality, and the freedom of commerce, so endangering man's rights by land and sea.

"In such an hour and in the face of such claims of military supremacy and the attempted abrogation of sacred national pledges, the Imperial Government and the British people could not, in the opinion of this Assembly, have done otherwise than valiantly and unitedly resist such pretension. In such a perilous crisis the action of the British Government, loyally supported by the Governments of the British Dominions oversea, seems to this Assembly an appeal, in dependence on the righteous God, in defence of the rights of Freedom and of Fatherland against military despotism.

"This Assembly therefore, as representing the Presbyterian people of the Commonwealth of Australia, expresses its unflinching loyalty to our King and to the unity of the British Empire, its confidence in the wisdom of the policy of the Imperial Government, its admiration of the wonderful and self-sacrificing gallantry of the British soldiers and sailors, and its hearty forwardness in sharing the national burthens of giving and of suffering in an unparalleled time of the Empire's danger and need.

"The Assembly also expresses its earnest hope and prayer that the terrible wrong and ruin wrought by this war may so move the conscience, reason, and heart of men and of the nations that the day for which all Christians yearn may be hastened—when 'men shall learn war no more.'"

**26.** Mr. W. Wood gave notice of his intention, when the deliverance of the Board of Foreign Missions is being dealt with, to move:—

Foreign  
Missions.

“That the General Assembly agrees that no new missions be introduced for consideration nor any new expenditure entertained pending the expiry of the period of five years within which the debt already incurred is to be paid off.”

**27.** The Assembly adjourned, to meet at 8 p.m. in the Exhibition Hall, which, having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

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### THIRD SEDERUNT.

*At Brisbane, and within St. Andrew's Church, Creek street, on Thursday, the 24th day of September, 1914, at 8 p.m.*

Home  
Mission  
Demonstration

**28.** By arrangement addresses on various aspects of Home Mission Work were delivered by the Revs. Robt. Steel, D. A. Cameron, William Gray, and John Flynn.

**29.** The Assembly adjourned, to meet to-morrow at 10 a.m. in St. Andrew's Church, which, having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

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### FOURTH SEDERUNT.

*At Brisbane, and within St. Andrew's Church, Creek street, on Friday, 25th September, 1914, at 10 a.m.*

**30.** The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was duly constituted with reading the Scripture and prayer.

Rev. S. G.  
McLaren.

**31.** By leave of the House, it was moved by the Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn, and seconded by Mr. H. H. Kemp:—

"The Assembly having learned of the death of the Rev. Samuel Gilfillan McLaren, M.A., late Principal of the Presbyterian Ladies' College, Melbourne, records its sense of the great loss the Church has sustained through the removal of one who was so long and so honourably identified with the educational work of the Church, and took the deepest interest in all that concerns the Church's welfare. It further expresses its sympathy with his widow and family, and agrees to forward a copy of this resolution to Mrs. McLaren."

The motion was unanimously approved.

**32.** The opinion of the Law Agent relative to the power of the Assembly under Article III. of the Deed of Union to delegate its power of appointing members of the Assembly to a Commission was received.

Roll. Opinions  
of Law  
Agent.

The opinion is as follows:—

"The question on which I am asked to advise is whether under Article III. of the Deed of Union a State Assembly can delegate its power of appointing members of the General Assembly to a Committee.

"That Article provides that one-fourth of the members shall be elected by the State Assembly itself.

"I do not think much stress can be laid on the word 'itself.' That word seems to be used in contradistinction to the Presbyteries, and not to election by a Committee.

"The words of the Article, however, plainly point to the Assembly and no delegation is suggested.

"It may also be pointed out that in Article IX. express authority is given to delegate the power of admitting Ministers to a Committee, which tends to show that where it was intended that delegation should be allowed, it was thought necessary to say so.

"On the other hand, it is contended that the State Assembly has an inherent right by usage to delegate any of its powers to a Committee.

and that Article III. must be read as allowing the election to take place in any manner sanctioned by the usage of the Assembly.

“ Standing Order No. 106 authorises the appointment of a Special Commission with or without full powers. But it is admitted that a Standing Order cannot over-ride an Article of Agreement, and it may be said that if the power is inherent it was unnecessary to provide for it by a Standing Order.

“ Again, the words of Mr. Justice Isaacs in his judgment in the case *Frackelton v. McQueen* have been referred to. They are to the effect that in ascertaining what the consensual contract is ‘ there may with the express written word be incorporated usages or unwritten practices.’

“ But here the question is whether any such alleged usage can be regarded if it is inconsistent with the express written word.

“ On the whole, and not without some doubt, I am of opinion that the power to delegate does not exist, and that the State Assembly itself must elect its proportion of members of the General Assembly.

“ In any case, if this view is acted on, no question can arise as to the proper constitution of the General Assembly, while, on the other view, questions might be raised as to the validity of the actions of of the Assembly.

“ If desired the Article can be altered in accordance with the Constitution to meet the wishes of the Church as to the matter.

“ J. M. CAMPBELL,  
Law Agent.”

“ 25 September, 1914.

Roll.

**33.** The final revision of the Roll was postponed and the following Committee appointed to report on the questions regarding the Roll raised by the opinion of the Law Agent:—The Clerk, Convener, the Rev. A. Stewart, and Mr. J. M. Campbell.

34. The Minutes of the Second and Third Sederunts were approved.

35. On the Report of the Committee appointed to nominate a Committee relative to Beneficiary Funds, the following Committee was appointed:—Mr. A. G. Proudfoot (Convener), Revs. W. H. Steele, George Carson, W. Tait, R. Steel, W. F. Turton, J. Heyer, W. C. Radcliffe, Dr. Burgess, J. Lundie, and Messrs. T. W. Fleming, William Wood, A. L. Pryde, John Kirkland, J. H. Beatson, and the Hon. John Murdoch.

Beneficiary  
Funds  
Committee.

36. Apologies for absence were received from the Revs. P. J. Murdoch, John Dykes, Charles Crane, and the Hon. T. Brown.

37. The Report of the Board of Missions was submitted by the Rev. A. Stewart. It was moved by the Rev. J. T. Lawton, and seconded by the Rev. T. W. Leggatt:—

Board of  
Missions.

(1) That the Assembly receive the Report, statements of accounts, and supplementary reports from the Churches, the thanks of the Assembly being accorded to the Board, their Executives, their Conveners, the Secretary, and those mentioned in the Report as having done special service.

(2) That the Assembly express its satisfaction with the earnest and self-denying labours of its missionaries and their assistants among the Aborigines, and the missionaries and staffs of the missions conducted by the several Churches under its supervision, commend these representatives of the Church in the mission field to the care of Almighty God and His furtherance in their work, and direct that special prayer be made for them regularly in the devotional services of congregations.

(3) That the Assembly welcome the Rev. E. Brown, of Weipa, to its meeting.

(4) That the Assembly direct the Board to convey to the Foreign Missions Committees of New South Wales, South Australia, Tasmania, and Victoria its profound sympathy with them in the disabilities and hindrances to their work for Christ in the New Hebrides and the wrongs

of their people there due to the defective Government of the Condominium; and further direct the Board to give all the assistance it can in laying such representations before the Cabinet of the Commonwealth and the British Government as may lead in the present close association of France and Great Britain to a rearrangement beneficial both to the natives and our Missions.

This Assembly expresses its deepest sympathy with the New Zealand Church and the Synod of the New Hebrides in the loss sustained by the destruction of the Mission Station and Hospital at Ambrym, New Hebrides. It calls to mind with sincere admiration and appreciation the work of Rev. Dr. John T. Bowie and his helpers, both during the existence of the Hospital and at the awful moment of its destruction by volcanic forces.

(5) Instruct the Board to convey to the Government of Western Australia the thanks of the Presbyterian Church of Australia for the large reserve granted at Hanover Bay, Port George IV., and the grant of £150 a year, and to lay before that Government the claims of their Aborigines around Hanover Bay to increased consideration on the lines on which the Queensland Government aids the enterprise for the welfare of the native inhabitants of its territories.

(6) That the Assembly approve the Board's suggestion that money derived from the sale of stock, sandalwood, or other produce be used to provide the Mission Stations in the Gulf of Carpentaria with oil engines and such other mechanical appliances as will further the interests and education of their people.

(7) That the Assembly congratulate the Rev. N. Hey on the repeated and triumphant vindication of his splendid work at Mapoon for the Church.

(8) Heartily thank Mr. J. R. B. Love for his labour and valuable report, and refers to the Board to consider printing the same in a form suitable for circulation.

(9) Instruct the Board to take whatever active interest is possible for the delimitation of the sphere of labour by the several denominations among the Aborigines throughout Australia.



(10) Approve the action of the Church of New South Wales in authorising the native Church under its care in India to unite with the South India United Church.

(11) That the Assembly approve the action of the Board in using the reserve funds to eke out the assessment income of the last two years, and agree to the repayment of the amounts (£511 16s. 6d.) thus withdrawn to their original purposes; include the salaries of all assistant missionaries in the general assessment; resolve as far as the Board may find it needful on the expenditure of £3,897 16s. 6d. on the Aboriginal missions in the year 1914-15; accept the sum of £50 as a settlement in full of the liability of the Western Australian Church to the Board's funds up to 30th September, 1914, in addition to its promised contribution of £150 a year from 1st October, 1914; authorise the Board to borrow the amount necessary for new buildings at Port George IV., Hanover Bay, and Mornington Island, and to spread this debt, along with the other amounts under the head of special charges mentioned in the Report, over the general assessment of five years, and fix such assessment, subject to reduction by the Board as favourable circumstances arise, at the following annual rate for the five years beginning 1st October, 1914:—

Victoria	..	..	..	..	£1,228
New South Wales	..	..	..	..	813
Queensland	..	..	..	..	339
Western Australia	..	..	..	..	150
South Australia	..	..	..	..	88
Tasmania	..	..	..	..	74

According to notice, it was moved as an amendment by Mr. W. Wood—

“That the General Assembly agrees that no new missions be introduced for consideration nor any new expenditure entertained, which must be met by additional assessment, pending the expiry of the period of five years within which the debt already incurred is to be paid off.”

The amendment was seconded by the Rev. W. Gray.

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved.

Home  
Missions.

38. The Report of the Home Mission Committee was submitted by the Acting Convener, the Rev. Robert Steel, who moved:—

(1) The Report be received.

(2) Express satisfaction at the attempts made to reach the people in the various States.

(3) The Australian Roll of Home Agents be accepted and preserved by the Home Mission Committee, be kept up to date, and presented with the Report on each occasion of Assembly meeting.

(4) Express pleasure at the progress made by the Australian Home Mission Committee, and again commend its work to the prayerful and practical interest of the Church in the various States.

(5) Rev. John Flynn be appointed Superintendent for a period of two years at a stipend of £400 per annum and expenses.

(6) That the following be appointed the Sectional Committees for the Inland Mission in the several States:—

NEW SOUTH WALES—

Revs. Dr. Harper, R. J. H. McGowan, Angus King, J. T. Lawton, Robert Steel, G. A. Gordon (Chairman), A. McKinlay, A. Clark, J. Ferguson, G. Cranston, Captain Craig, Dr. T. G. Campbell, Hon. T. Brown, M.L.A., Messrs. W. Gillanders, W. Wood, A. Keith.

VICTORIA—

Revs. Prof. Adam, Prof. Skene, John Walker, D. A. Cameron, J. Barnaby, G. S. Brodie, W. A. Stevely, J. Mackenzie, F. H. L. Paton, T. J. Smith, E. E. Baldwin, F. W. Rolland (Chairman), Messrs. T. H. Steel, George Aitken, W. Shaw, D. MacMillan, H. H. Kemp.

QUEENSLAND—

Revs. Dr. Merrington, James Gibson, George Ewan, S. F. Hunter, W. C. Radcliffe (Chairman), Messrs. A. S. Barr, J. K. Stewart.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA—

Revs. T. Tait, R. Mitchell, W. Gray (Chairman), Messrs. T. W. Fleming, H. B. Thompson.

## WEST AUSTRALIA—

Revs. A. Crow (Chairman), W. F. Shannon, W. H. Steele, G. N. Dods, D. Ross, Messrs. F. A. Mosely, R. Bracks.

## TASMANIA—

Revs. P. Hope, J. Heyer, W. J. Harris (Chairman), Dr. Gibson, Mr. J. Wright.

(7) The Assembly place on record its high appreciation of the exceptional services rendered by the Rev. Robert Steel, M.A., during the period in which he has held the secretaryship of the Home Mission Committee, express regret that owing to the pressure of other work he has found it necessary to retire, and authorise the Committee to give to Mr. Steel an honorarium of £25 as a slight recognition of his services.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. John Barnaby.

The resignation of the Rev. John Ferguson as Convener of the Committee was laid on the table.

The Rev. John Flynn, the Superintendent, addressed the House.

The resignation of the Rev. John Ferguson, as Convener, was accepted with regret and cordial recognition of his long and valuable services.

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. D. A. Cameron, and seconded by the Rev. John Sinclair:—That the following paragraph be added to the motion:—

“(8) Whereas this Assembly recognises the great value of the Home Mission work done by the Western Australian Presbyterian Church, being as it is truly foundational, but also realises the need of more agents and larger funds being available for the enlarging of the Church's life and giving it power to meet the present situation as it

exists in Western Australia—it asks the Western Australian Church to consider if it would transfer to Victoria for a period of five years the administration of its Home Mission field, and the Victorian Church if it would undertake this duty of administration; and, further, if the Western Australian Assembly consents to the transference, *it asks* the Victorian Assembly to appoint two of its members, preferably from the Victorian Mission Committee, to act as Commissioners of the General Assembly of Australia to secure all needful information, with instructions to draw up with the Victorian Home Mission Committee a plan setting forth a possible mode of carrying on the work, such plan to be submitted for final consideration to the next meeting of the General Assembly.”

At this stage the consideration of the Report was postponed.

Overture  
presented Board  
of Missions.

The Overture presented Board of Missions was withdrawn in view of deliverance of the Report of the Board of Missions.

**39.** On the Report of the Committee appointed to nominate the Committee, the following were appointed the Welfare of Youth Committee:—

Rev. W. S. Rolland, Convener; Revs. J. T. Lawton, J. A. R. Perkins, C. H. Talbot, D. McK. Barnet, R. J. H. McGowan, A. J. Wade, A. R. Osborn, Wm. Goyen, John Walker, John Sinclair, John Barnaby, J. Galbraith Millar, J. B. Galloway, James Gibson, W. H. Waters, W. Gray, J. R. Fiddian, W. F. Turton, F. E. Ozer, W. F. Shannon; Dr. Smyth; Messrs. W. A. Sanderson, W. Gillanders, J. I. Forsyth, T. W. Wilson, H. B. Thompson.

**40.** The Rev. John Barnaby gave notice of his intention, when the Report of the College Committee is before the House, to move:—

Home  
Mission  
Students.

“That Home Mission Students, at the completion of their course of preliminary training, on applying to the College Committee for admission to the Entrance Examination, be required to forward, in addition to the Presbyterian certificate, a certificate from the Home Mission Committee showing that they have discharged their duties as Home Mission Agents to the satisfaction of the Committee.”

**41.** The Rev. Dr. Rentoul gave notice of his intention, when the Overtures anent "Spiritual Freedom" have been stated to the House, to move:—

"That the Overtures be dismissed."

**42.** The Assembly adjourned, to meet at 7.30 p.m., which, having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

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#### FIFTH SEDERUNT.

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*At Brisbane, and within St. Andrew's Church, Creek street,  
Friday, the 25th September, 1914, at 7.30 p.m.*

**43.** The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was duly constituted with reading the Scripture and prayer.

**44.** The Report of the Business Committee was approved.

**45.** The Report on Immigration was submitted by Mr. D. **Immigration.** MacMillan, who moved:—

(1) That the Assembly receive the Report.

(2) Re-appoint the Committee with Revs. R. W. Macaulay, F. L. A. Schloffel, and J. G. Scarfe, and Mr. Charles McKinnon in place of Revs. J. T. Lawton, J. N. McGee, and J. C. Gibson and Mr. J. A. Robertson.

(3) Recommend State Committees to co-operate, as far as possible, with a view to effective work.

(4) Commend the Committee for its initial labours and the work generally to the interest and sympathy of the Church.

The motion was seconded by Mr. C. McKinnon, and approved.

The War.

46. The Rev. Dr. Rentoul moved the motion, of which he had given notice, and which is recorded in the Minutes of the Second Sederunt.

The motion was seconded by Professor Macintyre, and unanimously approved.

It was agreed to send a copy of the motion to the Imperial Government.

Home  
Missions.

47. The consideration of the Report on Home Missions was resumed.

The amendment of the Rev. D. A. Cameron was approved in the following form:—

“(8) Whereas this Assembly recognises the great value of the Home Mission work done by the Western Australian Presbyterian Church, being as it is truly foundational, but also realises the need of more agents and larger funds being available for the enlarging of the Church’s life and giving it power to meet the present situation as it exists in Western Australia—it suggests to the Western Australian Church to consider if it would transfer to Victoria for a period of five years the administration of its Home Mission field, and to the Victorian Church if it would undertake this duty of administration; and, further, if the Western Australian Assembly consents to the transference, it suggest to the Victorian Assembly to appoint two of its members, preferably from the Victorian Mission Committee, to act as Commissioners of the General Assembly of Australia to secure all needful information, with instructions to draw up with the Victorian Home Mission Committee a plan setting forth a possible mode of carrying on the work, such plan to be submitted for final consideration to the next meeting of the General Assembly.”

The motion as amended was approved.

From paragraph (8) of the motion the Rev. Dr. Burgess dissented for the following reasons:—(1) That the Church in Western Australia has not indicated any desire to transfer the control of any of its Home

Mission work to another section of the Church; and (2) That the clause comes very close to being an infringement of the autonomy provided for in Article XI. of the Deed of Union.

**48.** The Report of the Committee on the Reception of Ministers was submitted by the Rev. A. McKinlay, who moved:—

Reception of  
Ministers.

(1) That the Report be received.

(2) That, in view of the fact that the Presbyterial certificate is not wholly satisfactory, the petition of the Rev. Andrew Goodall lie on the table in the meantime, and that the Committee be instructed to make further enquiry, especially in Scotland, and, if these reports are thoroughly satisfactory, that the Committee be empowered to deal finally with the petition.

(3) That the prayer of the Petition of the Rev. T. Worsley Maguire be granted.

(4) That the prayer of the Petition of the Rev. John Yates be not granted.

(5) That the prayer of the Petition of the Rev. Arthur Wall be granted.

(6) That the prayer of the Petition of Mr. John Fairley be not granted.

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. D. A. Cameron, and seconded by the Rev. A. Dunn:—

“That the following words be added to the paragraph relative to the Rev. A. Wall:—‘And that his past services be accepted in lieu of the usual year's probation.’”

The amendment was approved.

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. Chas. Neville, and seconded by Mr. J. S. Darton —

“ That the word ‘not’ be omitted from the paragraph relative to Mr. John Fairley, and the following words added—‘ provided that the petitioner be required to attend Ormond College for three years without taking Hebrew and Greek.’ ”

The amendment was rejected.

The motion as amended was approved.

**49.** The Assembly adjourned, to meet to-morrow at 10 a.m., which, having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

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#### SIXTH SEDERUNT.

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*At Brisbane, and within St. Andrew's Church, Creek street, the  
26th day of September, 1914, at 10 a.m.*

**50.** The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted with reading the Scripture and prayer.

**51.** The Minutes of the fourth and fifth Sederunt were confirmed.

Roll.

**52.** The Report of the Committee relative to the Roll was submitted by the Clerk.

The Report is as follows:—“ The Committee recommend that the names of the Rev. F. W. Rolland and the Rev. George Paul be removed from the list of representatives of the State Assembly of Victoria; that the name of the Rev. G. A. Lee be removed from the list of representatives of the Goulburn Valley and the name of the Rev. George Paul substituted for it; that the Finance Board be instructed to pay those whose names are removed from the roll the allowance granted to members of Assembly.”



The Report was approved, the Roll amended, and the Finance Board instructed in terms thereof.

The Roll as amended was approved.

**53.** The Overture from the Presbytery of Melbourne North relative to Spiritual Independence was discharged, as no one appeared to support it. Spiritual  
Independence.

**54.** The Overtures from the General Assembly of New South Wales and the Presbytery of Melbourne South were introduced, and were supported by the Rev. Professor Macintyre and the Rev. George Tait.

It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Rentoul, and seconded by Mr. W. Sanderson—"That the Overture be dismissed."

The debate was adjourned. 74

**55.** The Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn gave notice of his intention, when the "Communication from the World's Conference on Faith and Order" is before the House, to move:— World's  
Conference on  
Faith and  
Order.

"The Assembly gives a cordial welcome to the communication bearing on the World's Conference on Faith and Order. It expresses its interest in the matter with which it deals, and its willingness to co-operate in any way found practicable in furthering the end in view. It agrees to remit the communication to the Committee on the Federation of Churches, and instructs it to take any such steps in the matter as may seem advisable, and report to the next meeting of the General Assembly."

**56.** The Assembly adjourned, to meet on Monday, the 28th, at 10 a.m., which having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

## SEVENTH SEDERUNT.

*At Brisbane, and within St. Andrew's Church, Creek street, on  
Monday, the 28th day of September, 1914, at 10 a.m.*

**57.** The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted with reading the Scripture and prayer.

**58.** The minutes of the Sixth Sederunt were confirmed.

## Public Questions.

**59.** The Rev. Dr. Rentoul gave notice of his intention to move the following addition to the Deliverance on the Report of the Committee on Public Questions:—

“(3) The Assembly approves of the action of the Convener and Executive in having an Address of Welcome presented to their Excellencies Sir Ronald C. Munro Ferguson and Lady Helen Munro Ferguson on their arrival in Australia, when Sir Ronald entered upon his high functions as Governor-General of the Commonwealth. The Assembly now renews, and with special emphasis at this time of national anxiety and sacrifice, its expression, through the Governor-General, of the unswerving loyalty of the Presbyterian Church and people of Australia to the British Throne and Empire; and its earnest hope that their Excellencies' term of distinguished office in Australia may be attended with all happiness and prosperity.”

**60.** It was agreed to print and distribute Rules 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of the Rules relative to Spiritual Independence.

## Baptism.

**61.** The Overture relative to Baptism was introduced by the Rev. Professor Macintyre.

It was moved by the Rev. Professor Macintyre and seconded by the Rev. John Walker:

" That the Assembly, in view of the fact that in many parts of the Commonwealth it is not meantime possible to obtain the services of an ordained Minister of the Word, hereby authorise as a temporary administrative arrangement to meet such need and until such need be supplied that Home Missionaries who have passed the first examination of the Home Mission Course and other experienced Home Missionaries who are specially authorised by their State Assembly, Students in Theology, and Licentiates, acting as Home Missionaries, be empowered to administer the Sacrament of Baptism according to the rules of the Church, under the following conditions:—

" (1) That they be specially authorised to do so by the Presbytery of the bounds in those cases where it is clear to the Presbytery that an ordained Minister of the Word is not ordinarily available for such purpose.

" (2) That those exercising this function shall straightway report the details of each case of Baptism to the Interim Moderator, or, if there be no Interim Moderator, to the Clerk of the Presbytery, or, in the case of the Australian Inland Mission, to the Convener of the Committee, which Committee of the Australian Inland Mission shall, for the authorisation of the Sacrament of Baptism, have the same powers as a Presbytery.

" (3) That the power conferred upon Home Missionaries or Students in Theology be exercised only in the district for which it is given, and only so long as those authorised are acting on behalf of the Church in such district.

" That the Assembly send down to State Assemblies and Presbyteries these conditions as a Remit; and, further, since these conditions, if approved, seem to involve a change in the Confession of Faith, send down as a Remit, under Articles III. and IV. of the Basis of Union, that an addition be made to the Confession (Chap. 27, Sec. 4), so that it shall read:—

" There be only two Sacraments ordained by Christ our Lord in the Gospel; that is to say, Baptism and the Supper of the Lord, neither of which may be dispensed by any but a

*Approved  
1906*

*Section*

Minister of the Word, lawfully ordained (saving where the General Assembly has made special provision to the contrary that the people of God may not be left without these sealing ordinances).”

*revised  
1916*

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. Dr. Rentoul, and seconded by Mr. D. McMillan:—

“That the words ‘who have received ordination as Elders’ be inserted in the motion, after the words ‘acting as Home Missionaries.’”

*revised by State  
Committee & Synod  
1916*

The amendment was approved.

The motion, as amended, was approved.

**Deputations.**

**62.** The Revs. R. Stewart and G. E. Rowe, deputies from the Methodist Conference, Rev. James Mursell, Wm. Bell, and Mr. I. Spence Irvine, deputies from the Baptist Association of Queensland, the Revs. W. N. Gunson, A. E. West, W. A. Gann, and Messrs. G. F. Scott and P. McLean, deputies from the Congregational Union, were introduced by the Convener of the Business Committee, and welcomed by the Moderator.

The Revs. R. Stewart, James Mursell, and W. N. Gunson addressed the House.

It was moved by the Rev. Professor Macintyre and seconded by the Rev. Professor Skene.

“That the Assembly receive with much appreciation the Christian greetings of the Methodist Church, the Baptist Church, and the Congregational Church in Queensland, and reciprocate very cordially the brotherly love expressed by the honoured delegates from these Churches.”

The motion was unanimously approved.

**College  
Committee.**

**63.** The Report of the College Committee was submitted by the Rev. John Mathew, who moved:—

That the Assembly receive the Report and thank the Committee, and especially the Conveners, the Secretary, and the Examiners; authorise the Committee to admit Mr. Nicol as a candidate to the Entrance Examination; emphasise the importance of a knowledge of Greek as a preparation for the Ministry, and urge prospective Theological Students to take Greek as part of their University Course; recommend State Assemblies to arrange for tutorial assistance for Home Mission students in the Preliminary Course, and especially in English; disapprove of trials for license being set before results of Exit Examination are published, except in specially urgent cases; instruct the Committee to consider the practicability of securing greater uniformity in the Theological Halls in respect of the order of subjects in the curriculum and the amount of time devoted to them, so that the Exit Students of the different Halls may sit simultaneously for the same examinations; with the view of encouraging Home Mission Students to take a University Course or part of one, the Assembly instruct the College Committee to revise the scheme for the training of Home Missionaries and recommend the State Assemblies respectively to raise funds to provide Pre-Matriculation Bursaries; and the Assembly also clothe the Committee with Assembly powers in respect of its own special work."

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Robert Steel and approved.

64. The Overture from the Presbytery of Townsville was introduced by the Rev. George Tulloch and Mr. Alex. Grant.

Overture  
from  
Presbytery of  
Townsville.

It was moved by the Rev. George Tulloch, and seconded by the Rev. A. M. Mackillop:—

"That the Assembly sustain the Overture; appoint a representative Committee of this Assembly forthwith, to meet at the close of this Sederunt, for the purpose of conferring on the questions raised in the Overture with a view to finding a solution of the problem, the Committee to report to this Assembly to-morrow morning.

The motion was approved, and the following Committee appointed:—

Revs. Professor Rentoul, John Mathew, W. H. Cooper, John Barnaby, John Walker, Dr. Burgess, J. T. Lawton, Jas. Gibson, T. Gray, Professor Skene, John Flynn, W. F. Turton, W. F. Shannon, Grant Tulloch (Convener).

Theological  
Curriculum.

65. The Report of the Committee on the Theological Curriculum was submitted by the Rev. John Mathew, who moved:—

“ That the Assembly receive the Report and thank the Committee, and especially the Convener, also thank the representatives of the various colleges who so courteously supplied information; resolve to aim at having four Professors in each Theological Hall at as early a date as possible, the Chairs being arranged as follows:—(1) Theology and Apologetics, (2) Old Testament—Language, Literature, and Criticism, (3) New Testament—Language, Literature, and Criticism, (4) Church History, Christian Ethics, and Practical Training; also, that lectures be provided for, if practicable, in the following subjects, or such of them as are not already dealt with, viz:—Social Problems, Education, Missions, and the Comparative Study of Religions, including Philosophy and History of Religion; instruct the College Committee to keep in view the affording of facilities for specialization in certain studies with a view to preparation for special work, and to consider the advisability of either adding another term to each session or extending the course by one year, and report to next Assembly.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. W. Gray and approved.

Overture  
anent  
Article III.

66. Dr. Burgess gave notice of his intention, at a future Sederunt, to move:—

“ That the following Overture be adopted and remitted to State Assemblies and Presbyteries, with instructions to report to next Assembly:—

“ Overture anent Article III.:

“ It is hereby overtured to the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to enact Article III. of the Articles of Agreement in the Deed of Union in the following amended form:—

“III. The General Assembly shall be representative, and shall consist of an equal number of Ministers and Elders, elected as hereinafter provided.

“Each State Assembly shall elect one Minister and one Elder for every sixteen sanctioned charges or portion thereof within its bounds. A State Assembly may elect an alternate or alternates to take the place of a member or members who may be unable to attend, provided that any such change is certified by the Clerk of the State Assembly to the Clerk of the General Assembly prior to the opening of the General Assembly.

“Each Presbytery shall elect one Minister and one Elder for every five sanctioned charges or portion thereof within its bounds. A Presbytery may accept the resignation of a member or members who may be unable to attend, and elect another member or members, provided that any such change is certified by the Clerk of Presbytery to the Clerk of the General Assembly prior to the opening of the General Assembly.”

67. The Rev. John Walker gave notice of his intention, at a future Sederunt, to move:—

Sabbath  
Observance.

“That the General Assembly is constrained to reiterate its concern regarding the growing secularisation in many directions of the Lord's Day. It, therefore, earnestly calls upon its Ministers, Office-bearers, and people to recognise the seriousness of this matter, and to do all in their power, by precept and example, to arrest this evil in all parts of the Commonwealth.

“As secularisation of the Lord's Day and neglect of Public Worship are strongly inimical to the religious life of individuals and of the community, the General Assembly earnestly appeals to every one of the members of the Church to do all in their power to reduce Sunday labour in their homes and within the circle of their influence, and to use fearlessly their power as citizens in opposing all extension of, and in seeking to steadily reduce Sunday trading and Sunday amusements.

"The General Assembly also appeals to all the members and adherents of the Church throughout Australia to give regular attendance, with their families, upon the services of the Church, and to firmly resist all social engagements which are inimical to regular Public Worship."

**68.** The Assembly adjourned, to meet at 7.30 p.m., which, having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

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#### EIGHTH SEDERUNT

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*At Brisbane, and within St. Andrew's Church, Creek street, on Monday, 28th September, 1914, at 7.30 p.m.*

**69.** The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was duly constituted with reading the Scripture and prayer.

**70.** The Report of the Business Committee was approved.

Ballot.

**71.** The Report on the Ballot was submitted by the Rev. C. A. White.

It was agreed to remit the Report to a Committee, consisting of the Selection Committee and the Scrutineers, to consider the questions raised in the Report and with authority to send in nominations where State Assemblies have failed to make them.

Dr. Swcyn  
Macqueen.

**72.** Professor Macintyre intimated to the Assembly the serious illness of the Rev. Dr. Swcyn Macqueen, and moved:—

"That the Assembly send expression of its prayerful sympathy to Rev. Dr. Macqueen in his sore sickness and to Mrs. Macqueen and family.



The motion was seconded by the Rev. Dr. Rentoul and unanimously approved.

**73.** The Report on Statistics was submitted by the Rev. G. A. Gordon, who moved:—

Statistics.

“ That the Assembly receive the Report; authorise the Finance Committee to arrange for the issue of Forms of Statistical Returns; enjoin upon Clerks of State Assemblies the duty of furnishing this Committee with necessary information, not later than 30th June, 191 .

The motion was seconded by the Rev W. Gray.

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. George Tait, and seconded by the Rev. C. A. Talbot:—

“ That the words ‘ Clerks of State Assemblies ’ be omitted, with the view to inserting the words ‘ Conveners of the Statistical Committees of the various States.’ ”

The amendment was approved.

The proposed words were inserted and the motion as amended approved.

**74.** The consideration of the Overtures relative to Spiritual Independence was resumed. It was moved as an amendment by Professor Macintyre:—

Spiritual  
Independence.

p 49

— 54

“ That the word ‘ dismissed ’ be omitted in order to insert ‘ sustained ’; and that the following words be omitted from the Rules regarding Spiritual Freedom:— ‘ But nothing in these Rules shall debar or hinder an application or appeal to the Civil Court, or any action brought seeking redress for Civil wrong done by such removal from office or position or by loss of emolument due to unconstitutional procedure on the part of the Church Court or Courts in departure from the Church’s own Rules and Forms of procedure, if in violation of the Consensual Compact implied in the relation of the Church’s office-bearers to the Church’s Courts and Constitution.’ ”

The competency of the amendment was challenged.

The Moderator ruled that the amendment was competent.

The ruling of the Moderator was challenged by Dr. Rentoul.

The House approved of the Moderator's ruling.

The Rev. Professor Macintyre then moved his amendment.

The motion was seconded by Mr. A. G. Proudfoot.

The amendment was approved.

The proposed word was inserted in the motion; and the words quoted omitted from the Rules.

The motion as amended was approved.

The Rev. Dr. Rentoul gave in his dissent from this decision for the following reasons:—

(1) Because the confusion urged against the Rules as adopted by the Assembly of 1912, if it exist at all, is due, not in any way to Rule 6, which protects the liberties of Ministers and Elders from possible injustice caused by "unconstitutional procedure on the part of the Church Court or Courts, in departure from the Church's own Rules and Forms of Procedure or in violation of the consensual compact implied in the relation of the Church's Office-bearers to the Church's Courts and Constitution." The confusion, if any, ought not to be urged against Rule 6, which is clear and explicit, and was carried by a larger majority than Rule 5. The contradiction or confusion, if any, is wholly due to the internal construction and faulty phraseology of Rule 5, made up, as it was, of two separate Rules welded in debate together.

(2) Without Rule 6 the language and principle of the first and main part of Rule 5, declaring, as it does, that "no one shall be debarred by these Rules from raising an action for civil damages for an alleged infringement of his civil rights," would be futile and impotent—a verbal show of liberty without reality of redress for civil wrong.

(3) The right ensured by Rule 6—the right, namely, of seeking “redress for civil wrong done by removal from office or position, or by loss of emolument through unconstitutional procedure on the part of Church Courts,” is a right so inherent in the principles of human justice and in the common law of citizenship, while the refusal of it is so palpable a violation of ethics and of the consensual compact on which office in the Presbyterian Church has hitherto been accepted and enjoyed, that the rescinding of Rule 6, which secured that right, seems to me wholly contrary to the spirit of modern and Christian liberties, civil and spiritual. It asserts a claim of final authority for the Church’s decisions, even in the case of violation of its own Rules, which I have been accustomed to associate only with the claim of absolutism of the Church of Rome.

The following joined in this dissent for the reasons given:—

Revs. A. Stewart, W. Gray, George Chalmers, R. M. Fergus, J. McIntyre, A. H. Fletcher, H. O’Sullivan, R. Jones, A. S. M. Lusted, T. V. Charlton, F. C. Vickerman, Messrs. H. Hopkins, Chas. Blair, Chas. Mackinnon, R. Crowther, J. M. Bryant, R. McKenzie.

**75.** The Rev. R. Scott West gave notice of his intention, at a future Sederunt, to move:—

“That the Assembly rejoices at the institution and success of the Presbyterian Men’s League, cordially commends the League and its objects to the men of the Church in the hope that the work of the League may be of great service to the Church.”

Presbyterian  
Men’s  
League.

**76.** The Assembly adjourned, to meet to-morrow at 10 a.m., which, having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

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#### NINTH SEDERUNT.

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*At Brisbane, and within St. Andrew’s Church, Creek street, on  
Tuesday, the 29th September, 1914, at 10 a.m.*

**77.** The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted with reading the Scripture and prayer.

78. The minutes of the Seventh and Eighth Sederunts were confirmed.

Deputation  
from  
Congress on  
Union.

79. The Revs. Dr. Youngman, Jas. Mursell, George Tait, A. N. Gunson, and Messrs. W. R. Smith, A. G. Thompson, deputies from the Congress on Union of Churches, were welcomed by the Moderator, and the Revs. Dr. Youngman and Jas. Mursell addressed the House.

It was moved by the Rev. Professor Macintyre, and seconded by Dr. Meiklejohn:—

“That the Assembly receive with gratification the delegates from the Congress on the Union of Churches, and express the pleasure with which it has heard the addresses from these brethren, and cordially join with them in seeking unitedly the advancement of the Kingdom of our one Lord and Saviour, and trust that all branches of the Christian Church may more and more dwell together in unity and brotherly love.”

The motion was unanimously approved.

World's  
Conference on  
Faith and  
Order.

79A. The communication from the “World's Conference on Faith and Order” was submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee.

The Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn moved the motion of which he had given notice, and which is recorded in Minute 55 of the Sixth Sederunt.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Board of  
Finance.

80. The Report of the Board of Finance was submitted by Mr. W. G. Crane, who moved:—

“(1) That the Report be received.

“(2) Authorise the payment of the expenses of members travelling to the Assembly, on the same basis as formerly, namely:—That members attending the General Assembly in 1916 have the following percentages of their travelling expenses (calculated upon the basis of second-class railway and steamer fares at the reduced rate allowed

by the railway and steamship companies) paid by the Church, viz.:—  
(a) Those paying less than £1, nothing; (b) those paying from £1 to £4, to receive half; (c) those paying from £4 upwards, to receive three-quarters, provided that no one in class (b) shall pay less than £1 himself, and no one in class (c) less than £2.

“(3) Resolve that the honorarium to the Moderator be £50 per annum, and to the Clerk of Assembly £30.

“(4) Authorise the assessment for General Assembly's expenses on the following basis, namely:—New South Wales, £76 10s.; Victoria, £76 10s.; Queensland, £22 10s.; South Australia, £12 10s.; Tasmania, £12 10s.; Western Australia, £12 10s.

“(5) Authorise the transfer of the sum of £39 2s. at credit of the account for Bush Work in Australia to the credit of the Home Mission General Revenue Account.

“(6) Authorise the payment to the Treasurership Committee of the New South Wales Church, as acting Treasurer, of 2 per cent. for collection upon all revenues from all funds, with the exception of contributions for capital; this charge to be retrospective for the past two years.

“(7) That the Assembly again recommend congregations throughout the Church to adopt the Church Hymnary and the abridged Hymnary where practicable.

“(8) That the Finance Committee be authorised to pay the amount outstanding for the Year Book for 1913 and 1914, amounting to £47 16s. 8d. out of the General Assembly Expenses Fund.”

The motion was seconded by Mr. John Kirkland.

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. A. Stewart and seconded by Mr. J. S. Darton:—

“That clause (6) be referred back to the Finance Board for further consideration, and to take the whole finance of the General Assembly into account.”

The amendment was rejected.

It was moved by the Rev. John Walker and seconded by Mr. A. G. Proudfoot:—

“ That the following paragraph be inserted as paragraph 8:—

“ That State Assemblies be requested to obtain royalties from the publishers of ‘ Church Praise ’ on all copies sold in such States; and further request that such royalties be paid to the Finance Board of the General Assembly towards meeting the travelling expenses of Delegates to the General Assembly.”

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved.

It was moved by the Rev. A. Stewart and seconded by Mr. W. Wood:—

Board of  
Missions.

“ Authorise the Board of Missions to pay 2 per cent. on the revenue of the Board to meet the services rendered to the Board in Melbourne, Brisbane, and Perth.”

The motion was approved.

**81.** According to notice the Rev. J. Kemp Bruce moved:—

Book of  
Common  
Order.

“ That a Committee be appointed to prepare and submit to the next General Assembly the draft of a Book of Common Order for the guidance of Ministers, Licentiates, and Lay Preachers, without expense to the Assembly.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. J. Mathew, approved, and the following Committee appointed in terms thereof:—

Revs. Jas. Gibson, J. B. Galloway, Professor Macintyre, A. McKinley, J. Kemp Bruce, Professor Skene, J. Mathew, Dr. Rentoul, T. Tait, F. E. Oxer, J. Heyer, R. Scott West (Convener).

**82.** The Report of the Scrutineers was submitted by the Rev. C. A. White. Scrutineers.

The Report was approved and ordered to be printed.

The following were appointed Assessors:—Revs. J. Barnaby, D. M. Cameron, W. Gray, R. Steel, C. A. White. Assessors.

**83.** The Rev. Peter Robertson moved the motion of which he had given notice relative to the nomination of the Moderator, and which is recorded in the Minute of the Second Sederunt. Nomination of Moderator.

The motion was seconded by Dr. Meiklejohn, approved, and the following Committee appointed in terms thereof:—The Moderator, Revs. Dr. Meiklejohn, Dr. Rentoul, J. H. Terras, A. M. McKillop, P. Robertson (Convener).

**84.** The Report on the Year Book was submitted by the Rev. John Barnaby, who moved:— Year Book.

“ That the Assembly receive the Report, and thank contributors for information forwarded; place on record appreciation of the labours of the editor, Rev. W. M. M. Alexander, express sympathy with him in his present illness, and hope he may soon be restored to health; instruct the Committee to arrange for the publication of two annual issues, and that the cost of the publication be arranged for in whole or in part by the Year Book Committee by making a charge or by some other method, any balance not realised to be paid by the Finance Board; urge the Conveners of the Statistic Committees in the several States to forward all necessary information on or before 30th November, 1914.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. R. W. McLean.

It was moved, as an amendment, by Mr. W. Wood, and seconded by Mr. W. G. Crane:—

“ That Clause 3 of the motion be omitted, with the view of inserting the words ‘ order that the publication of the Year Book cease.’ ”

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved.

**Federation of  
Churches.**

85. The Report on the Federation of Churches was submitted by the Rev. J. Mathew, who moved:—

“That the Assembly receive the Report and thank the Committee, and specially the Convener.

“Instruct the Committee to submit the ‘Proposed Basis of Doctrine and Scheme of Polity’ as now amended to the representatives of the Methodist and Congregational Churches authorised to negotiate.

“If the Supreme Courts of the other Churches are willing, authorise the Joint Committee to send down the proposed ‘Basis of Doctrine and Scheme of Polity,’ as now amended with the general approval of the Assembly, to the lower Courts and congregations of the three denominations concerned with this question:—

“Are you willing that a union should be brought about between the Presbyterian, Methodist, and Congregational Churches on the basis of this statement of doctrine and scheme of polity, provided that suitable arrangements can be made and legislative Acts obtained to safeguard the property interests of congregations and denominations in a united Church?—‘Yes’ or ‘No.’

“The Committee to report result to next meeting of General Assembly.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. George Tait.

It was moved, as an amendment, by the Rev. Dr. Burgess, and seconded by the Rev. T. Shanks:—

“That all the words after the word ‘Convener’ be omitted, with view of inserting the words:—

“That this Assembly, while recognising the other negotiating Churches as true branches of the One Holy Catholic Church, and while it is willing to co-operate with them in the advancement of the Kingdom of Christ on earth, hereby resolve to inform the other Churches that in the judgment of this Assembly the negotiations towards union should cease for the present.”



The amendment was rejected, 41 voting for and 42 against.

The vote in favour of the motion was 41 and the vote against 41.

The Moderator gave his casting vote in favour of the motion, and the motion was approved.

**86.** The Report of the Committee relative to the Overture from the Presbytery of Townsville was submitted by the Rev. George Tulloch. The Report is as follows:—

Overture  
from  
Presbytery of  
Townsville.

(1) That a Committee be appointed with Executives in the several States.

(2) That the Committee be instructed to endeavour to secure Ministers and Home Missionaries for North Queensland; to arrange for representations to be made to the Students of the several Theological Halls in the Commonwealth and United Kingdom; to place the facts contained in the Overture from the Townsville Presbytery before the State Assemblies of Victoria and New South Wales and to submit to them the question of giving assistance by men and money through their Home Mission Departments.

(3) That in the event of the Rev. George Tulloch visiting the United Kingdom next year, he be commissioned to advocate in the Colleges and Assemblies the special claims of Australia.

(4) That the following be the Committee:—Revs. Professor Macintyre, J. T. Lawton, A. S. McCook, G. A. Gordon (Convener New South Wales Sub-Committee), James Gibson, J. B. Galloway, R. Kerr (Convener Queensland Sub-Committee), John Walker, J. Barnaby, J. Sinclair (Convener Victorian Sub-Committee), W. Gray, T. Tait (Convener South Australian Sub-Committee), W. F. Shannon, W. F. Turton (Convener West Australian Sub-Committee), Professor Skene (Convener).

The Report was approved.

Overture  
from West  
Australia.

**87.** The Overture from West Australia relative to Candidates for the Ministry was introduced by the Rev. W. F. Turton.

The Rev. W. F. Turton moved and the Rev. W. F. Shannon seconded:—

“That the Assembly sustain the Overture, and remit the matter contained therein to the Committee appointed in connection with the Townsville Overture, with the recommendation that Committees on Candidates for the Ministry be formed, with a view to bringing the claims of the Home, Inland, and Foreign Service of the Church before the Senior Scholars of the Secondary Schools and Sunday Schools, and Students at the Colleges connected with the Universities.”

The motion was approved.

College  
Committee  
Petitions.

**88.** The Report of the College Committee on the Petitions referred to them was submitted by the Rev. J. Mathew.

The Petition of Mr. S. Robertson was not granted, but it was agreed that when he has passed the Entrance Examination and proceeds with the Theological Hall Course, if he is unable to reside in Sydney for health reasons, his case should be favourably considered by the College Committee.

The Petition of Mr. Hugh Morris was granted on condition that he remains at least five years in South Australia.

The Petition of Mr. James Raff was granted on condition that he attend lectures on Theology, Church History, Apologetics, and English Bible in the Theological Hall for one year.

The Petition of Mr. G. T. Lee was not granted.

The Petition of Mr. W. A. Thompson was granted.

**89.** The Rev. Barnaby moved the motion relative to Home Missions, and which is recorded in the Minutes of the Fourth Sederunt. Home  
Mission  
Students.

The motion was seconded and approved.

**90.** The Rev. Professor Macintyre gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move:— Biblical  
Instruction in  
Public  
Schools.

“That the Assembly reiterates its profound sense of the importance of Biblical Instruction in the Public Schools of those States where this privilege is granted and urges all our Ministers in those States to take full advantage of this opportunity, conscious, as the Assembly is, of the value of such work. At the same time, it would encourage all its faithful people in the other States to persevere in the effort to obtain a similar privilege so that in every School in the Commonwealth the Word of God may be taught and Christian instruction given.”

**91.** The Assembly adjourned, to meet at 8 p.m., which, having having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

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#### TENTH SEDERUNT.

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*At Brisbane, and within St. Andrew's Church, Creek street, on  
Tuesday, the 29th September, 1914, at 8 p.m.*

**92.** The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted with reading the Scripture and prayer.

**93.** According to arrangement, addresses on various aspects of Foreign Mission Work were delivered by the Revs. A. Stewart (Convener of the Board of Missions) and Edwin Brown, of Weipa, and Mr. James Allan, M.L.A., and Mr. Dan Crawford, African Missionary. Foreign  
Mission  
Demonstra-  
tion.

On the motion of Professor Macintyre, the warmest thanks of the Assembly were given to the speakers.

**94.** The Assembly adjourned, to meet to-morrow at 10 a.m., which, having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt closed with prayer.

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ELEVENTH SEDERUNT.

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*At Brisbane, and within St. Andrew's Church, Creek street, on  
Wednesday, the 30th September, 1914, at 10 a.m.*

**95.** The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted with reading the Scripture and prayer.

Limitation of  
speeches.

**96.** It was agreed that all speeches be limited to 10 minutes, except the opening speech on the Report on Public Questions, for which 20 minutes be allowed.

Home  
Mission  
Committee.

**97.** The names of the Revs. A. J. Wade and J. A. R. Perkins were added to the Sectional Committee of New South Wales, recorded in Minute 38.

Mr. W. S.  
Park.

**98.** The Assembly recorded a special vote of thanks to Mr. W. S. Park for his great services to the Board of Missions and other Missionary enterprises of the Church.

Reception of  
Ministers'  
Committee.

**99.** The Reception of Ministers' Committee was authorised to deal finally with the Petition of the Rev. W. Rowlands.

Communica-  
tion from  
New  
Zealand.

**100.** The communication from the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand relative to Peace was submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee.

**101.** The Rev. T. H. Shallberg moved the motion relative to the communication of which he had given notice, and which is recorded in the minute of the First Sederunt.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. James Gibson, and approved.

**102.** The Report of the Committee on Public Questions was submitted by the Rev. Dr. Rentoul, who moved:—

Public  
Questions.

“(1) The Assembly receives the Report with thanks to the Committee and especially the Convener.

“(2) The Assembly expresses its warm appreciation of the Moderatorial tours of the Convener (Dr. Rentoul) through Tasmania and South Australia, and notes with gratification the broadening and deepening life of Presbyterianism in those States. It draws attention to the urgent need of an increased supply of Ministers in West Australia.

“(3) The Assembly approves of the action of the Convener and Executive in having an Address of Welcome presented to their Excellencies Sir Ronald C. Munro Ferguson and Lady Helen Munro Ferguson on their arrival in Australia, when Sir Ronald entered upon his high functions as Governor-General of the Commonwealth. The Assembly now renews, and with special emphasis at this time of national anxiety and sacrifice, its expression, through the Governor-General, of the unswerving loyalty of the Presbyterian Church and people of Australia to the British Throne and Empire; and its earnest hope that their Excellencies' term of distinguished office in Australia may be attended with all happiness and prosperity.

“(4) The Assembly approves and commends the watchful diligence of the Convener and Executive Committee in connection with the new Military Regulations for the appointment and oversight of Chaplains to the Military Forces and in their efforts to unify and systematise the Church's selection and spiritual oversight of its

Chaplains, and the care for the religious interests of the troops and trainees. The Assembly recommends that, in any cases where this has not been already done, a strong Committee on Military and Naval Affairs be appointed by each State Assembly, the non-Military (non-Chaplain) members to preponderate in number in such Committee.

“(5) The Assembly recommends that each year the State Assemblies shall notify to the Commandant of the Military District the name of the Clergyman who is to be Senior Chaplain of such Military District.

“(6) The Assembly approves the appointment made by the Moderator and Executive Committee of the Rev. E. N. Merrington, M.A., Ph.D., Brisbane, Q., and the Rev. J. C. McPhee, Adelaide, S.A., as Chaplains to the Australian Imperial Expeditionary Force; and thanks the Convener (Dr. Rentoul) for his watchful efforts in this matter to secure the Church's interests.

“(7) The Assembly expresses its deep disappointment and surprise at the refusal of the Defence Department to supply adequate Chaplains to the troop-ships which shall convey the Expeditionary Force to the old land. In view of the gallant self-sacrifice of parents and of sons, this refusal seems unworthy, as it is unwise, as regards the highest interest of the Force.

“(8) The Assembly sanctions, in communication with Civil and Government Authorities, the brief designation of the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Australia as ‘Moderator-General.’

“(9) The Assembly appoints the following as members of the Public Questions, Religion, and Morals Committee, with the Moderator as Convener:—

“Revs. Dr. Rentoul, W. S. Rolland, David Ross, Alex. Stewart, John Barnaby, F. H. L. Paton, R. W. Macaulay, J. A. Crockett, A. Yule, A. J. Wade, J. T. Lawton, C. A. White, John

Gillies, T. Tait, J. H. Angus, J. Heyer, Thos. Shanks, Wm. Gray, J. R. Fiddian, J. S. Buntine, W. H. Steele, Richard Kerr, James Gibson, W. C. Radcliffe, with Professor Rennie, Messrs. R. K. Gillespie, W. S. Greenwood, K. McNab, D. MacMillan, Wm. Gray, T. W. Fleming, G. Kerr, J. H. Beatson, W. G. Crane.

At this stage the consideration of the Report was deferred.

**103.** The Report of the Committee on Naval and Military Affairs was received.

Naval and  
Military  
Affairs.

It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Rentoul:—

“(1) That the Assembly recommend the State Assemblies to nominate the Naval Chaplains to the Ports and Colleges within their several bounds.

“(2) That the Assembly approve of the Right Rev. the Moderator, during his term of office, acting as the Representative of the Presbyterian Church of Australia on the Committee for the Nomination of Protestant Chaplains to the Royal Australian Navy. To him shall also belong the function of validating the nominations of shore Chaplains (R.A.N.R.) in ports and Colleges as provided in Clause (1).

“(3) That the Assembly appoint the Victorian members of the Committee the Executive.”

The motion was seconded.

It was moved, as an amendment, by the Rev. Prof. Macintyre, and seconded by the Rev. T. G. Auld:—“That all the words of Clause (2), after the words ‘That the Assembly,’ be omitted, with a view of inserting the words:—

“Appoint the Committee as follows:—The Chaplaincy Committees in the various States, with the addition of Prof.

Rentoul as Convener, and as such Chaplain-General; and that intimation of the appointment to this office be made to the Naval and Military authorities."

The amendment was approved.

The motion, as amended, was approved.

It was agreed to amend the Report of the Committee on Naval and Military Affairs by striking out the four last sentences of paragraph 2.

**104.** The consideration of the Report on Public Questions was resumed.

It was moved, as an amendment, by the Rev. A. McKillop, and seconded by the Rev. R. Kerr:—"That all the words after the word 'Assembly,' in Clause 8, be omitted, with the view of inserting the words:—

"Refer the question of the designation of the Moderator of the General Assembly of Australia to the Committee, appointed in terms of Minute 83 of this Session of Assembly, with instructions to report to next meeting of Assembly."

The amendment was rejected.

It was moved as a further amendment by Dr. Burgess, and seconded by the Rev. A. McKillop:—"That Clause 8 be omitted."

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved.

The Revs. Dr. Burgess, James Gibson, A. M. Mackillop, and W. Chisholm dissented from Clause 8.



**104A.** The Capital Sites Committee was reappointed as follows:—  
Revs. Professor Macintyre (Convener), Dr. Rentoul, Wm. Borland,  
P. J. Murdoch, J. Sinclair, W. S. Rolland, Macaulay Caldwell, John  
Ferguson, Robert Steel, A. J. Wade, C. E. James, with Messrs. W.  
Wood, J. H. Balfour, H. J. T. Walker, A. L. Pryde, D. MacMillan,  
J. M. Campbell, and the Hon. Thos. Brown and Dr. MacFarland.

**105.** The Committee on the Federation of Churches was reappointed, with the deletion of the name of the Rev. R. Thomson.

**106.** The Overture relative to a Theological Hall for Western  
Australia was introduced by the Rev. W. F. Turton.

Theological  
Hall for  
Western  
Australia.

It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Meiklejohn, and seconded by the  
Rev. J. Mathew:—

“That the Assembly sustain the Overture, express its sympathy  
with the brethren in Western Australia in view of the special difficulties  
they have to face in carrying on the work of the Church, and hope that  
the effort provided for in the Overture of securing and training men  
for the Ministry will be carried out to a successful issue; and that in  
the event of the proposed arrangements contained in the Overture being  
carried into effect, the Hall in Western Australia be recognised as one  
of the Theological Halls under the General Assembly.”

The motion was approved.

**107.** The Report on the Hymnal was submitted on behalf of the  
Convener by the Rev. John Mathew, who moved:—

“ (1) That the Report be received, and the special thanks of the  
Assembly be accorded to the Convener for his work.

“ (2) That the Assembly express its appreciation of the excellent  
manner in which the publisher has produced the Hymnal.

“(3) That the Assembly urge upon its Ministers, Sunday School Superintendents, and Office-bearers generally, to do all in their power to assist in getting the Hymnal into use.

“(4) That copies of this Report and Deliverance be struck off, and supplied to the Clerks of Presbyteries throughout Australia, and that each Presbytery be asked to appoint one of its members, or a Committee, to act on behalf of the Assembly in the interests of the Hymnal.

“(5) That the matter of a Supplement being added, consisting of about a dozen hymns suited for Kindergarten use, be referred to the Committee.

“(6) That the Committee be reappointed as follows:—Revs. Jas. Steele, M.A., C. Crane, C. H. Talbot, W. F. Turton, R. M. Fergus, M.A., J. Heyer, M.A., J. Lundie, B.A., W. S. Rolland, T. Shanks, M.A., J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc., W. C. Radcliffe, B.A., D. Macrae Stewart, T. J. Smith, M.A., John Walker, F. E. Ozer, M.A., B.D., John Mathew, M.A., B.D., C. A. White, B.A., W. H. Ash, M.A. (Convener), and Messrs. W. Wishart, L. Fraser, W. F. Greenwood, E. H. Hume, A. Jackson, J. MacIntyre, P. D. McCormack, G. A. Steel.”

The motion was seconded by Mr. John Breckenridge, and approved.

Overture  
anent  
Article III.

**108.** By leave of the House, the Rev. Dr. Burgess moved the motion relative to Article III. of the Deed of Union, of which he had given notice, in the following form:—

“That the following Overture be adopted and remitted to State Assemblies and Presbyteries, with instructions to report to next Assembly:—

“Overture anent Article III.:

"It is hereby overtured to the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to enact Article III. of the Articles of Agreement in the Deed of Union in the following amended form:—

"III. The General Assembly shall be representative, and shall consist of an equal number of Ministers and Elders, elected as hereinafter provided.

"Each State Assembly shall elect one Minister and one Elder for every sixteen sanctioned charges or portion thereof within its bounds. A State Assembly may elect an alternate or alternates to take the place of a member or members who may be unable to attend, provided that any such change is certified by the Clerk of the State Assembly to the Clerk of the General Assembly prior to the opening of the General Assembly.

"Each Presbytery shall elect one Minister and one Elder for every five sanctioned charges or portion thereof within its bounds. A Presbytery may accept the resignation of a member or members who may be unable to attend, and elect another member or members, or may appoint alternates as in the case of the State Assemblies, provided that any such change is certified by the Clerk of Presbytery to the Clerk of the General Assembly prior to the opening of the General Assembly."

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Professor Macintyre, and approved.

**109.** The communication from the State Assembly of Victoria, and the Report of the Commission relative to the Presbytery of Penola, were submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee.

Presbytery of  
Penola.

The Report was amended by striking out the inverted commas enclosing the words "to strenuously oppose the transference" and the words from "as they would have been asking" to the words "Presbytery meeting."

It was moved by the Rev. Professor Macintyre, and seconded by the Rev. W. Gray:—

“That the Report be received, and that in view of the opinion of the Presbytery no further steps be taken meantime in the matter.”

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. D. F. Brandt, and seconded by the Rev. George Tulloch:—“That all the words after the word ‘received’ be omitted, with the view of inserting the words ‘and the Commission reappointed.’”

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved, and the Commission discharged.

Presbyterian  
Men's League.

**110.** The Rev. R. Scott West moved the motion relative to the Men's League of which he had given notice, and which is recorded in Minute 75 of the Eighth Sederunt. The motion was seconded by the Rev. Professor Macintyre and approved.

Presbyterian  
Alliance.

**111.** By leave of the House, the motion relative to the Presbyterian Alliance was withdrawn, with a view to the having it considered at next General Assembly.

**112.** In the unavoidable absence of the Moderator, the Rev. Peter Robertson took the chair.

Marriage  
with  
deceased  
wife's sister.

**113.** The Returns on the Remit relative to Marriage with Deceased Wife's Sister were submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee.

The Remit was approved, and the proposed change made in the Confession of Faith.

**114.** The Returns on the Remit relative to the Tasmanian Deed of Union were submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee.

Tasmanian  
Deed of  
Union.

The Remit was approved.

**115.** The Returns relative to Rule 7 were received.

Rule 7 of  
Rules on  
Spiritual  
Independence.

**116.** The Report of the Code Committee was submitted by the Convener.

The Report was received.

It was moved, in accordance with the recommendation of the Report, by the Rev. George Tait, and seconded by the Rev. Dr. Burgess:—"That Rule 7 of the Rules on Spiritual Independence be approved and declared the law of the Church."

The motion was approved.

It was further moved, in accordance with the recommendation of the Report, by the Rev. George Tait, and seconded by the Rev. Dr. Burgess:—"That the following Overture be sent to State Assemblies and Presbyteries:—

Overture  
sent Rule 3  
of the Chapter  
on Discipline.

"That the following words be added to Rule 3 of the Chapter on Discipline, viz.:—

"Provided that nothing in this Rule shall be held to prevent or prejudice the exercise of the original jurisdiction of the General Assembly or any State Assembly."

The motion was approved.

**117.** The Report of the Committee relative to the nomination of the Moderator was submitted by the Rev. Peter Robertson.

The consideration of the Report was adjourned.

**118.** The Assembly adjourned, to meet at 7.30 p.m., which having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

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### TWELFTH SEDERUNT.

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*At Brisbane, and within St. Andrew's Church, Creek street, on  
Wednesday, 30th September, 1914, at 7.30 p.m.*

**119.** The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted with praise and prayer.

Nomination  
of the  
Moderator.

**120.** The consideration of the Report relative to the nomination of the Moderator. It was moved by the Rev. Peter Robertson:—

“That a circular letter shall be issued by the Moderator not later than the first day of February preceding the General Assembly asking for nominations; that not later than the fifteenth day of March he shall submit these names to the members of the Committee. If no name shall have received a majority of those voting, he shall resubmit the two names having the highest number of votes. The votes on these names to be in the hands of the Moderator by the first day of May. Intimation of the result to be made to the Minister nominated.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. John Walker and approved.

Federation of  
Churches.

**121.** The Rev. John Edwards was appointed Convener of the Committee on the Federation of Churches.

Petition from  
Presbytery of  
Hobart.

**122.** The Rev. George Tait submitted the Report of the Code Committee on the Petition from the Presbytery of Hobart.

It was agreed to receive the Report and transmit the opinion of the Procurator to the Presbytery of Hobart.

**123.** The Report relative to an Official Organ was submitted by the Rev. J. R. Fiddian, who moved:— Official  
Organ.

That the Assembly receive the Report; thank the Committee, and especially the Convener; recognise the desirability of having one organ which would reflect the full life of the Australian Church in all its departments under one cover; in view of present arrangements by contract in several States, suggest that Assemblies which are free to do so make a beginning by co-operating in the production of monthly Australian 'inset' that could also be used by the congregations at present running local monthly congregational papers; to this 'inset' such additional pages as might be necessary could be added for State or Congregation respectively; reappoint a Committee consisting of:—

Queensland:—Revs. J. Gibson (Convener for State), S. F. Hunter, J. Walker; Messrs. A. S. Lang and W. A. Morrow

Victoria:—Revs. T. J. Smith (Convener for State), H. Kelly, W. Goyen; Messrs. W. A. Sanderson and D. MacMillan

South Australia:—Revs. J. R. Fiddian, W. Gray, J. Gillies; Messrs. W. J. Angus and T. W. Fleming

West Australia:—Revs. D. Ross (Convener for State), A. Crow, W. F. Turton; Messrs. F. A. McMullen and J. F. Christie

New South Wales:—Revs. W. W. Watts (Convener for State), W. H. Ash, Angus King, Professor Macintyre, Mr. W. Wood.

Rev. J. R. Fiddian (Convener)

to go further into the matter and consider the general questions of Publicity and an Australian Publishing House.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. John Walker and approved.

Sabbath  
Observance.

**124.** By leave of the House, the Rev. John Walker moved the motion, relative to Sabbath Observance, of which he had given notice, in the following form:—

“That the General Assembly is constrained to reiterate its concern regarding the growing secularisation in many directions of the Lord’s Day. It, therefore, earnestly calls upon its Ministers, Office-bearers, and people to recognise the seriousness of this matter, and to do all in their power, by precept and example, to arrest this evil in all parts of the Commonwealth.

“As secularisation of the Lord’s Day, and neglect of Public Worship are strongly inimical to the religious life of individuals and of the community, the General Assembly earnestly appeals to all members of the Church to do their utmost to reduce Sunday labour in their homes and within the circle of their influence, and to use fearlessly their power as citizens in opposing all extension of, and in seeking to steadily reduce Sunday trading and Sunday amusements. Our Ministers and Office-bearers are also urged to unite with those of other Churches in this matter.

“The Editors of our Church papers are specially asked to give prominence to this Deliverance, and request all of our Ministers to read it to their Congregations throughout the whole Commonwealth.”

The motion was seconded by Rev. George Tulloch and approved.

Resolution on  
the war.

**125.** The Assembly instructed the Moderator to forward to the Moderators of State Assemblies, at an early date, a copy of the resolution of this Assembly regarding the present war, with a request to them that they would issue same to the Ministers and Home Missionaries in their respective States, with the request that each Minister should read the resolution to his congregation in order that all our people may know the voice of the Assembly on the subject.

Biblical  
Instruction  
in Public  
Schools.

**126.** The Rev. Professor Macintyre moved the motion relative to Biblical Instruction in Public Schools, and which is recorded in Minute 90 of the Ninth Sederunt.



The motion was seconded by Rev. John Walker and approved.

**127.** The next General Assembly was appointed to meet at Sydney, in St. Stephen's Church, Phillip street, on the fourth Tuesday of September, 1916, at 7 p.m. Next  
Assembly.

**128.** The Committee relative to a Commission of Assembly was discharged. Commission  
of Assembly

**129.** The Board of Missions was clothed with Assembly powers within its sphere. Board of  
Missions.

**130.** The Finance Board was authorised to pay such expenses as may be arranged with the Business Committee in connection with the meeting of Committees. Finance  
Board.

**131.** It was agreed that the cordial thanks of the Assembly be given to the Minister and Office-bearers of St. Andrew's Church; to the Hospitality Committee of the Church in Queensland; and to the ladies of the Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union; and to all others who have generously exercised hospitality towards members of the Assembly. Thanks.

**132.** The following were appointed a Committee to arrange for Business preceding the meeting of next Assembly:—The Clerk, the Law Agent, Revs. Dr. Burgess, John Edwards, J. Kemp Bruce, Professor Macintyre (Convener), and Wm. Wood. Business  
Committee.

**133.** The business of the General Assembly now being concluded, the Rev. Peter Roberston, acting as Moderator, in the unavoidable absence of the Moderator, delivered a brief address. Close.

The Assembly joined in singing the last three verses of the 122nd Psalm, after which, the Acting Moderator having intimated that, in pursuance of the General Assembly's appointment, the next General

Assembly of Australia will be holden at Sydney, in St. Stephen's Church, Phillip street, on the fourth Tuesday of September, 1916, at 7 p.m., the Session was closed with the Benediction.

GEORGE DAVIDSON, Moderator.  
PETER ROBERTSON, Acting Moderator.  
GEORGE TAIT, Clerk.

## APPENDIX.

### COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### STANDING COMMITTEES.

##### I. JUDICIAL COMMISSION.

###### NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. John Burgess, M.A., D.D.	Mr. J. H. Balfour
J. Ferguson	W. G. Crane
J. C. McDonald, M.A.	J. Kirkland
Professor Macintyre, B.D.	Wm. Ross

###### VICTORIA.

Professor Rentoul, M.A., D.D.	Rev. George Tait, M.A.
Rev. Alexander Skene, M.A.	Mr. J. M. Campbell, LL.M.
A. Stewart, M.A.	Mr. G. S. Mackay
W. Borland, M.A., B.D.	W. Saunderson, LL.M.

###### QUEENSLAND.

Rev. S. F. Hunter, B.D.	Rev. James Walker, B.D.
E. N. Merrington, Ph. D.	James Gibson, M.A.

###### SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. George Davidson, D.D.	Rev. J. Hall Angus
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###### TASMANIA.

Rev. J. Heyer, M.A.	Hon. James Murdoch, M.L.C.
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###### WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Rev. R. Hanlin	Rev. A. Crow
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###### ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Principal Harper, M.A., D.D.	Rev. J. B. Galloway
Rev. J. K. Bruce	Mr. J. H. Beatson
P. J. Murdoch, M.A.	P. R. Henry
John Walker	T. W. Fleming
C. E. James	W. G. Geikie
T. J. Smith, M.A.	Dr. J. H. MacFarland

Chairman: Rev. GEORGE DAVIDSON, D.D.

###### ASSESSORS.

Rev. J. Barnaby, M.A., B.D.	Rev. R. Steele, M.A.
D. A. Cameron, M.A.	C. A. White, B.A.
W. Gray	

##### II.—BOARD OF MISSIONS:

###### NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. R. J. H. McGowan	Rev. C. A. White, B.A.
J. T. Lawton, M.A.	Mr. W. Gillanders, B.A.

## VICTORIA.

Rev. D. Ross, M.A.	Rev. W. Fraser, B.A.
F. H. L. Paton, M.A., B.D.	Mr. J. Elvins
A. Stewart, M.A.	R. K. Gillespie

## QUEENSLAND.

Rev. James Gibson, M.A.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. T. SHANKS, M.A., B.D.

## TASMANIA.

Rev. J. Heyer, M.A.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Rev. W. F. Turton.

## ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.	Rev. W. Gray
T. W. Leggatt	Mr. J. S. Walker
J. A. Crockett	W. Wood

Converer : Rev. A. STEWART, M.A.

## III.—THE CODE.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

Professor MacIntyre, B.D.	Hon. J. Garland, M.L.C.
Rev. John Burgess, M.A., D.D.	Mr. William Wood

## VICTORIA.

Rev. R. M. Fergus, M.A.	Mr. J. M. Campbell, LL.M.
George Tait, M.A.	G. S. Mackay

## QUEENSLAND.

Rev. R. Kerr	Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.
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## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Mr. T. W. Fleming.

## TASMANIA.

Rev. P. Hope, M.A.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Rev. F. E. Oxer, M.A., B.D.

## ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. W. Gray	Rev. F. A. Haganear
J. A. R. Perkins, B.A.	Mr. S. J. Carruthers
Robert Steele, M.A.	A. G. Proudfoot
W. H. Ash	

Joint Conveners : Rev. GEORGE TAIT, M.A., and Mr. J. M. CAMPBELL, LL.M.

## IV.—COLLEGE.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. John Ferguson	Rev. J. K. Bruce
J. A. R. Perkins, B.A.	R. Steel, M.A.

## VICTORIA.

Rev. J. Mathew, M.A., B.D.  
J. C. Coutie, B.A.

Rev. J. Barnaby, M.A., B.D.  
Dr. J. H. MacFarland

## QUEENSLAND.

Rev. J. Lundie, B.A.

Rev. Richard Kerr

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. J. Gillies, M.A.

## TASMANIA.

Rev. W. J. Holt, M.A.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Rev. F. E. Oxer, M.A., B.D.

## ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. J. Meiklejohn, D.D.  
R. M. Fergus  
G. Davidson, D.D.  
J. Heyer, M.A.

Rev. Frank Milne  
W. C. Radcliffe, M.A.  
C. E. James

Convener: Rev. JOHN MATHREW.

## V.—HOME MISSION.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. J. Ferguson  
A. J. Wade

Rev. R. Steel, M.A.  
Mr. W. Wood

## VICTORIA.

Rev. D. A. Cameron, M.A.  
J. Barnaby, M.A., B.D.

Rev. W. H. Cooper, M.A., B.D.  
Mr. A. L. Pryde

## QUEENSLAND.

Rev. George Ewan

Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. Thomas Tait, M.A., B.D.

## TASMANIA.

Rev. W. J. Harris.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Rev. A. Crow.

## ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. J. Meiklejohn, D.D.  
J. A. K. Perkins, B.A.  
Principal Harper, D.D.  
Rev. John Walker

Rev. G. Davidson, D.D.  
G. A. Gordon, B.A.  
Mr. J. H. Beatson

Convener: Rev. A. J. WADE.

## VI.—FINANCE.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

Mr. John Cameron  
John Kirkland

Mr. J. H. Beatson  
W. Wood

## VICTORIA.

Dr. J. H. MacFarland  
Mr. D. MacMillan

Mr. R. K. Gellespie  
A. L. Pryde

## QUEENSLAND.

Mr. A. S. Lang

Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Mr. T. W. Fleming.

## TASMANIA.

Hon. James Mardoch, M.L.C.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Mr. F. A. McMullen.

## ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Hon. J. T. Walker  
Captain Robert Craig  
Mr. W. H. Greenwood  
Hon. John Cameron, M.L.C.

Mr. J. P. Wilson, LL.D.  
W. G. Crane  
W. G. Geikie

Convener: Mr. W. G. CRANE.

## VII.—RECEPTION OF MINISTERS.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. A. McKinlay, M.A.  
Professor Macintyre, B.D.

Professor Harper, D.D.  
Rev. G. A. Gordon, B.A.

## VICTORIA.

Professor Rentoul, M.A., B.D.  
Professor Skene, M.A.

Rev. J. Barnaby, M.A., B.D.  
Mr. A. L. Pryde

## QUEENSLAND.

Rev. George Ewan

Rev. J. Lundie

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. T. Tait, M.A., B.D.

## TASMANIA.

Rev. J. B. Rentoul.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Rev. F. E. Oxer, M.A., B.D.

## ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. C. A. White, B.A.  
C. H. Talbot  
A. J. Wade  
James Gibson, M.A.

Rev. R. Scott West  
John Walker  
W. H. Cooper

Convener: Rev. A. McKinlay, M.A.

## VIII.—STATISTICS.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. G. A. Gordon, B.A.  
James Steele

Rev. D. M. Barnett, B.A.  
Mr. S. J. Carruthers

## VICTORIA.

Rev. J. C. Coutie, B.A.  
George Carson

Mr. J. M. Bryant  
J. Birchnell

## QUEENSLAND.

Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.

Mr. A. S. Lang

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. W. Gray.

## TASMANIA.

Rev. J. O. Dick.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Rev. J. S. Buntine.

## ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. D. F. Brandt  
 J. B. Rentoul  
 J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.  
 C. A. White, B.A.

Mr. A. L. Pryde  
 W. Wood  
 James Allan, M.L.A.

Joint Conveners: Rev. JAMES STEELE and Rev. J. B. RENTOUL.

## IX.—YEAR BOOK.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. G. A. Gordon, B.A.  
 J. Steele

Rev. D. M. Barnet, B.A.  
 Mr. S. J. Carruthers

## VICTORIA.

Rev. J. C. Contie, B.A.  
 George Carson

Mr. J. M. Bryant  
 J. Birchnell

## QUEENSLAND.

Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.

Mr. A. S. Lang

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. W. Gray

## TASMANIA.

Rev. J. O. Dick

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Rev. J. S. Buntine

## ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. D. F. Brandt  
 J. B. Rentoul  
 J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.  
 C. A. White

Rev. R. W. Macaulay, B.A.  
 Mr. A. L. Pryde  
 Wm. Wood

Joint Conveners: Rev. JAMES STEELE and Rev. J. B. RENTOUL.

## IMMIGRATION.

Rev. W. Thomson  
 G. A. Gordon, B.A.  
 J. S. Macdonald, M.A.  
 W. Gray  
 R. Hanlin  
 E. G. Petherwick  
 J. Heyer, M.A.  
 R. W. Macaulay, B.A.  
 L. A. Schloffel

Rev. J. G. Scarfe  
 Mr. D. Macmillan  
 Chas. McKinnon  
 Wm. Wood  
 A. S. Barr  
 J. Drennan  
 John Macfarlane  
 H. F. Haynes  
 Captain Craig

Captain CRAIG, Convener.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

### I.—FEDERATION OF PROTESTANT CHURCHES.

<p>Rev. J. Kemp Bruce            Angus King            John Edwards, M.A.            Dr. Harper            James Lamont, F.L.S.            John Paterson            G. A. Gordon            John Walker            R. H. Waugh, M.A.            R. Scott West            C. A. White, B.A.</p> <p>Mr. William Affleck            John Kirkland            W. G. Crane</p> <p>Dr. Robertson            Mr. W. Wood            J. H. Beatson</p> <p>Rev. Professor Adam, D.D.            W. Fraser, B.A.            W. G. Maconochie, M.A.            J. Mathew, M.A., D.B.            Dr. Meiklejohn            P. J. Murdoch, M.A.            A. R. Osborn, M.A.            H. Robertson, B.A.            A. Stewart, M.A.</p> <p>Mr. T. J. Finlay            W. F. Greenwood            D. Love</p> <p>Rev. Dr. Hay            A. Gillison, M.A.            D. McLennan            S. Martin, M.A., B.D.</p> <p>Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.            R. H. Roberts            Peter Robertson</p>	<p>Rev. J. M. R. Dale            Mr. Jas Allen            D. Ewart            George Hall            A. S. Lang            A. McKellar            J. S. Sword            George Stupart</p> <p>Rev. G. Davidson, M.A., D.D.            G. C. Love, M. A., B.D.            T. Shanks, M.A., B.D.            A. J. Wade</p> <p>Mr. A. H. Bryson            T. W. Fleming            R. Gilchrist</p> <p>Professor Rennie            Mr. T. W. Tassie</p> <p>Rev. W. Beck            J. D. Brown            F. E. Oxer, M.A., B.D.            J. G. Millar</p> <p>Mr. F. Burbury            D. McKinnon</p> <p>Hon. J. Murdoch            Mr. J. K. Reid            F. Williams            J. Wright</p> <p>Rev. A. Crow            J. H. Fordyce, M.A.            A. S. C. James            A. McCarlie</p> <p>Dr. S. Macaulay            Mr. R. Bracks            F. A. Mosely</p>
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The Moderator, Clerk, and Law Officers, members *ex officio*.

Rev. JOHN EDWARDS, M.A. Convener.

### II.—PUBLIC QUESTIONS, RELIGION AND MORALS.

<p>The Right Rev. the Moderator            Rev. Dr. Rentoul            W. S. Rolland            David Ross, M.A.            Alex. Stewart, M.A.            John Barnaby, M.A., B.D.            F. H. L. Paton, M.A., B.D.            R. W. Macaulay, B.A.            J. A. Crockett            A. Yule, M.A.            A. J. Wade            J. T. Lawton, M.A.            C. A. White, B.A.</p>	<p>Rev. John Gillies, M.A.            T. Tait, M.A., B.D.            J. H. Angus            J. Heyer            Thos. Shanks, M.A., B.D.            Wm. Gray            J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.            J. S. Buntine            W. H. Steele, M.A.            Richard Kerr            James Gibson, M.A. (Q.)            W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.            Professor Rennie</p>
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Mr. R. K. Gillespie  
W. S. Greenwood  
K. McNab  
D. Macmillan  
Wm. Gray

Mr. T. W. Fleming  
G. Kerr  
J. H. Beatson  
W. G. Crane

With the Clerk and the Moderators and the Clerks of the State Assemblies.  
The MODERATOR, Convener.

### III.—SITES IN FEDERAL CAPITAL.

Rev. Professor Macintyre  
Dr. Rentoul  
Wm. Borland, M.A., B.D.  
P. J. Murdoch, M.A.  
J. Sinclair, B.A.  
W. S. Rolland  
Macaulay Caldwell  
John Ferguson  
Robert Steel, M.A.  
A. J. Wade

Rev. C. E. James  
Mr. W. Wood  
J. H. Balfour  
H. J. T. Walker  
A. L. Pryde  
D. MacMillan  
J. M. Campbell  
Dr. MacFarland  
Hon. Thos. Brown

Rev. PROFESSOR MACINTYRE, Convener.

### IV.—HYMNAL.

Rev. W. H. Ash  
C. Crane  
R. M. Fergus, M.A.  
J. Heyer, M.A.  
C. H. Talbot  
Joseph Lundie  
T. Shanks, M.A., B.D.  
J. Mathew, M.A., B.D.  
J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.  
W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.  
D. Macrae Stewart  
T. J. Smith, M.A.  
F. E. Ozer, M.A., B.D.

Rev. W. S. Rolland  
John Walker  
C. A. White, B.A.  
Jas. Steele  
Mr. W. Wishart  
L. Fraser  
W. F. Greenwood  
E. H. Hume  
A. Jackson  
J. McIntyre  
P. D. McCormack  
G. A. Steel

Rev. W. H. ASH, Convener.

### V.—“RECORD.”

The conveners of Welfare of Youth Committees of the State Assemblies.  
The Rev. W. S. ROLLAND, Convener.

### VI.—INLAND MISSION.

#### NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. G. A. Gordon, B.A. (Chairman)  
Dr. Harper  
R. J. H. McGowen  
Angus King  
J. T. Lawton, M.A.  
Robert Steel, M.A.  
A. McKinley  
A. Clark  
A. J. Wade

Rev. John Ferguson  
G. Cranston  
J. A. R. Perkins, B.A.  
Captain Craig  
Dr. T. G. Campbell  
Hon. T. Brown  
Mr. W. Gillanders  
W. Wood  
A. Keith

## VICTORIA.

Rev. F. W. Rolland, (Chairman)	Rev. J. MacKenzie
Professor Adam	F. H. L. Paton, M.A., B.D.
Professor Skene	T. J. Smith, M.A.
John Walker	L. E. Baldwin
D. A. Cameron, M.A.	Mr. T. H. Steel
J. Barnaby, M.A., B.D.	George Aitken
G. S. Brodie	W. Shaw
W. A. Stevely, M.A.	D. MacMillan
	H. H. Kemp

## QUEENSLAND.

Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, B.A. (Chairman)	Rev. S. F. Hunter, M.A., B.D.
Dr. Merrington	Mr. A. S. Barr
James Gibson, M.A.	J. K. Stewart
George Ewan	

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. W. Gray, (Chairman)	Mr. T. W. Fleming
T. Tait, M.A., B.D.	H. B. Thompson
R. Mitchell	

## WEST AUSTRALIA.

Rev. A. Crow, (Chairman)	Rev. D. Ross
W. F. Shannon, B.A.	Mr. F. A. Mosely
W. H. Steele, M.A.	R. Bracks
Gr. N. Dods, M.A.	

## TASMANIA.

Rev. W. J. Harris, (Chairman)	Dr. Gibson
P. Hope, B.A.	Mr. J. Wright
J. Heyer, M.A.	

## VII.—BOOK OF COMMON ORDER.

Rev. James Gibson, M.A.	Rev. J. Mathew, M.A., B.D.
J. B. Galloway	Dr. Rentoul
Professor MacIntyre	T. Tait, M.A., B.D.
A. McKinley	F. E. Oxer, M.A., B.D.
J. Kemp Bruce	J. Heyer, M.A.
Professor Skene	R. Scott West

The Rev. R. SCOTT-WEST, Convener.

## VIII.—RELATIVE TO TOWNSVILLE OVERTURE.

Rev. Professor MacIntyre	Rev. John Walker
J. T. Lawton, M.A.	J. Barnaby, M.A., B.D.
A. S. McCook	J. Sinclair, B.A. (Convener, V.)
G. A. Gordon, B.A. (Convener, N.S.W.)	W. Gray
J. B. Galloway	T. Tait, M.A., B.D. (Convener, S.A.)
James Gibson, M.A.	W. F. Shannon, B.A.
R. Kerr (Convener, Q.)	W. F. Turton

Rev. PROFESSOR SKENE, Convener.

## IX.—BUSINESS COMMITTEE.

The Clerk  
The Law Agent  
Rev. Dr. Burgess  
John Edwards, M.A.

Rev. Professor MacIntyre  
J. Kemp Bruce  
Mr. W. Wood

Rev. PROFESSOR MACINTYRE, Convener.

## X.—BENEFICIARY FUNDS.

*W. S. Rolland*  
Rev. W. H. Steele, M.A.  
George Carson  
W. Tait, M.A., B.D.  
R. Steel, M.A.  
W. F. Turton  
J. Heyer, M.A.  
W. C. Radcliffe, B.D.  
Dr. Burgess

Rev. J. Lundie, B.A.  
Mr. T. W. Fleming  
W. Wood  
A. L. Pryde  
John Kirkland  
Hon. John Murdoch  
Mr. A. G. Proudfoot  
J. H. Beatson

Mr. A. G. PROUDFOOT, Convener.

## XI.—WELFARE OF YOUTH.

Rev. W. S. Rolland  
J. T. Lawton, M.A.  
J. A. R. Perkins, B.A.  
C. H. Talbot  
A. R. Osborn  
Wm. Goyen  
John Walker  
John Sinclair, B.A.  
John Barnaby, M.A., B.D.  
J. Galbraith Miller  
J. B. Galloway  
James Gibson, M.A.  
W. H. Waters, B.A.  
D. McK. Barnet, B.A.

Rev. R. J. H. McGowan  
A. J. Wade  
W. Gray  
J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.  
W. F. Turton  
F. E. Oxer, M.A., B.D.  
W. F. Shannon, B.A.  
Dr. Smyth  
Mr. W. A. Sanderson  
W. Gillanders  
J. I. Forsyth  
T. W. Wilson  
H. B. Thompson

The Rev. W. S. ROLLAND, Convener.

## XII.—OFFICIAL ORGAN.

## QUEENSLAND

Rev. J. Gibson, M.A. (Convener)  
S. F. Hunter, M.A., B.D.  
J. Walker

Mr. A. S. Lang  
W. A. Morrow

## VICTORIA.

Rev. T. J. Smith, M.A. (Convener)  
H. Kelly, M.A.  
W. Goyen

Mr. W. A. Sanderson  
D. MacMillan

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.  
W. Gray  
J. Gillies, M.A.

Mr. W. J. Angus  
T. W. Fleming

## WEST AUSTRALIA.

Rev. D. Ross  
A. Crow  
W. F. Turton

Mr. F. A. McMullen  
J. F. Christie

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. W. W. Watts (Convener)  
W. H. Ash  
Angus King

Rev. Professor MacIntyre  
Mr. W. Wood

The Rev. J. R. FIDDIAN, M.Sc. Convener.

## XII.—NAVAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS.

The Chaplaincy Committees in the various States.

The Rev. Dr. RENTOUL, Convener.

## XIII.—TO NOMINATE THE MODERATOR OF NEXT ASSEMBLY.

The Moderator and ex-Moderators of the General Assembly and the Moderators of the State Assemblies who are in office.

The Right Rev. THE MODERATOR, Convener.

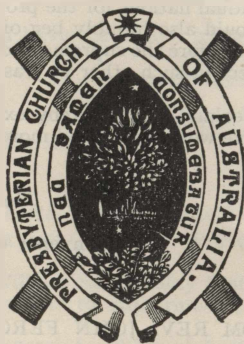
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# REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

AND OTHER PAPERS

PRESENTED TO THE

General Assembly of Australia.



BRISBANE, SEPTEMBER, 1914.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

## (1) THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW ZEALAND.

TO THE CHURCHES OF THE REFORMED FAITH: GREETING.

THE CLERK OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA.

Rev. and Dear Sir,—

In pursuance of a resolution passed 17th December, 1913, by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand, that Assembly's Committee on "International Peace" would make representation through you to the Supreme Court of your Church.

The resolution was that, *inter alia*, "Communications be entered into between this Church and the Presbyterian Churches of the United States, Great Britain, and the Dominions, together with the Lutheran Church of Germany and the Reformed Churches of France, and that a Committee be appointed to carry these proposals into effect, and to watch over and advance by the formation of Associations and otherwise the interests of peace in our Dominion; and resolve that a copy of this motion be sent to the Secretaries in London and Berlin of the Committees of the Associated Councils of Churches," with a view of fostering international peace, and the furthering of peaceful measures in the settlement of international disputes.

In furtherance of that project, the General Assembly of New Zealand would respectfully suggest special private and congregational prayer, the observance of one particular "International Peace Sunday" annually, and the establishment of Associations throughout individual nations for the propagation of Peace.

The General Assembly would also humbly beg of you to bring the above suggestions on International Peace before the supreme and subordinate Courts of your Church, or deal with the subject in such other way as may commend itself to your wisdom.

The Assembly of New Zealand would hereby extend fraternal greetings, and pray that God in His great love would more and more bless your work of hastening His Kingdom of Peace.

I am,

Yours fraternally,  
CHARLES MURRAY,  
Convener of the Assembly's Committee  
on International Peace.

## (2) FROM REV. JOHN FERGUSON

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN,  
Dampfer "Roon,"  
Naples 22nd May, 1914.

To the Clerk of the General Assembly of Australia.

Dear Mr. Tait,—

I wish to lay on the table of the General Assembly my resignation, as Convener of the Home Mission Committee of Australia and Chairman of the Australian Inland Mission. I am convinced that, with the burdens of the Chairmanship of the A.I.M., added to the responsibilities of the Convener'ship, there is now needed, for the office which I have held these thirteen years, a man younger in years, and one less strictly bound to the post of his ordinary pastoral vocation. As Minister of St. Stephens' Church, I have practically to be always in Sydney, and every Sabbath in the pulpit. Experience has shown that the Chairman of the A.I.M. should be free to go on occasion to important centres, and to distant places to expound the ideals of the Mission, and to advocate its claims upon the Christian public of Australia. It is impossible for me to do such work as this, hence my letter.

I commend to the General Assembly the loyal devotion of the Superintendent of the A.I.M., the Rev. John Flynn. He has not spared himself. He has lived for one thing, the A.I.M.; and laboured with zeal to bring his conceptions to fruit in the practical being of a great organisation, which shall be a mighty witness for Christ.

I wish to frankly acknowledge my obligations to the Rev. Robert Steel, who has, for seven years, acted as Secretary of the Home Mission Committee, and, since last Assembly, as General Secretary of the A.I.M. His labours have been more abundant than words can convey; his work has been ever done with enthusiasm and a sound business instinct. It was all for Christ.

I would also express my thanks to the General Assembly for its kindness to me during the years of my Convener'ship.

With sincere good wishes,

Ever yours,

JOHN FERGUSON.

(3) FROM DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE,  
COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Department of Defence,  
Headquarters,  
Melbourne, 4th November, 1912.

Sir,—

With reference to your letter forwarding resolution passed by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church at a meeting held in Melbourne recently, such resolution containing a suggestion that night-drill for cadets should be abolished, and that early morning drill should be substituted therefor, I have the honour by direction to inform you that this matter has already received the Minister's earnest consideration. A conclusion has been arrived at after a full inquiry into the matter, that the training of Cadets in the mornings in lieu of the evenings is not practicable in view of the conditions of the employment of the lads in the town and country.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

T. TRUMBLE,

Secretary, Department of Defence.

The Rev. G. Tait, M.A., 621 Punt Road,  
South Yarra.

(4) REFERENCE RE PRESBYTERY OF PENOLA.  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA.

West Melbourne Church, William Street, May 21st, 1914.

The State Assembly met, pursuant to adjournment, and was duly constituted—

*Inter alia* :

The Reference from the General Assembly of Australia relative to the Penola Presbytery was submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee.

It was reported that the Commission of the General Assembly of Australia was to visit the Presbytery in August; and it was agreed to defer further consideration of the question until the report of the Commission had been received by the General Assembly of Australia and communicated to the Assembly.

Extracted from the minutes of Assembly this 12th day of August, 1914, by

GEORGE TAIT,

Clerk.

(5) AUSTRALIAN INLAND MISSION.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA.

West Melbourne Church, William Street, May 21st, 1914.

The State Assembly met, pursuant to adjournment, at 8.15 p.m., and was duly constituted:—

*Inter alia :*

The recommendation of the General Assembly of Australia relative to the Inland Mission was approved, and the enrolment, in the interests of the Inland Mission, of men and women in congregations sanctioned.

Extracted from the minutes of Assembly, this 12th day of August, 1914, by  
GEORGE TAIT, Clerk.

## (6) WORLD CONFERENCE ON FAITH AND ORDER.

To our Christian Brethren in Every Land,

March 21, 1914.

## Greeting—

We, the Advisory Committee, representatives by appointment of many Churches in the United States, have become associated with the Commission of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the preparation of a World Conference on questions of Faith and Order as a first step towards unity. We believe in the one people of God throughout the world. We believe that now is a critically hopeful time for the world to become Christian. We believe that the present world-problems of Christianity call for a world-conference of Christians.

This proposal has already received the approval and co-operation of a large number of Christian Churches; approaches are being made to others as rapidly as possible; so that we hope that ere long the world-wide representative character will be established beyond peradventure. In the work of preparation for its convening, we have no authority or desire to enter into a discussion of the important questions which the conference itself will meet to consider. It is our immediate concern to take whatever measures may be advisable to secure the best possible presentation to the Conference of the matters to be considered. In so doing, we cannot, however, remain indifferent to present conditions which may either promote or tend to thwart the purposes and hopes which the approaching World Conference should fulfil.

At the present moment some of these important issues have suddenly become matters of renewed controversy. From the Mission Field the long outstanding problem of Christian unity has been brought by the providence of God and set directly in the way before all Christian communions. It cannot longer be passed by. The great interests which Christian people of every name have most at heart call for its solution. But solution cannot be secured by surrender. It must be preceded by conference. Before conference there must be trace. The love of Christ for the world constrains us to ask you to join with us and with His disciples of every name in proclaiming among the Churches throughout Christendom a Truce of God. Let the question that have troubled us be fairly and clearly stated. Let scholars, Catholic and Protestant, give freely to the people whatever light from their historical studies they can throw over these subjects. More than that it is of essential importance for us to seek to understand what in the religious experience of others are the things of real value which they would not lose, and which should be conserved in the one household of faith. We pray also that each Christian communion may avoid, so far as possible, any controversial declaration of its own position in relation to others, but rather that all things be said and done as if in preparation for the coming together of faithful disciples from every nation and tongue to implore a fresh outpouring of God's Holy Spirit.

Before all indifference, doubt and misgivings, we would hold up the belief that the Lord's prayer for the oneness of His disciples was intended to be fulfilled; and that it ought not to be impossible in the comprehension of the Church, as it is practicable in the State, for men of various temperaments and divergent convictions to dwell together on agreed principles of unity. We would, therefore, urge all who hold positions of leadership or authority in the Church to labor without ceasing to work out in this generation, by mutual recognitions and possible readjustments, a practical basis of unity in liberty, in order, in truth, in power and in peace. To this end we ask your prayers.

By order of the Advisory Committee of the Commissions on the World  
Conference on Faith and Order :

By WILLIAM T. MANNING, Chairman.  
ROBT. H. GARDINER, Secretary.



## II.

## OVERTURES.

## (1) OVERTURE ANENT ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM.

*Transmitted by the Presbytery of Sydney.*

Whereas it is found needful that the administration of the Sacrament of Baptism be administered in districts where it is not meantime possible to obtain the services of an ordained Minister of the Word:—

It is hereby humbly overtured to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia by the Presbytery of Sydney to take the circumstances into consideration and to declare as follows, or as its wisdom may direct:—

In view of the fact that in many parts of the Commonwealth it is not meantime possible to obtain the services of an ordained Minister of the Word, the Assembly hereby authorises as a temporary administrative arrangement to meet such need and until such need be supplied that Home Missionaries who have passed the first examination of the Home Mission Course and Students in Theology acting as Home Missionaries be empowered to administer the Sacrament of Baptism according to the rules of the Church, under the following conditions:—

1. That they be specially authorised to do so by the Presbytery of the bounds in those cases where it is clear to the Presbytery that an ordained Minister of the Word is not ordinarily available for such purpose.
2. That those exercising this function shall straightway report the details of each case of Baptism to the Interim Moderator, or if there be no Interim Moderator to the Clerk of the Presbytery, or in the case of the Australian Inland Mission to the Convener of the Committee, which Committee of the Australian Inland Mission shall, for the authorisation of the Sacrament of Baptism, have the same powers as a Presbytery.
3. That the power conferred upon Home Missionaries or Students in Theology be exercised only in the district for which it is given, and only so long as those authorised are acting on behalf of the Church in such district.

The Rev. Prof. Macintyre was appointed to support the Overture.

JOHN EDWARDS,

Presbytery Clerk.

August 11th, 1914.

## (2) OVERTURE FROM BOARD OF MISSIONS.

Minute of Board of Missions.

Temple Court, Collins St., Melbourne.

August 10th, 1914.

The Executive of the Board of Missions met, and was constituted with prayer. *Inter alia*:—"A letter from the Foreign Missions Committee of New South Wales was received, enclosing an Overture for transmission to the General Assembly: asking that it enact that no new mission be started nor

extra permanent expenditure incurred without first obtaining the consent and agreement of all the State Foreign Mission Committees and Assemblies.

"The Executive agreed to forward the Overture to the General Assembly."  
Closed with prayer.

Extracted from the records of the Board of Missions by me,  
T. WATT LEGGATT,

Secretary Board of Missions.

### OVERTURE ANENT BOARD OF MISSIONS.

Whereas the Board of Missions administers the Mission to the Aborigines; and whereas the Board's finances are secured by assessment of State Assemblies; and whereas such assessment is likely to seriously complicate the finances of the Foreign Missions Committees of such Assemblies, it is therefore humbly overtured to the Venerable the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration and to enact:

That no new Mission be started, nor extra permanent expenditure incurred without first obtaining the consent and agreement of all the State Foreign Missions Committee and Assemblies; or

That the Assembly take such other action to conserve the interests of the State Foreign Missions Committees and Assemblies as it in its wisdom may determine.

The Rev. C. A. White and Rev. J. T. Lawton are appointed to support the Overture.

### (3) OVERTURE RE SPIRITUAL FREEDOM.

*Transmitted by the Presbytery of Melbourne North.*

Whereas in Rule 1 adopted by the General Assembly of 1912 in connection with the Declaratory Statement on the spiritual freedom of the Church, it is stated regarding the Rules and Forms presented by the General Assembly to regulate and guide the several courts and Judicatories, congregations, members and office bearers of the Church in their respective proceedings that "Such Rules and forms are not to be regarded as laws which can in no instance be added to or deviated from, but as indications of what is considered by the Church to be the ordinary method of procedure in the cases and under the circumstances to which the Rules and forms refer, and are not to be held as limiting or prejudicing the *nobile officium* of the General Assembly or of any State Assembly in dealing with any matter in which it is the supreme authority of the Church."

And whereas in the addition to Rule 6 adopted by a majority of that Assembly, it seems to be implied that any "departure from the Church's own Rules and forms of procedure" may be pleaded before a civil court as "unconstitutional procedure" amounting to a "violation of the consensual compact implied in the relation of the Church's office bearers to the Church's courts and constitution," and made use of to establish a claim for redress for civil wrong; and whereas these two statements are confusing and seem to be mutually inconsistent, it is hereby humbly overtured to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to take the premises into consideration and to take such steps as may be necessary to make the Church's position clear and unambiguous.

Scots' Church, Melbourne, April 21, 1914, the Presbytery of Melbourne North met at 2 p.m., and was duly constituted.  
Sederunt Rev. W. R. Byers, etc.

*Inter alia*: Professor Adam moved that the overture of which notice was given at last meeting (April 7th, 1914) be transmitted simpliciter to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in Brisbane. This was seconded by Rev. J. G. Sterling and carried.

ROBERT W. ROCK,  
Interim Clerk.

— 53  
handwritten

## (4) OVERTURE RE SPIRITUAL FREEDOM.

*Transmitted by the Presbytery of Melbourne South.*

"Scots Church Hall, Melbourne, 13th July, 1914; which day the Presbytery of Melbourne South met and was constituted with prayer. Sederunt Revs. A. Gillison, etc.

*Inter alia*: The Rev. G. Tait gave notice of the following motion:—"That the Presbytery adopt the following Overture:—

"Whereas the General Assembly of Australia has adopted a Declaration on the Spiritual Freedom of the Church wherein *inter alia* it has declared:

"That in all matters coming within the jurisdiction of the Church, as defined above, office-bearers and members of the Church are bound to abide by the decisions of the Church Courts, and recourse to Civil Courts against any decision of the Church in these matters, or against the execution thereof, is excluded.

"And whereas in accordance with these principles the General Assembly has among other Rules approved of the following Rules: Rule 2, which says:— That every office-bearer, member, and adherent of the Church is subject to the Church in the exercise of its functions relating to doctrine, worship and discipline, and shall be deemed to have agreed to submit to every decision of the Court of the Church which has proper cognisance of the matter in question, whether such decision shall involve any question as to the meaning or effect of the Constitution, or any Rules and Regulations of the Church, or as to the jurisdiction of the said Court to deal with the matter in question or otherwise, and every such decision shall be valid and final unless upon an appeal to a Higher Court of the Church it shall be reversed or varied by such Higher Court; and Rule 3, which says:—That any office-bearer, member, or adherent of the Church who shall bring any action or suit against any Court of the Church, or any member of any such Court, to compel any act to be done, or in respect of, or to set aside or restrain or have declared null and void, any act done, or proposed to be done, or decision come to by such Court, in the exercise of its functions relating to doctrine, worship or discipline, shall be guilty of contumacy, and if he shall be a member or elder shall also be guilty of a breach of the ordination vow.

"And whereas Rule 5 of such Rules reads:—That nothing in these Rules shall apply to any action brought to determine the civil effects of the decisions and sentences of the Church, nor shall any one be debarred by these Rules from raising an action for civil damages for an alleged infringement of his civil rights provided that any person who is or shall be entitled to hold or occupy any property or receive any emolument by virtue of a spiritual office or position in the Church shall on ceasing to hold, or on being removed from such office or position by any Court of the Church, cease to be entitled to hold or occupy such property or receive such emolument.

"And whereas by the said Declaration and Rules the privileges of the Church and the Civil rights of Ministers and members are sufficiently defined and protected.

"And, further, whereas the Assembly at its last meeting and by a small majority approved of an addition to the proposed Rules as follows:—But nothing in these Rules shall debar or hinder an application or appeal to the Civil Court, or any action brought seeking redress for Civil wrong done by such removal from office or position or by loss of emolument due to unconstitutional procedure on the part of the Church Court or Courts in departure from the Church's own Rules and Forms of procedure, if in violation of the Consensual Compact implied in the relation of the Church's office-bearers to the Church's Courts and Constitution.

"It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly of Australia to take these premises into consideration and, in view of the fact that the Civil rights of office-bearers and members are sufficiently protected by these Rules and of the fact that the addition to Rule 6 quoted above is superfluous for the guarding of Civil rights and open to a construction inconsistent with the previous Rules, which would endanger the free exercise of the Church's action

in discipline and defeat the purpose of the Declaration and Rules referred to, to delete the addition made, as quoted above, to Rule 6."

Extracted by

P. J. MURDOCH, Clerk.

"Scots' Church Hall, Melbourne: 10th August, 1914: which day the Presbytery of Melbourne South met and was constituted with prayer. Sederunt Revs. A. Gillison, etc.

*Inter alia*: The Rev. G. Tait moved the motion of which he had given notice. The motion was seconded by the Rev. T. J. Smith, and adopted. The Revs. G. Tait and P. J. Murdoch were appointed to support the Overture at the bar of the General Assembly."

Extracted by

P. J. MURDOCH, Presbytery Clerk.

#### (5) OVERTURE ANENT SPIRITUAL FREEDOM.

*Transmitted by New South Wales General Assembly, 14th May, 1914.*

Whereas the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia has adopted a Declaration on the Spiritual Freedom of the Church, wherein, *inter alia*, it is declared "That in all matters coming within the jurisdiction as defined above, office-bearers and members of the Church are bound to abide by the decision of the Church Courts, and recourse to Civil Courts against any decision of the Church in these matters, or against the execution thereof, is excluded";

And whereas, in accordance with this principle, the said General Assembly has among other rules approved of a rule which says, "That any office-bearer, member or adherent of the Church who shall bring any action or suit against any Court of the Church or any member of any such Court, to compel any act to be done or in respect of or to set aside or restrain or have declared null and void any act done or proposed to be done or decision come to by such Court in the exercise of its functions relating to doctrine, worship or discipline shall be guilty of contumacy, and if he shall be a minister or elder shall also be guilty of a breach of his ordination vow";

And whereas rule 5 of such rules reads: "That nothing in these rules shall apply to any action brought to determine the civil effects of the decisions and sentences of the Church, nor shall anyone be debarred by these rules from raising an action for civil damages for an alleged infringement of his civil rights, provided that any person who is or shall be entitled to hold or occupy any property or to receive any emolument by virtue of a spiritual office or position in the Church shall on ceasing to hold or on being removed from such office or position by any Court of the Church cease to be entitled to hold or occupy such property or receive such emolument";

And whereas by the said Declaration and Rules the principles of the Church, and at the same time the Civil Rights of Ministers, Elders and Members are sufficiently defined and protected;

And whereas the said Assembly at its last meeting by a small majority approved of an addition to the said Rules as follows: "But nothing in these Rules shall debar or hinder any application or appeal to the Civil Court or any action brought seeking redress for civil wrong done by such removal from office or position or by loss of emolument due to unconstitutional procedure on the part of the Church Court or Courts in departure from the Church's own Rules and Forms of Procedure or in violation of the consensual compact implied in the relation of the Church's office bearers to the Church's Courts and Constitution";

It is hereby overtured by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in the State of New South Wales to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to take these premises into consideration and in view of the fact that the Civil Rights of the Church's office-bearers are sufficiently protected by other sections of these Rules for the guarding of Civil

Rights, and that the section of the Rule last quoted is superfluous and open to construction inconsistent with previous Rules, thus endangering the free exercise of the Church's action and discipline, so defeating the intention of the Declaration and Rules referred to, that the said section of Rules last quoted be rescinded and form no part of the Rules referred to.

Professor Macintyre was appointed to support the Overture in the General Assembly of Australia.

JOHN BURGESS, Clerk of N.S.W. Assembly.

(6) OVERTURE ANENT BENEFICIARY FUNDS.

*Transmitted by the General Assembly of Western Australia.*

Whereas in the other Presbyterian Churches in the United Kingdom and in the British Dominions and in the United States of America, there are funds for Aged and Infirm Ministers, and for the Widows and Orphans of Ministers; and

Whereas there are no such funds in the Presbyterian Church of Australia, which all Ministers have the right and privilege of joining; and

Although there are such Funds in connection with some of the State Assemblies for the benefit of Ministers in those States, yet Ministers in being translated from one State to another, suffer various disabilities and pecuniary hardships in connection with these Funds, and these disabilities are also a hindrance to the obtaining of Ministers for many Churches.

It is humbly overtured to the General Assembly by the State Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in Western Australia to take these premises into consideration and appoint a Committee to consider the working of Church Beneficiary Funds within Australia, to take actuarial advice, to consider the advisability of initiating a new Fund or Funds for the whole Church of Australia, which all Ministers joining the Church might be permitted or compelled to join and to report to next Assembly, or deal with the whole matter as the Assembly in its wisdom may think fit.

On the motion of the Rev. J. S. Buntine, seconded by the Rev. J. Haynes, it was agreed to sustain the Overture, and forward it to the General Assembly of Australia, with the recommendation that women workers of the Church be included in the scope of the Fund's operations.

The Moderator's Committee was authorised to appoint two representatives to the Assembly to support the Overture, and have appointed the Right Rev. W. F. Turton and Mr. F. A. McMullen for that purpose.

Extracted from the records of the General Assembly of Western Australia by me, this 19th day of June, 1914,

DANIEL ROSS, Clerk.

(7) OVERTURE ANENT CANDIDATES FOR THE MINISTRY.

*Transmitted by the General Assembly of Western Australia.*

Whereas in every State of Australia the need of more candidates for the Ministry is becoming increasingly urgent each year;

And whereas the sentiment of our people is likely to be more deeply aroused by a National movement:

It is humbly overtured to the General Assembly of Australia by the Assembly of Western Australia that earnest action be taken throughout the Commonwealth with a view to securing a large number of candidates, and it is respectfully suggested that a Volunteer movement be initiated to include young men and women, also senior boys and girls, who may feel led to enter any department of the Ministry. (Home, Inland or Foreign);

And that the movement be closely and visibly associated with our Sunday Schools by displaying in a conspicuous part of each Sunday School hall a list of volunteers, with notes of their subsequent careers added from time to time.

On the motion of the Rev. F. E. Oxer, seconded by the Rev. W. H. Steele, it was agreed to sustain the Overture, and forward it to the General Assembly of Australia.

The Moderator's Committee was authorised to appoint two representatives to the Assembly to support the Overture, and have appointed the Right Rev. W. F. Turton, and the Rev. W. F. Shannon, B.A., for that purpose.

Extracted from the records of the General Assembly of Western Australia by me, this 19th day of June, 1914.

DANIEL ROSS, Clerk.

(8) OVERTURE *RE* MINISTERS FOR NORTH QUEENSLAND.

*Transmitted by the Presbytery of Townsville.*

At St. Andrew's Hall, Charters Towers, Queensland, the 25th day of June, 1914, at 11.15 a.m., which day the Presbytery of Townsville being duly met and constituted with prayer.

*Inter alia*: The following Overture to the General Assembly of Australia was passed and ordered to be transmitted to the Clerk of Same, on the motion of Mr. J. Anderson, seconded by Mr. T. Price Jones:—

UNTO THE VENERABLE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA:

Whereas the location of the Presbytery of Townsville and its almost unlimited distances have militated against its needs being understood and adequately supplied by our Australian Church, the Presbytery of Townsville by order of the State General Assembly hereby submits the following facts for the consideration of your venerable Court:—

1. This Presbytery's bounds extend from Thursday Island in the North to the vicinity of Rockhampton in the South, and from the seaboard to the South Australian border.

2. Some twenty years ago there were six or seven settled Ministers within our bounds.

3. Within this vast area there are at present only three settled Ministers, namely, at Mackay, Townsville, and Charters Towers, whilst there are thirteen Home Mission Charges.

4. Some of the abovementioned Home Mission Charges are petitioning the Presbytery to be raised to fully sanctioned Charges; this the Presbytery would willingly accede to were Ministers available, but, as no Ministers are in view, nothing is to be gained by the adoption of this course, and consequently we are at a standstill.

5. The fields at the present time in the opinion of this Presbytery which are in a position to call Ministers are Bowen, Ayr, Cairns, Atherton, and Hughenden.

6. In view of the present unsatisfactory conditions, adequate supervision cannot be given to this vast region, where there should be a number of additional Home Mission Stations opened without delay. To the North of Townsville we have no settled Charges, whereas, if Ministers were available to occupy promising fields in that territory, we contend the Assembly could in the near future consider the question of the formation of a new Presbytery, with Cairns as its centre.

IN VIEW, THEREFORE, of the pressing need of ordained Ministers, for the better supervision of our work, and in order, too, that some of the Home Missionaries at present occupying these fields may be released in order to occupy new centres, IT IS HUMBLY OVERTURED TO THE VENERABLE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA to take these premises into consideration, to give special encouragement to ordained Ministers to take up work in these needy fields, and to endeavour to secure from the Southern States men of the strongest character who will seek to lay the foundations of our Church deep and wide in this rapidly developing part of the Australian Continent, or to otherwise deal with the matter as the Assembly in its wisdom may deem fit.

The Presbytery's representatives in the Assembly were authorised to support the overture.

Closed with prayer.

Extracted from the Records of the Presbytery of Townsville, this 29th day of June, 1914, by me,

GEORGE TULLOCH,  
Clerk of Presbytery, Charters Towers.

(9.) OVERTURE FROM GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
RE THEOLOGICAL HALL.

At Perth, the sixth day of August, 1914, which day the General Assembly of Western Australia met and was duly constituted with prayer ;

*Inter alia* : The General Assembly resolved as follows :—

Whereas a Theological Hall Committee has been in existence for some years in Western Australia for the purpose of directing the studies of Students within the State ;

And whereas a staff of competent lecturers on all the subjects prescribed by the Deed of Union has now been duly appointed by the Assembly ;

And whereas the Assembly is prepared to provide a regular course of instruction by the aforesaid lecturers, similar to that given in the Halls already in existence, and also to arrange for its Students attending the said course in accordance with the requirements of the Deed of Union ;

And whereas a University is now established in Western Australia, at which students are attending lectures with a view to entering the Theological Hall ;

And whereas permission has already been granted to the Assembly of Western Australia to instruct and examine theological students during the first two years of their course ;

And whereas the needs of the Church in Western Australia are such that senior students cannot possibly be spared to complete their course in distant States ;

It is therefore humbly overtured to the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia by the General Assembly of Western Australia to recognise the Theological Hall in Perth, Western Australia, and thereby give it authority to train students during the whole course.

The sederunt was closed with prayer.

Extracted from the records of the General Assembly of Western Australia this twenty-seventh day of August, 1914, by me.

DANIEL ROSS,  
Clerk of Assembly.

MEMORANDA.

1. Staff appointed by Assembly of Western Australia :

- Lecturer in Hebrew and Old Testament Exegesis—The Rev. G. N. Dods,  
M.A.  
 „ New Testament Greek and Exegesis—The Rev. W. H. Steele,  
M.A.  
 „ Apologetic—The Rev. Alex. Crow  
 „ Church History—The Rev. J. S. Buntine.  
 „ Systematic Theology—The Rev. F. E. Oxer, M.A., B.D.  
 „ English Bible—The Rev. Daniel Ross.

2. With regard to the first two years, we are at present following the course adopted in Melbourne and Sydney. We have no desire whatever to lower the standard of work, as is proved by the fact that we are encouraging nearly all our Home Mission students to take an Arts Course at the University, rather than the alternative Mission Course.

3. Hitherto we have simply coached our students, but are pledged to organise a six-months' course of regular lectures, in the event of recognition by the General Assembly.

4. The Exit Examination being in the hands of the College Committee should be sufficient guarantee that our students attain the standard required by the Church.

## III.

## PETITIONS.

## (1) PETITION OF STEWART ROBERTSON FOR EXTRA MURAL COURSE.

To the College Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Australia for transmission to General Assembly.

The Petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth:—

1. That the Petitioner is a student in the Home Mission Scheme of Training, in his third year, and has been a Home Mission Agent since 1911.
  2. That prior to that, in 1910, he worked as assistant, under the Home Mission Committee of New South Wales, in the Clunes Charge.
  3. That in 1909, after a break of five (5) years from scholastic studies, pursued mainly in the George Watson's College, Edinburgh, he sat for Matriculation, in Sydney, but failed in Higher Latin, securing a pass in Higher English and Lower Greek.
  4. That at this time he was battling against attacks of rheumatic fever, and that when he again sat for Matriculation in 1910 he secured again a pass in Higher English and Lower Greek but failed in Higher Latin.
  5. That thereupon, on the advice of Dr. Bullmore, of Macquarie Street, Sydney, he left the Coastal Districts and went inland, taking up work under the Home Mission Committee, in the hope of conquering the tendency he had developed towards rheumatic fever. Dr. Bullmore then gave your petitioner to understand that he must give up all hope of residing on the Coastal Slopes for some years to come if he wished to free himself from the rheumatic tendency.
  6. That since then your petitioner has worked successfully and successively at Berrigan, Dubbo, Broken Hill, Urana, Collarenebri, The Rock, Junee.
  7. That he has been free from rheumatic fever since going inland and has been examined by Dr. Bolton, of The Rock, and found to be free from all organic disease.
  8. That Dr. Bullmore insists on your petitioner remaining for some years yet on the other side of the Mountains, and considers it more than unwise that he should attempt to reside on the Coastal Slopes.
  9. That in view of this authoritative advice your petitioner begs your Committee to recommend the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia to grant, in consideration of these facts, that he be allowed to take a special Extra-Mural course in Theology on the completion of his Home Mission Course.
  10. That your petitioner makes this Petition realizing that had he started on the Home Mission Course of Training in 1910 he would have had the right to an Extra-Mural Course, but seeing that he did not commence the Course of Training then he fully realises that he must now petition, pleading the exceptional circumstances, to be allowed to take an Extra-Mural Course in Theology. This he does not from any desire to evade the College Course, but with regret, because there is now no option and should the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia, not grant this petition he must give up all hope of entering the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church.
- It was the cherished hope of your petitioner to have gone forward, taking the University and College Courses, and for this reason only he delayed entering upon the Course of Training for Home Mission Agents, thinking that he would yet manage to go on in the ordinary way. Your petitioner is in his twenty-eighth year (28).
11. That subjoined are certificates from Dr. Bolton and Dr. Bullmore. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

STEWART ROBERTSON.



"The Rock, N.S.W., Dec. 29th, 1913.

"To certify that Mr. Stewart Robertson is free from any organic disease, and has been free from rheumatic fever during the past three years. I would advise his remaining in the west of the State of New South Wales, as beneficial to his health,—Henry Bolton, S.A.C.P. & S., Ed."

"175 Macquarie-st., Sydney, 1 April, 1914.

"This is to certify that in my opinion it would be more than unwise for Mr. Robertson to attempt to reside on the coastal slopes of New South Wales. I advised him three years ago of the necessity of residence inland. His subsequent experiences confirm me in the opinion that the advice I then gave must be followed if he is to remain free from rheumatic fever.—H. H. Bullmore, M.B., M.R.C.P., Ed."

Temporary Church Offices, Temple Court, Melbourne, August 6, 1914.

The Executive of the College Committee met as above at 3.30 p.m. and was duly constituted.

*Inter alia*: "Resolved that the recommendation of the N.S.W. Section of the College Committee relative to the Petition of Stewart Robertson, H.M. Agent, praying that the Petitioner be granted an Extra-Mural Course of Study, be the recommendation of the College Committee to the General Assembly. The recommendation is as follows: 'That as Stewart Robertson will be in the country, and in a place, or places suitable to him, for some time before he can come up for the entrance examination, he should first pass the entrance examination when eligible to sit; take the ordinary College Course; and if it be found by experience that he is unable to proceed with study in the climate of Sydney, the Committee would then consider the matter of an Extra-Mural Course.'

The secretary was instructed to transmit the Petition to the Convener of the Assembly's Business Committee, and forward the foregoing resolution.

Closed with prayer.

Extracted by me,

J. C. COUTIE,

Secretary, College Committee.

## (2) PETITION FOR ORDINATION OF HUGH MORRIS.

*From the H.M. Committee of South Australia.*

Presbyterian Church of Australia, South Australian State Assembly.

At Adelaide, the 26th day of May, 1914.

Which day the South Australian State Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia being met and constituted, *inter alia*:

The Petition for ordination of Mr. Hugh Morris was taken up when Revd. Dr. Davidson moved: "That the Petition be transmitted to the General Assembly with our approval." Rev. D. F. Brandt seconded, and it was agreed.

The Petition is as follows:—

To the Venerable the General Assembly:

The Petition of the Home Mission Committee of the South Australian State Assembly showeth:—

1. That Mr. Hugh Morris was born on November 15, 1864, at Largs, Ayrshire, Scotland, and was educated at the Board School, Largs, and afterwards took two full sessions at the Bible Training Institute, Glasgow, which included instruction in knowledge of the Bible and training for evangelistic work.

2. That Mr. Morris did mission and evangelistic work in Scotland for about sixteen years; for Finnieston Church, Glasgow, five years; under Lanarkshire Christian Union, three years; for Mid and East Lothian Evangelistic Association, six years; and testimonials from Dalkeith Presbytery, U.F.C. Presbytery of Haddington and Dunbar, and Ministers of Loanhead, Prestonkirk, and Fin-

niston congregations, and the President of the Stirlingshire Mission at Larbert, bear testimony to the successful nature of his work. (Copies of testimonials herewith).

3. That the following extract minute of the Presbytery of Dalkeith, Scotland, under the date of March 18th, 1913, sets forth the gifts of Mr. Morris as a preacher, and his universal appreciation by people and officebearers:—

*Inter alia*: Mr. Morris was the Evangelist of the Mid and East Lothian Evangelistic Association and conducted, from time to time, Missions in a large number of Districts within the bounds of the Presbytery, on from 1905 till he left about five years ago. The testimony borne to him by ministers and elders in the Presbytery was that he was a very able evangelist. His addresses were based on a careful study of Scripture; in theology they were soundly evangelical, and they were characterised by vigorous thought and much spiritual power. Mr. Morris has the gift of song which he uses effectively. Mr. Morris was esteemed for his Christian character, his wisdom and prudence, and it was believed that there was no little fruit from his labours, in conversions and in spiritual quickening of believers. (Signed) Alex Gillies, Clerk."

4. That Mr. Morris paid his own passage to South Australia, and has been in charge of Port Pirie congregation since June, 1913, and has, under the blessing of God, worked it up to a strong congregation, as testified by the following extracts from the report of the Interim Moderator, the Rev. P. H. Widmer:—

"In response to the request of the Home Mission Committee that I should report on Mr. Morris' work at Port Pirie I now do so.

"In a few words I can assure you that the Church there has made most satisfactory progress under Mr. Morris. He has now been in Port Pirie nearly twelve months and has accomplished a great deal. He has endeared himself to the hearts of many people, and is held in high esteem by all who have come in contact with him.

"Mr. Morris has given Presbyterianism a new lease of life in Pirie, and many people who looked upon the Services there as too poor for their support are looking at things in a new light. The Church has been tastefully renovated inside, the seating capacity extended and everything about the Church is neatly arranged, so that Presbyterians feel that they have a Church worthy of themselves and their great name. Not only that, Mr. Morris has gripped the people and has been the means of blessing to many.

"I held Communion Service at Pirie on Sunday, May 10th. There were between 50 and 60 people at Church in the morning and 30 stayed to Communion. In the evening there were between 70 and 80 and about 20 stayed to Communion, making 50 Communicants for the day. In the afternoon I visited the School and found things well organised. There were between 30 and 40 scholars and a good number of teachers and splendid order. The various Officers of the Church expressed their satisfaction with Mr. Morris and testified to the good work he had done and is still doing.—Signed P. H. Widmer, Interim Moderator.

And the resolution of the local Board of Management:—

"We as a Board of Management are taking a keen interest in this matter and most heartily wish that this project may be carried through, and consider Mr. Morris one who is worthy of our highest esteem, very capable as a preacher and holding the fullest confidence of the board and congregation. Our Church under his ministration has made wonderful progress. The attendance has more than trebled its former numbers, and his work among the young people has gained such a firm hold over this section of our charge that we feel he is the man we have long waited for and now fully appreciate. Financially our position has also strengthened considerably, and we feel sure a steady progress awaits us."

5. That the Presbytery of Belalie, within whose bounds Mr. Morris has been labouring since his arrival in South Australia, has consented to your petitioners taking this step.

6. That the view of the Home Mission Committee is endorsed by Mr. Morris and set forth in the following statement signed by Mr. Morris:—

"The Home Mission Committee having expressed to me the opinion that I would be in a position to do more effective work for the Church if ordained to the Ministry I am confirmed in that opinion by my work in South Australia.

"Many places are remote from settled charges, and this makes it difficult for an ordained man in charge of a congregation to go to such places, when required, for baptisms and the dispensing of the Lord's Supper.

"Ordination would give one full status among the people in carrying on Church work, and is conducive to the binding of a congregation together—this being a desirable object where the aim is the building up of a Church.

"I, therefore, approve of the Home Mission Committee petitioning the General Assembly for my ordination, believing that it is competent to judge as to my fitness for the work of the holy ministry. (Signed) Hugh Morris."

7. That your petitioners ask that the General Assembly will take these premises into consideration and authorise that Mr. Morris be ordained to the Holy Ministry, or otherwise deal with the said premises as may seem to it just and wise. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray. On behalf of the Home Mission Committee, S.A. State Assembly,

J. C. McPHEE, Convener.

Extracted from the Records of the South Australian State Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia this third day of August, 1914, by me,

J. HALL ANGUS,

Clerk of Assembly.

### (3) PETITION OF JAMES RAFF FOR ORDINATION.

To the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Petition of the undersigned Jas. Raff, Presbyterian Missionary of the Rushworth Charge in the State of Victoria, humbly sheweth:—

That your petitioner is 57 years of age, married, with wife and 7 children, who, with the exception of 2 at home aged 13 years and 10 years respectively are able to support themselves; the 2nd son is now serving your Church as Home Missionary in the Charge of Quambatook, Victoria.

That your petitioner was ordained as Elder in Prahran Presbyterian Church 25 years ago and served on Board of Management and Sabbath School Staff until entering business at Rutherglen, Victoria, where he served as a Trustee in re-establishing the Presbyterian cause there, preaching at the out-stations and laboring in the Sabbath School.

That your petitioner in 1902, applied for and was appointed a Home Missionary of your Church, serving with acceptance the Gooram Mission from 1902 till 1908 with an interval of 2 years at Chiltern, Vic. He attended the Home Mission Course of lectures at Ormond College in 1905, and gained an average of 56 marks on the subjects, but having to work a circuit of over 50 miles in extent in hilly country your petitioner found it impossible to continue the studies.

That your petitioner spent 2 years at Chiltern, Vic., during which time funds were raised and extensive repairs and improvements effected to the Church building and grounds, and interest in Church life generally revived. In 1907 your petitioner was re-appointed to Gooram Mission, at the request of the congregations, and served another 2 years, being then transferred to Wedderburn charge, laboring there for 9 months, with tokens of God's blessing on the work.

That your petitioner in October, 1910, was trusted with the work of pioneering your Church's cause at Wonthaggi, Gippsland, Vic., when in spite of difficulty, a Church building and Manse was erected within the space of 2 years, and the Mission made self-supporting 3 months after its inception: an outstation was also opened at South Dudley in a private dwelling, and land bought on which a Church is now erected. Owing to the sickness of your petitioner's wife, he resigned Wonthaggi, and was appointed to Rushworth,

Vic., where a year of progress has by the blessing of God been recorded.  
 Trusting your Venerable Court may deem your petitioner worthy to be raised to the full status of the Ministry. Your petitioner will ever pray,  
 Rushworth, 10/3/14. JAS. RAFF.

Presbytery of Seymour,  
 The Manse, Broadford, April 4th, 1914.

At Nagambie and within the Presbyterian School Hall, March 31st, 1914, the Presbytery of Seymour met and was duly constituted.

*Inter alia*: A petition was received from Mr. J. Raff, with accompanying documents. After full discussion, the following motion was carried unanimously:—

"That in view of Mr. Raff's exceptional circumstances, advanced age, undoubted abilities, and proved usefulness in the service of God, the Presbytery resolve to transmit his petition to the General Assembly of Australia with approval, but with the suggestion that he be asked to attend lectures for one session at Ormond College in Theology, Church History and Apologetics."

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Extracted from the Minutes of Presbytery by

R. C. FORSTER, Clerk.

Temporary Church Offices, Temple Court, Melbourne, August 6th, 1914.

The Executive of the College Committee met as above at 3.30 p.m. and was duly constituted.

*Inter alia*: A petition from Mr. James Raff, H.M. Agent, praying that the General Assembly would decree that petitioner be raised to the full status of the Ministry, was laid on the Table.

The petition was accompanied by the following documents:—(1) Extract Minute Presbytery of Seymour; (2) Paper in support of petition signed by 111 members and adherents of the congregation at Rushworth; (3) Certificate H.M. Committee, State of Victoria; (4) Letters of commendation from Revs. W. S. Rolland, H. A. Buntine, and J. Garde.

It was resolved that the petition be transmitted to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, *simpliciter*.

Closed with prayer.

Extracted by me,

J. C. COUTIE,

Secretary, College Committee.

#### (4) PETITION OF GEO. THOMPSON LEE.

To the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The petition of the undersigned George Thompson Lee, Missionary of the Scarsdale Charge, Victoria, humbly sheweth:—

1. That he is 54 years of age, a married man with one son, whose age is 22 years.
2. That he is a son of the Rev. George Duke Lee, who has served our Church for over 40 years.
3. That he has been a Missionary of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria for 24 years.
4. That he after leaving the State School, studied at the Ballarat College for nine (9) months, then proceeded to Hamilton College, where he studied for 5 years.
5. That he completed the prescribed Home Mission Course in 1899.
6. That he would have presented himself for Entrance Examination to the Theological Hall, had not the condition of his eyes prevented him from further close application to study.
7. That he has labored with some degree of success in the following Mission Charges—Burnt Creek (Horsham), Heywood, Winchelsea, Cobram, Merino, Drouin, Dimboola, Lindenow, Violet Town, and Scarsdale. That three (3) of these Stations were raised to regular charges shortly after your petitioner's work therein.

8. That he begs leave to present letters of recommendation from his Moderators and others.

9. That he now petitions your Venerable Court to raise him to the full status of the Ministry, on the condition that he first attends a Session of the Theological Hall.

And your petitioner will ever pray.

GEORGE THOMPSON LEE.

Presbytery of Ballarat, Scots Manse, Ballarat.

At Ballarat and within St. Andrew's Kirk on the 13th day of August, 1914, the Presbytery of Ballarat met and was constituted with prayer.

*Inter alia*: The petition of Mr. George Thompson Lee to the General Assembly of Australia to be ordained as a minister on condition that he attends a session of the Theological Hall, was received.

The Rev. F. E. Yeaman moved and the Rev. D. W. Smith seconded that the petition be transmitted with the hearty recommendation of the Presbytery that the prayer of the petition be granted. The motion was approved.

Closed with the Benediction.

Extracted from the Minutes of the Presbytery of Ballarat,

A. H. MOORE, Clerk of Presbytery.

Presbyterian Church of Victoria,

Temple Court, Collins Street, Melbourne, Aug. 19th, 1914.

Mr. George T. Lee has been in continuous employment by the Home Mission Committee for 24 years. During that long period of service he has been in charge of a number of stations in different country districts of Victoria; and his record of service has been on the whole satisfactory.

On behalf of the Committee,

JOHN BARNABY, Convener.

Certificates in favour of Mr. Lee from Revs. F. Milne, Hugh Burns, Thomas Gray, J. Garde, J. R. Fiddian, Thomas Shanks and Mr. C. Hay Hunter.

(5.) PETITION OF MR. W. A. THOMPSON, STUDENT IN THEOLOGY.

To the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, The Petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth:—

That he has passed his first year in the Theological Hall, St. Andrew's College, Sydney, but that owing to ill-health, brought on by bronchial-asthma, he has been medically advised to live out of Sydney during the winter months. As this entails non-attendance at the Theological Hall, the petitioner asks to be granted in these special circumstances a course similar to that set for Extra-Mural Students so that he may be enabled to complete his course for the Christian Ministry.

And your petitioner will ever pray.

WM. A. THOMPSON.

Certificate from Dr. Elliott.

Certificate from Professor Macintyre.

This is to certify that Mr. W. A. Thompson is a sufferer from chronic bronchial-asthma, for which, in my opinion, the climate of Sydney is not at all suitable—and that, in order to receive any permanent benefits it is absolutely essential for him to reside in a dry and more bracing climate.

NICHOLAS P. ELLIOTT,

M.R.C.P.S., Eng., etc.

Stanmore,

August 21, '14.

St. Andrews' College,

Sydney, 20th August, 1914.

I certify that Mr. W. A. Thompson has completed his first year as a Student of Theology at St. Andrews' College.

RONALD G. MACINTYRE, B.D.,

President of Faculty.

## IV.

## REPORTS.

## I.

## REPORT OF THE PUBLIC QUESTIONS, RELIGION, AND MORALS COMMITTEE.

## MODERATORIAL VISITATIONS.

The visits of the Moderator (Dr. Rentoul) to the Churches of Tasmania in 1912 and to those of South Australia in 1913, conjoined with the forward movement of our Church's life in both those States, have been productive of much benefit. In Tasmania, Dr. Rentoul visited the congregations of both North and South, and afterwards reached the Western and North-Western districts, immediately after the Mount Lyell mine disaster. He visited the scene of the tragedy at Mount Lindsay, and held a special service for the widows, orphans, and relatives of the deceased miners. He was, we understand, the only head of any of the leading Churches who thus reached and held a memorial service in Germanston. After his return to Victoria he succeeded in raising a fund of some £70 for the Presbyterian widows and orphans of deceased miners.

As a result of his Moderatorial visit and the extension of the Home Mission movement administered by the Home Mission Committee of the Victorian and Tasmanian Church, Ministers (recently exit students of the Theological Hall, Ormond College) have been inducted and ordained in Queenstown (the centre of the western mining area) and at Burnie, and also at Ulverstone, on the Northern coast. Our Church has thus been reorganised and greatly strengthened in these regions.

In South Australia, in 1913, Dr. Rentoul visited and preached, or otherwise held meetings and gave addresses, in the various Churches of the State. One very interesting incident of his visit was the spontaneous formation of a Presbyterian Laymen's Guild in Adelaide for concerted work, with Professor H. Darnley Naylor as its first President. Over one hundred elders and other office-bearers of the Adelaide Churches were present to welcome the Moderator at the meeting at which this League was formed.

Another feature of our Church's work in South Australia deserves immediate attention. The special conditions, spiritually and morally, of the great smelting township, Port Pirie, on Spencer's Gulf, presents unusual difficulties as well as opportunities. Port Pirie is the result and output of Broken Hill, and thus represents two States. The work of Mr. H. Morris there has been remarkable. He has not only restored vitality to our Church's cause (which he found moribund), but has made it a centre of spiritual energy and power. As our Church has no ordained Minister for many miles to the eastward, or in the Port Pirie region, or away westward, over the great mining centre of "Iron Knob" on the other side of the Gulf, the Moderator and many others think it would tend greatly to the furtherance of religion and morals if the General Assembly could see its way to confer upon Mr. Morris the status and functions of an ordained Minister, for his work's sake; it being the condition that he pledge himself to some years of further ministry in the district.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

The Moderator, to his deep regret, was unable to reach Western Australia. Here the "need for men" is urgent. In some centres, our Church's life, it is said, is at vanishing point for lack of ministry. It may be that in certain regions of New South Wales and Queensland the cry for an effective ministry is as urgent.

## LOYAL ADDRESS.

The Moderator and Committee, on behalf of your Assembly presented to the Governor-General of the Commonwealth, Sir Ronald C. Munro-Ferguson and Lady Ferguson, an illuminated address on their arrival in Australia, expressing the loyalty of the Presbyterian people to the throne, and their hearty welcome to Sir Ronald, both in his representative official capacity and also as an Elder of the Presbyterian Church.

## NEED OF ENLARGED EXECUTIVE.

Owing to the lamented death of the Hon. James Ballour, the illness of the Right Rev. the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria (Rev. W. M. M. Alexander) and the extreme smallness of the Executive, the action of the Committee was mainly confined to the new and, in some respects, perplexing questions arising out of the constitution of the Military Defence force for Australia, with the powers and responsibilities of the various Christian Churches in reference to the Spiritual and moral oversight of the troops while under training. Briefly expressed it is—

## THE CHAPLAINCY QUESTION.

In April, 1913, at the request of the Military Department, the Moderator (Dr. Rentoul) had lengthened sittings, in conjunction with the heads respectively of the Anglican and Methodist Churches, and the Adjutant-General, on the Subject. The wishes and claims of the R.C. Church had, of course, also to be kept in view. Regulations were finally adopted regarding Chaplains-General, Senior and other Chaplains, remuneration, etc., those Regulations being in each case prior to endorsement submitted to your Executive Committee for suggestion or alteration. A number of improvements suggested by the Executive were introduced. The Regulations, in their final form, are here set forth:—

## REGULATIONS FOR CHAPLAIN'S DEPARTMENT.

112. An establishment of Chaplains will be laid down, and published in Military Orders as may be necessary.
- 112A. The Chaplain's Department will consist of Chaplains serving on the—  
 (a) Authorised establishment.  
 (b) Unattached List.
- 112B. A clergyman of any recognised religious body may be appointed Chaplain.
- 112c. Nominations may be received for appointment as Chaplains from clergy men of any recognised denomination, and will be sent through the Senior Chaplain of the denomination to the Commandant, and will be forwarded by him to the Chaplain-General of the denomination concerned, for transmission to the Military Board.  
 In other cases nominations will be sent by the head of the denomination, or the recognised governing body, direct to the Commandant, for submission to the Military Board.
113. Chaplains will be divided into four classes, viz:—  
 4th Class—with relative rank of Captain.  
 3rd " " " " Major.  
 2nd " " " " Lieut.-Colonel.  
 1st " " " " Colonel
114. Four Chaplains-General will be appointed, one for each of the following denominations:—  
 Anglican.  
 Roman Catholic.  
 Presbyterian.  
 Methodist.  
 to be the head of each denomination concerned, or a clergyman recommended by the recognised governing or consultative body of such denomination.
- 114A. A Senior Chaplain for each of the denominations referred to in Regulation 114 shall be appointed in each Military District, to administer the Chaplains of his own denomination in the District.  
 Such Senior Chaplain shall either be—  
 (a) The head of the denomination in the Military District, or if he is unable to so act—  
 (b) Such other Clergyman as he or the recognised denominational governing or consultative body may recommend.

115. Promotions of Chaplains will be governed by length of service, as follows :—
- (i.) to the 3rd Class—after 10 years' service as Chaplain.
  - (ii.) to the 2nd Class—after 15 years' service as Chaplain, including 5 years in the 3rd Class.
  - (iii.) to the 1st Class—after 20 years' service as Chaplain, 5 of which must have been in the 2nd Class.
- Provided that a clergyman appointed Chaplain-General or Senior Chaplain may be appointed 1st or 2nd Class Chaplains without having previously served as a Chaplain.
116. Transfers of Chaplains from one Military District to another will receive the sanction of the Senior Chaplains of the Military Districts concerned, or, in the case of other denominations, by the head of the denomination or governing body in each of the Military Districts.
- If a Chaplain on the establishment of the Military District is removed to a position in which he is unable to continue to perform the duties of a Chaplain, he will be placed on the Unattached List.
- 116A. A Chaplain leaving the Military District in which he is resident, or changing his address, will at once notify the Senior Chaplain of his denomination who will report the same to the Commandant.
- 116B. On intimation being received by the Military Board from the head of a denomination that a Chaplain has ceased to be in the service of the denomination, or is considered to be unsuitable to carry out the duties of a Chaplain, his appointment will be cancelled.
- A Chaplain on the establishment who has not performed any duty for two years in succession, will be retired, provided that in special cases this period may be extended on the recommendation of the Senior Chaplain of his denomination and the Commandant.
- In the event of a Chaplain on the establishment retiring, the fact shall be notified by the Senior Chaplain of his denomination to the Commandant, and a new nomination will be submitted to fill the vacancy.
- 116C. Chaplains for whom vacancies do not exist on the authorised establishment will be transferred to the Unattached List, and, whilst serving thereon, are liable for duty.
117. Chaplains will not be subject to the regulations governing the age for retirement laid down in Commonwealth Military Regulation 134.
118. Chaplains are required to perform duty with the troops as may be arranged by their Senior Chaplains.
- All arrangements for Divine service will be made by the Senior Chaplain of each denomination for the service of his denomination, but this shall not prevent two or more Chaplains agreeing to hold combined services at any time with the concurrence of their Senior Chaplains.
- Chaplains detailed for duty at Camps of Continuous Training should, if possible, attend for the whole period, and will be granted allowances as laid down in Financial and Allowance Regulations.
119. Chaplains are to be treated with those marks of respect which are due to their rank and profession, and Commandants and Officers-Commanding are to render them every possible assistance in carrying out their duties.

By the above Regulations, it will be observed, the Presbyterian Church of Australia stands on an absolute equality with the Anglican Church, the Methodist Church, and the Roman Catholic Church, so far as the Military Defence Force is concerned, in status of Chaplain-General and other Chaplains, and in the number of Chaplains on the " Authorised Establishment."

It should be clearly noted also that the Right Rev. the Moderator of your General Assembly is by virtue of his office, Chaplain-General, unless he, or your Assembly, in conjunction with him, nominate someone to that office. Similarly, the Moderator of each State Assembly is, during his term of office, Senior Chaplain within his own State, unless he approves of some other clergyman to act in that capacity during his Moderatorship. It is, therefore, urgently impressed upon State Moderators that, on entering upon their respective terms of office they should, without delay, notify to the Military Authorities their acceptance of the Senior Chaplaincy of their respective State, or (should they be unwilling to act as such) notify the name of the Senior Chaplain they recognise in that State.



For the due recognition of the Church's authority and dignity, and the careful selection and oversight of Chaplains, it is also recommended that an effective Committee on Military and Naval Affairs should be appointed (wherever such does not already exist) by each State Assembly, the State Moderator being its Convener, and, further, that on such Committees the "civil" representation shall preponderate over the "military," as in keeping with all constitutional government.

Moreover, it is recommended that your Assembly shall enlarge the number of the Executive. Further, as our Presbyterian system, with its changing Moderatorship, despite its various advantages, has one distinct disadvantage for purposes of official representation and rapidity of action, it is recommended that, during the continuance of the Federal seat of government in Melbourne, (a) either a strong Executive of this Public Questions Committee should have its headquarters in that city with a Vice-Convener, in addition to the Moderator as Convener; (b) or another, and perhaps more effective way of meeting the difficulty would be that your Assembly should appoint an effective Military and Naval Committee, or Executive of such Committee, with its centre in Melbourne, so long as the Military Headquarters continue in that city, with a Vice-Convener to act in conjunction with your Assembly's Moderator, and to guard watchfully the rights and interests of the Assembly and of the Presbyterian people, in view of the rivalries and antagonistic pressure of other parties.

Your Moderator, as Chaplain-General, in co-operation with Chaplain-General Holden, of the Methodist General Conference, has had great trouble in the efforts to secure an adequate supply of Chaplains on the troopships which are to convey to Europe the Expeditionary Force. Extravagant demands on the part of certain "High-Church" Anglicans and the unreasonable claim of another Ecclesiastical organisation made the path to common action difficult. The proposal laid before the Military authorities by the Presbyterian and Methodist Chaplains-General was—additional troopship Chaplains:

Anglican	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Presbyterian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Methodist	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Smaller Protestant bodies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

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In a final interview between your Moderator (Dr. Rentoul), Chaplain-General Holden, and Senior Chaplain Archbishop Clark, the following proportion was accepted—Chaplains for troopships (in addition to 12 Expeditionary Force Chaplains)—

Anglican	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Presbyterian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Methodist	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Congregational, Baptist, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

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All this labour and mutual arrangement, which the Minister for Defence encouraged, has been rendered futile by the message of the Minister of Defence (now merely acting till his successor in the Government arrives) that no Chaplains in addition to the 12 Chaplains for the Expeditionary Force will be appointed by him.

This is to us a great disappointment and surprise. The reason assigned is a still greater surprise, and (as it seems to us) inconsistency—viz., that "if the above supply of Chaplains for troopships were granted, the Roman Catholics would claim a Chaplain on every troopship."

The decision involves a great wrong. Parents of our own and other Churches have, with great self-sacrifice allowed their sons to go, for the cause of Fatherland and right, to danger and possible death; and they have trusted the Commonwealth Government to adequately provide for the religious needs of their sons. This refusal to secure for them adequate religious and moral uplift and atmosphere amid their dangers and difficult new environment is very regrettable.

The experiences of the last two years have proven the absolute necessity of having a strong Executive of your Committee at the headquarters of the Commonwealth Govern-

ment. Very soon the headquarters will be in the State of New South Wales, in which the Executive should then have its seat. It is essential that the Assembly should take measures accordingly. For the present the headquarters are in Melbourne. It is necessary for the Church's highest interests that she should be effectively and expeditiously represented at the seat of Government by her official voice. The Committee, therefore, earnestly suggest that a strong Executive of this Committee should be appointed in Melbourne during the continuance of the seat of Government there, the Moderator to be Convener, and to have, representing him, a Vice-Convener in Melbourne in connection with the Executive.

Whether this Public Questions Committee, with its Executive, should be the Assembly's Committee on Naval and Military Affairs, or whether the Assembly will deem it better to have a separate Committee for this latter purpose, it is for the Assembly to declare. If the latter course be adopted, this Committee earnestly urges the necessity of the Moderator being convener of that Committee, with a Vice-Convener residing in the present official capital near to headquarters. Thus the Moderator can, in his own person or by telegram, advise with the Committee at all times, and without delay be informed of matters calling for the Church's action as they arise.

Much confusion has been caused, especially in official circles and communications, by the use of the same phraseology to designate your Moderator and also the State Moderator. The outgoing Moderator (Dr. Rentoul) has not at any time employed the title "Moderator-General," which was used to good purpose by some of his predecessors. But much inconvenience and, at times, bewilderment arose from its non-use, and by the employment of a long and cumbrous phraseology to avoid complication. Nor can he see any objection to the use of such a term as "Moderator-General" in official communications any more than the use of such a term as "Chaplain-General." Certainly, its use would not only make for more intelligent apprehension of the position of our Church of Australia by the public at large, and by the newspaper press, as well as by the representatives of civil government, but would also tend to defeat and nullify certain hurtful pretensions of ecclesiastical precedence and superiority on the part of certain forces which have no friendly attitude towards the Presbyterian Church. It is, therefore, earnestly suggested to the General Assembly whether it should not sanction or, at least, permit the use of such a designation as "Moderator-General" for its Moderator in communications with Civil and Governmental authorities.

The Hon. James Balfour and Colonel Goodlet having been removed by death, only one member remains of the Assembly's Capital Sites Committee—viz., Mr. William Wood. It is recommended that the Committee should be enlarged with influential members in both Sydney and Melbourne, and with a definitely appointed Convener, and that this Committee should also have special regard to the spiritual needs of Canberra, and report upon them from time to time to the Assembly.

The outbreak of war has laid additional and very heavy burdens of anxiety and labour upon the Moderator. Amidst them he has kept in close touch with the Executive.

1. The training encampment of the Australian Imperial Force at Broadmeadows, near Melbourne, has had a large proportion of Presbyterian young men who have volunteered for service. The spiritual and moral oversight of the Presbyterian trainees has been cared for with much attention and effectiveness by Chaplains, especially the Rev. A. Gillison, M.A., and the Rev. J. A. Barber, B.A., the latter of whom is resident in camp. The young men in training are generally of a superior type mentally and morally, a goodly proportion of them drawn from public schools, such as the Scotch College.

The Victorian State Moderator, the Right Rev. J. Crookston, who is Senior Chaplain in Victoria, also visited the camp and addressed the troops.

A final Communion and farewell service was held on the evening of September 10th. At this the Presbyterian troops were associated with those belonging to the Methodist, Congregationalist, Baptist, &c., Churches. The Rev. J. A. Barber conducted the Communion, the Rev. A. Gillison and other Ministers assisting in the devotional service; and the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Australia (Dr. Rentoul) gave the address prior to Communion.

2. The question of Chaplains for the Australian Imperial Force involved great expenditure of time, effort, and anxiety on the part of the Moderator, with necessity for frequent interviews with the Minister for Defence and the heads of the Military Department. The difficulty was intensified by the pressure of a general election and the frequent absence of the Minister from Victoria, and also the uncertainty as to a possible change of Commonwealth Government, also by the fact that this occurred at a time when the closing weeks of

the Theological Hall in Melbourne and its examinations, with various other cares, pressed upon the Moderator.

The Military authorities, after much delay, announced that the Chaplains to the Expeditionary Force would be:—

Anglican Chaplains	...	...	...	...	...	4
Roman Catholic Chaplains	...	...	...	...	...	2
Presbyterian Chaplain	...	...	...	...	...	1
Methodist Chaplain	...	...	...	...	...	1

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Thereupon Dr. Rentoul, acting in accord with Chaplain-General Holden, of the Methodist General Conference of Australia, protested against this unfair and inadequate representation. In successive personal interviews they gained this altered arrangement:—

Anglican Chaplains	...	...	...	...	...	5
Presbyterian Chaplains	...	...	...	...	...	2
Methodist Chaplains	...	...	...	...	...	2
Roman Catholic Chaplains	...	...	...	...	...	3

(All this has been calculated on the basis of the "Census Population," 1911.)

3. Dr. Rentoul thereupon, in keeping with his constant practice of seeking the advice of your Committee and of the cognate Committees in the various States, called a meeting of your Committee and invited also the co-operation of those members of your Committee on Naval and Military Affairs who resided in or near Melbourne, and also the members of the large Naval and Military Committee of the Victorian Church similarly situated, and consulted them regarding the selection of the two Chaplains for the Expeditionary Force.

4. The Cognate Committees of the various States had communicated with the Moderator, forwarding approved names. For their courtesy in this important matter the Moderator desires heartily to thank them. The Rev. A. Gillison, M.A., suggested from Victoria, was unable, for domestic reasons, to go at present. The Committee and the associated members from other Committees approved of the nomination by the Moderator of the Rev. E. N. Merrington, M.A., Ph., Brisbane and the Rev. J. C. McPhee, Adelaide, as Chaplains to the Australian Imperial Force. These gentlemen were nominated accordingly by your Moderator, Dr. Rentoul, and have been appointed and gazetted by the Military authorities.

By order of the Committee,

J. LAURENCE RENTOUL,

Convener.

## II.

### REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Your Committee, in its report to the General Assembly of 1912—(in connection with the Overture presented to the Assembly of 1910 as to the desirability of securing some uniformity in our Sabbath School system throughout Australia)—stated that a Sub-Committee had been appointed to consider the matter, and appended the Sub-Committee's report to its own for the information of the Assembly.

The Assembly of 1912, then resolved to "approve generally of the recommendations of the Sub-Committee as to uniformity of lessons and memory booklets throughout Australia," and remitted "the whole matter to the Committee on Sabbath Schools for further consideration and report."

1. Your Committee have now to inform the Assembly that the Church of Western Australia has adopted the Graded Lessons system of America, with a memory booklet of its own; that the Church of New South Wales has accepted the same scheme, while the Church of Victoria has printed and published graded lessons, prepared by a Committee of that Church, and a monthly magazine containing notes on the lessons (supplied by experts in teaching), and other Sabbath-school information of use to the teachers. It has also printed a memory booklet of Scripture passages for the scholars.

It will not be necessary in this report to enter into the details of the various schemes, as these will be duly brought before the Assembly, by those who are thoroughly conversant with them. The other Churches are waiting to see what recommendation may be made by the General Assembly of Australia, and such recommendation, after full discussion of the various schemes, will, no doubt, have its weight. As it is very desirable that—if possible, there should be one system at work throughout our Sabbath Schools in Australia, your Committee would express their preference for the Victorian system of graded lessons and memory booklets, and request the Assembly to recommend the adoption of this scheme by all our Sabbath Schools in Australia.

2. It was another recommendation of the last General Assembly that a General Superintendent of Sabbath Schools should be appointed in each State "who shall urge upon congregations the claims of our schools, assist in their re-organisation, lecture wherever possible on teaching, and generally attend to their greater efficiency."

This recommendation has been carried out as yet only by the Victorian Church, which has set apart the Rev. W. Goyen as Director of its Sabbath Schools.

It is too soon yet to speak of the results of this new departure, but much is hoped for from the efforts of such an earnest, capable and experienced worker.

3. The "League of Young Worshippers" has been introduced into many of our Churches, and it is believed—with advantage to our young people and to the congregations which have adopted it.

4. "Young People's Day," as recommended by the last Assembly, has been celebrated pretty generally throughout Australia, and seems to be regarded with growing favour, and your Committee would again urge the keeping of such a day in all our Churches, making the date the third Sabbath in October.

5. Earnest efforts have been made by various Churches in the direction of a thorough training of Sabbath School teachers, but much yet remains to be done. The difficulties in the way of this are felt most in country districts, where the Minister is rarely able to meet his teachers, who are usually widely scattered. By distributing text-books, however, on the art of teaching, and the best methods of reaching the young mind, a good deal might be done for our country teachers.

In Victoria, a lecturer has been specially appointed to give instruction to students for the Ministry and Home Missionaries on paedentics and on the best use of the English Bible in the Sabbath Schools, so that our young ministers may be fully equipped for the work of training their teachers.

6. Never before, perhaps, was Sabbath School work—its benefits, its defects, and its needs—more prominently brought before all the Churches of Jesus Christ throughout the world than to-day, and no more important subject can engage the attention of our Church than the conveying of Scripture truth to our young people in the most attractive and effective way.

The Assembly will learn with interest that the total number of teachers in the Presbyterian Church of Australia is—so far as can be ascertained—8,579, and the total number of scholars, 77,140.

The table appended will indicate their distribution.

	TEACHERS.			SCHOLARS.		
	Ladies.	Gentle- men.	Total.	Girls.	Boys.	Total.
Queensland	906	550	1,456	6,993	5,494	12,487
New South Wales	1,580	604	2,184	12,465	9,064	21,529
Victoria	2,729	1,437	4,166	20,756	16,507	37,253
Tasmania (for 1910)	120	53	173	875	660	1,535
South Australia	207	106	313	1,228	1,060	2,288
Western Australia	177	110	287	1,185	958	2,043
Total for Australia	5,719	2,860	8,579	43,502	32,743	77,140

It will be noticed that in most of the States, the disproportion between the ladies and gentlemen as teachers is very marked indeed. Are the men of our Church less disposed to take up with Sabbath School work than they were? It is a serious question, and one worthy of consideration.

W. S. ROLLAND;  
Convener.

### III.

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE RELATIVE TO THE *RECORD*.

Your Committee beg to report that the circulation of the Magazine throughout the Commonwealth and New Zealand has attained the highest total yet reached, viz., 10,609, and shows an increase on that reported to the Assembly of 1912, of 560 copies.

The following table indicates the number of copies taken by each State of the Commonwealth and in New Zealand, and the increases and decreases in such since last report

	1912	1914	Increase	Decrease
Queensland ... ..	584	624	40	—
New South Wales ... ..	1,124	1,049	—	75
Victoria ... ..	7,160	7,514	354	—
Tasmania ... ..	237	206	—	31
South Australia ... ..	526	530	4	—
Western Australia ... ..	300	575	275	—
New Zealand ... ..	118	111	—	7
Total ... ..	10,049	10,609	673	113

The Editor tries to make the *Record* as Australasian as possible, so as to interest readers in all the States. As New Zealand has an excellent Children's Magazine of its own—"The Break of Day"—it is not wonderful that but few *Records* find their way across the sea.

It is a matter for regret that in New South Wales, with her 21,529 Sabbath scholars, the circulation is decreasing rather than advancing. Only 1,049 copies being taken by that State.

With a view of making the Missionary letters more widely interesting, the Editor has written to the Missionaries of all our Churches in the New Hebrides, asking for articles specially attractive to young readers belonging to the Churches supporting the Missionaries, but with little result as yet.

Conveners of Foreign Mission Committees in each State might perhaps draw the attention of the Missionaries under their charge to this matter, and so greatly assist the Editor in his work.

Essays in connection with the "Ethel Reid Prize Competition" were asked for, from readers in all the States, but the response was disappointing, only two essays being received in the Senior Division, and only five in the Junior, all being the composition of Victorian young people. The topic for the Seniors' Division was "Moravian Missions," and for the Junior, "Our Missions in North Queensland."

While few in number, the essays were of excellent quality, and the Examiner, (Professor Skene, M.A.) says of them:—"The reading of the essays has given me much pleasure, for they indicate—all of them—an amount of reading and thinking which is very gratifying."

The best essays were duly printed in the *Record*. We have again to thank Mrs Beatty Reid (now in Edinburgh) for kindly providing the cost of the prizes awarded to the successful competitors.

For the past two years, the publishers have handed over royalties to the Churches interested, at the rate of £4 for every thousand copies subscribed for.

W. S. ROLLAND,  
Convener.

## IV.

## REPORT OF HYMNAL COMMITTEE.

Your Committee has to report that since last Assembly, the Hymnal has been published. The "get-up" of the book meets with general approval. We feel that the Church is indebted to Mr. Frowde and to his successor, Mr. Milford, for having done their part so well.

The Hymnal has already been adopted by a considerable number of schools in New South Wales and Victoria, but apparently it has not made such good headway in the other States. It has also been purchased for use in many country services. Your Committee believes that, wherever it has been used it has been found to be a satisfactory book, and it is confident that the more it is used the more it will be appreciated. The number of pieces in the Hymnal is not so great as in many other similar publications. But it is believed that every piece is usable, both in respect to words and music. Superintendents of Sunday Schools will find, for instance, that the hymns in the section for "Little Children" are such as the children can and will sing. The number of hymns in that section is small. But those who have had practical experience in teaching little children to sing know that their ability to remember the words is very limited, and possibly it is for this reason that they love to sing, over and over again, the few hymns they do know thoroughly. And as the number of hymns that may be said to universally commend themselves to little children is small, the section devoted to them is small also. But your Committee believes it is effective for its purpose. The section for older children will be found to contain a considerable range of the best school hymns, old and new, including many from Sankey's collection, and Alexander's collection. If the older children are allowed to choose their hymns, it will be found that they will ask for many of the standard hymns, sung by their elders. A number of these are also given, together with a few of the best-loved Psalms.

The Hymnal will also be found very suitable for Fellowship and Bible Class meetings, as also for Ladies' Missionary Meetings.

It has also been specially designed for use in the smaller country services, and experience has proved that it answers this purpose admirably.

The small section of the Australian Hymns—the first collection ever offered to the public—has met with commendation in an unlooked-for quarter. The Congregational Union of England and Wales has asked to be allowed to print, in the Australian section of their new book about to be published, five of our seven hymns, and the authors have given permission for this to be done.

The Scriptural and other matter printed at the end of the book, by the Assembly's instruction, has, we believe, been found useful to our young people.

The Hymnal, then, as it stands, is, your Committee hopes, fairly satisfactory. In future years, the Assembly will be able to add to, or alter it, in whatever way may be found desirable.

What is necessary now, in the interests of the Church, and in fairness to the publisher, is that every effort should be made to bring the Hymnal into the widest possible use.

Your Committee recommends that copies of this report, with the Assembly's Deliverance, be struck off, and forwarded to the various Presbyteries in Australia, and that the Assembly call upon its Ministers and office-bearers generally, to do all in their power to assist the Assembly. It cannot be expected that the books at present in use in our schools, week-night meetings, and country services will, in every case, be at once discarded, but as soon as possible it is hoped that the Assembly's Hymnal will be put into use.

For the Committee,

W. H. ASH,  
Convener.

## V.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE FEDERATION OF  
PROTESTANT CHURCHES.

Your Committee beg to report that in accordance with the instructions given by the General Assembly of 1912, they have revised the "Proposed Basis of Doctrine and scheme of Polity" in the light of the returns sent in by State Assemblies and Presbyteries, and it is now submitted as amended.

AMENDED SCHEME AS APPROVED BY BOTH SECTIONS OF THE COM-  
MITTEE OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA ON  
THE FEDERATION OF THE PROTESTANT CHURCHES.

## PROPOSED BASIS OF DOCTRINE.

## ARTICLE 1.—OF GOD.

We believe in the ever-living God, who is Spirit, and the Father of our Spirits ; infinite eternal, and unchangeable in His being and perfections ; the Lord Almighty, just in all His ways, glorious in holiness, unsearchable in wisdom and plenteous in mercy, full of love and compassion, and abundant in goodness and truth. We worship Him, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three persons in one Godhead, and equal in power and glory. To Him be the glory for ever. Amen.

## II.—OF REVELATION.

We believe that God is revealed in nature, in history, and in the heart of man ; but that He has made gracious and clearer revelations of Himself through men of God who spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit, and that this revelation, gradually advancing in clearness and grace, reached its fulness in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, who is the brightness of the Father's glory and express image of His person. We gratefully receive the Holy Scriptures as the Word of God, given by inspiration to be the faithful record of God's gracious revelations and the pure witness to Christ ; and we reverently acknowledge the Holy Spirit speaking in the Scriptures to be the Supreme Judge in questions of faith and duty.

## III.—OF THE DIVINE PURPOSE.

We believe that the eternal, wise, holy and loving purpose of God embraces all events, so that while the freedom of man is not taken away, nor is God the author of sin, yet in His providence He makes all things work together for the fulfilment of His sovereign design and the manifestation of His glory ; wherefore, humbly acknowledging the mystery of this truth, we trust in His protecting and guiding care and set our hearts to do His will.

## IV.—OF THE CREATION.

We believe that God is the creator, upholder and governor of all things ; that He is above all His works and in them all ; and that He made man in His own image, meet for fellowship with Him, free and able to choose between good and evil, and forever responsible to His Maker and Lord.

## V.—OF THE SIN OF MAN.

We believe that man, being tempted, chose evil and so fell away from God and came under the power of sin, the penalty of which is death ; and we confess that, by reason of this disobedience, we and all men are born with a sinful nature, that we have broken God's law, and that no man can be saved but by His grace.

## VI.—OF THE GRACE OF GOD.

We believe that God, out of His great love for the world, has given His only begotten Son to be the Saviour of sinners, and in the Gospel freely offers His sufficient salvation to all men ; we believe that all those given by the Father to the Son who

are beyond the reach of the outward means of grace, are regenerated and saved by Christ through the Spirit; we believe that all who have heard the Gospel and are come to years of discretion can receive this salvation only through repentance and faith. And we praise God for the unspeakable grace wherein He has provided a way of eternal life for all mankind.

VII.—OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

We believe in and confess the Lord Jesus Christ, the only mediator between God and man, Who being the eternal Son of God, for us men and for our salvation became truly man, yet without sin; being conceived by the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary; unto us He has revealed the Father and made known the perfect will of God; for us He fulfilled all righteousness, by His perfect sacrifice of Himself upon the Cross He satisfied alike the eternal justice and the eternal love of God, and took away the sin of the world; for us He rose from the dead and ascended into Heaven, where He maketh continual intercession for His people; in us, united to Him by faith, He abides forever; over us, and over all for us, He rules; wherefore, unto Him we render love, obedience and adoration, as our Prophet, Priest, and King.

VIII.—OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who moves upon the hearts of all men, to restrain them from evil and to incite them unto good, and whom the Father is ever willing to give unto all who ask Him. We believe that He has spoken by holy men of God in making known His truth to men for their salvation; that, through our exalted Saviour, He was sent forth in power to convict the world of sin, to enlighten men's minds in the knowledge of Christ, and to persuade and enable them to obey the call of the Gospel; and that He abides with the Church, dwelling in every believer as the spirit of truth and holiness, of comfort and love.

IX.—OF REPENTANCE AND FAITH.

We believe that every one, who through the grace of the Holy Spirit repents and believes the Gospel, confessing and forsaking his sins, and humbly relying upon Christ alone for salvation, is freely pardoned and accepted as righteous in the sight of God, solely on the ground of Christ's perfect obedience and atoning sacrifice.

X.—OF THE NEW BIRTH AND THE NEW LIFE.

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the author and source of the new birth; we rejoice in the new life, wherein He is given unto us as the seal of sonship in Christ, and keeps loving fellowship with us, helps us in our infirmities, purges us from our faults, and ever continues His transforming work in us until we are perfected in the likeness of Christ.

XI.—OF THE LAW OF GOD.

We believe that God requires of every man to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with his God; and that only through this harmony with the will of God shall be fulfilled that brotherhood of man wherein the kingdom of God is to be made manifest. We believe and acknowledge that the Lord Jesus Christ has laid His people by His grace under new obligation to keep the perfect Law of God, and has by precept and example enlarged our knowledge of that Law, and manifested the spirit of filial love in which the Divine will is to be obeyed.

XII.—OF THE CHURCH.

We acknowledge one holy catholic Church, the innumerable company of saints of every age and nation, who, being united by the Holy Spirit to Christ their Head, are one body in Him, and have communion with their Lord and with one another; further we receive it as the will of Christ that His Church on earth should exist as a visible and sacred brotherhood, consisting of those who profess faith in Jesus Christ and obedience to Him, together with their children, and organised for the confession to His name, the public worship of God, the upbuilding of the saints, and the pro-



clamation of the Gospel ; and we acknowledge, as a part, more or less pure, of this universal brotherhood, every particular Church throughout the world which professes this faith in Jesus Christ and obedience to Him, as Divine Lord and Saviour.

#### XIII.—OF THE SACRAMENTS.

We acknowledge Baptism and the Lord's Supper, the two Sacraments instituted by Christ, to be of perpetual obligation as means of grace, made effectual only by the operation of the Holy Spirit, and always to be used by Christians with prayer and praise to God. The proper subjects of baptism are believers, and infants presented by believing parents or guardians.

#### XIV.—OF THE MINISTRY.

We believe that Jesus Christ, as the Supreme Head of the Church, has appointed therein a ministry of the word and sacraments, and calls men to this ministry ; that the Church, under the guidance of the Spirit of Christ, recognises and chooses those whom He calls, and ordains them to the work of the Ministry.

#### XV.—OF CHURCH ORDER AND FELLOWSHIP.

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the sole Head of the Church ; that its worship, teaching, discipline, and government should be administered according to His will ; and that although the visible Church may contain unworthy members, and is liable to err, yet believers ought not lightly to separate themselves from its communion, but ought to live in fellowship with their brethren within the visible Church.

#### XVI.—OF THE RESURRECTION, THE LAST JUDGMENT, AND THE FUTURE LIFE.

We believe that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and of the unjust, through the power of the Son of God, Who shall come to judge the living and the dead ; that the finally impenitent shall go away into eternal punishment, and the righteous into eternal life.

#### XVII.—OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND THE FINAL TRIUMPH.

We believe that it is our duty, as servants and friends of Christ, to do good unto all men, to maintain the public and private worship of God, to hallow the Lord's Day, to preserve the sanctity of the family, to uphold the just authority of the State, and so to live in all honesty, purity, and charity, that our lives shall testify of Christ. We joyfully receive the word of Christ, bidding His people to go into all the world and make disciples of all nations, and to declare unto them that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself, and that He will have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth. We believe that by His power and grace all His enemies shall be finally overcome, and that the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ.

### PROPOSED SCHEME OF POLITY.

#### I.—CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.

1. The conditions of full membership in the Church shall be confession of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and an outward life in conformity therewith and participation in the Lord's Supper.
2. Admission to full membership shall be by the Elders' Meeting, with the approval of the Minister.
3. All persons who have been admitted and enrolled in the full membership of the Church shall have a voice in the control and direction of its affairs.

#### II.—ORGANISATION.

1. The unit of organisation for the united Church shall be the Pastoral charge or Circuit. A Pastoral charge may consist of one or more congregations. A congregation is a body of persons meeting for public worship in one place. The temporal

affairs of each congregation shall be administered by a Committee or Board of Management. The spiritual interests of each congregation shall be attended to by the Pastor or Pastors, and a body of Elders meeting together in the Elders' Meeting, of which a Pastor shall be the President. Where it is impracticable for a single congregation belonging to a Pastoral charge consisting of several congregations to have an Elders' Meeting, the work of the Elders' Meeting shall be done by the Parish Council.

2. The names of the various Church Courts shall be :—

- (a) The Elders' Meeting,
- (b) The Parish Council,
- (c) The District Synod.
- (d) The Provincial Conference,
- (e) The General Assembly.

### III.—THE MINISTRY.

1. A candidate for the Ministry must be a member of the Church in full communion, must have given evidence of the possession of suitable gifts, including capacity as a speaker, and be approved by the Parish Council on the nomination of the Minister.

2. He shall then be examined and approved by a committee of the District Synod as to his religious experience, his qualifications as a preacher, and his general suitability for the work of the Ministry.

3. Before entering upon his theological training, every candidate, except as hereinafter provided, must produce evidence to the College Committee of the General Assembly that he has obtained or qualified for a University degree, and has taken at least one year in Greek and passed the prescribed examination. Provided that when a candidate has passed the first year's examination in Arts at a recognised University (including Greek as one of the subjects) he may, on petition to the Provincial Conference, be authorised to proceed to the Theological Hall.

4. In special cases, where a University course, or any part thereof, is, in the opinion of the Provincial Conference, not possible, or does not seem advisable, the College Committee shall admit such candidates to the Theological Hall on the following conditions :—

- (a) That they have served the Church as recognised Home Missionaries or Lay Preachers for at least one year previous to their nomination as candidates.
- (b) That they fulfil the conditions laid down in 1 and 2.
- (c) That they pass through a preliminary course of training under the Assembly's College Committee for a period of three years in such subjects as are approved, and pass such examinations as are prescribed by the Assembly.
- (d) That they pass an entrance examination to the Theological Hall.

5. The course of study at the Theological Hall shall extend over a period of three years, and candidates must pass an exit examination and be certified by the College Committee to the Provincial Conference, with whom shall lie their acceptance for the Ministry of the Church.

6. Anyone who is deemed by the General Assembly to have given proof of being specially qualified for the work of the Ministry may be placed on the Roll by a resolution of the Assembly, under rules to be afterwards provided.

7. The office of Lay Preacher shall be recognised as a part of the organisation of the Church. Before enrolling a Lay Preacher, the Parish Council shall examine him as to his knowledge of the Scriptures and of Church doctrine, and shall be satisfied of his fitness for his work.

## IV.—CONSTITUTION OF CHURCH COURTS OR GOVERNING BODIES.

*(a). Charges existing previous to the Union.*

1. In the management of their local affairs the various congregations, pastoral charges or circuits of the United Church shall be entitled to continue the organisation and practices, including those practices relating to membership, Church or Dinances, Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies, enjoyed by them at the time of Union, subject in general affairs to the legislative principles and discipline of the United Church. Their representatives in the higher governing body or court shall be chosen as at present.

2. The plan of organisation prescribed for charges to be formed subsequent to the Union may at any time be adopted by any pastoral charge existing at the time of union.

*(b). Charges to be formed subsequent to the Union.*

3. The temporal affairs of each local congregation shall be administered by a Committee or Board of Management consisting of—

- (a) The Minister of the congregation ;
- (b) The Elders belonging to that congregation ;
- (c) A number of managers, stewards, or deacons chosen by members and

adherents of the Congregation, adherents being persons, male or female, above sixteen years of age who unite stably in the worship of a congregation, who contribute to its support, and who by applying to the Elders' Meeting to be enrolled as adherents agree to conform in practice to the law and order of the Church.

Such managers should as far as practicable be chosen from persons in full membership. They shall hold office usually for two years—one-half retiring annually, but being eligible for re-election. The President of the Elders' Meeting shall preside as at present ; in his absence the members of the Committee of Management shall elect their own Chairman.

4. It shall be the duty of the Committee of Management to secure contributions for congregational purposes, and to disburse the moneys received for these purposes. Should there be several Committees of Management connected with one pastoral charge, they shall meet jointly to consider any matters affecting the temporal interests of the pastoral charge or circuit as a whole.

5. The spiritual interests of each pastoral charge shall be under the care of the Minister (or Ministers), and a body of officers designated *Elders*, to be elected by and from among the full members of such charge, and to be duly ordained to that office.

6. The Elders' Meeting shall consist of the Minister or Ministers and Elders of the congregation.

7. The Elders' Meeting shall have the spiritual oversight of the pastoral charge, and shall have charge of the admission to membership, the conduct of members, with power to exercise discipline, the administration of the Sacraments, the religious training of the Young, the arrangements for public worship, including the service of praise, the care of the poor and the sick, and generally the consolidation and extension of the work of God in the local Church.

8. Where there are two or more Pastoral Charges in a Parish there shall be a Parish Council, which shall consist of all the Members, Elders, and Lay Preachers of the Parish.

9. The functions of the Parish Council shall be :—

- (a) The maintenance of the Ministry within the Parish, and the oversight of each property therein, in accordance with the general regulations of the Church.
- (b) To deal with all matters connected with the establishment of new stations and Churches within the Parish.

- (c) The management of all efforts in aid of Home and Foreign Missions within the Parish.
  - (d) The forwarding of memorials and recommendations to the District Synod touching the general work of the Parish, or referring to the general work of the Church within the State.
  - (e) The issuing of invitations to Ministers, the arrangement of appointments to the Parish, and the consideration and determination of matters relating thereto, in harmony with the regulations governing the same.
  - (f) The consideration of applications of candidates for the Ministry.
  - (g) The general moral and spiritual government of the Parish.
  - (h) The examination, approval and enrolment of Lay Preachers.
  - (i) The ordination of Elders-elect in the presence of the Congregation.
10. Where there is only one Congregation in a Parish, the Elders Meeting shall perform the functions of a Parish Council.
11. The District Synod shall consist of :—
- (a) All Ministers within the district who are engaged in Pastoral charges, Colleges of the Church, or departments of Church work.
  - (b) Aged or Supernumerary Ministers whose names are placed on the roll of the District Synod by the Provincial Conference.
  - (c) Representatives elected annually by each Parish Council from among their own number in equal proportion to the Ministers.
12. The Provincial Conference shall consist of :—
- (a) All Ministers who are members of the District Synods within the Province.
  - (b) Representatives elected by the Parish Councils in the same proportion as to the District Synod.
- 13.—The General Assembly shall consist of equal numbers of Ministers and Elders chosen three-fourths by the District Synods and one-fourth by the Provincial Conferences.

V.—TERM AND METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OF MINISTERS TO CHARGES.

I.—Ministerial appointments shall be made in either of two ways, viz. :—

A.—By a call from a Congregation, moderated in and sustained by the District Synod, according to the manner now in use in the Presbyterian Church.

(1) In such cases the appointment shall be until such time as the pastoral tie is dissolved either (a) by the Minister's acceptance of a call elsewhere, or (b) by his resignation or death, or (c) by the action of the Church in the exercise of her functions of discipline or administration.

(2) The Minister so appointed shall be inducted, or if not yet ordained, shall be ordained and inducted by the District Synod.

B.—By the Provincial Conference at its annual Meeting, subject to the following conditions :—

(1) Prior to the meeting of the Provincial Conference, a Parish to which an appointment falls to be made shall have the right to nominate an eligible Minister. This nomination shall be made at a meeting of the members of the Parish, or in such other way as the Parish Council may determine.

(2) When the nomination is made it shall be transmitted to the Provincial Conference through the District Synod, who, if they know any cause why the appointment would be suitable or unsuitable, may express their judgment when transmitting the nomination.

(3) If the nomination be ratified by the Provincial Conference, the Minister shall be appointed for three years.

(4) At the end of the term of three years the Parish may renew its invitation, as in the first instance, and thereupon the Provincial Conference may, if found desirable, renew the appointment annually for not more than five years.

(5) In special cases, pastorates may be extended beyond eight years by the Provincial Conference on the invitation of the members of the Parish.

(6) In cases in which the nomination of the Parish is set aside by the Provincial Conference, and another appointment made, such appointment shall be for three years.

(7) When the appointment is made it shall be the function of the District Synod to induct the Minister into his charge.

(8) In case of a vacancy through death or any other cause, during the year, an appointment shall be made for the remainder of the year by the District Synod.

II.—Parishes on becoming vacant shall have the right to decide under which of these systems they shall place themselves. In the event of system B being accepted parishes shall remain under the system for not less than ten years, after which an opportunity for reconsideration will be permitted.

III.—All existing rights between Ministers and Churches at the date of the Union shall be conserved during existing pastorates; but at their termination those Ministers and Churches, and all Ministers received and Churches established after consummation of Union, shall be subject to the foregoing regulations.

IV.—Appeals are to be allowed, wherever the general interests of the Church are concerned, under regulations to be hereafter determined.

V.—Although the normal term of ministerial appointments is as stated in the foregoing paragraphs, the Provincial Conference may, if it judge it in the best interests of the Church, terminate an appointment at any time.

It is the desire of the Committee that the Assembly should approve of the "Proposed Basis of Doctrine and Scheme of Polity," as furnishing a basis on which a Union might be effected between the Methodist, Congregational and Presbyterian Churches of Australia, provided that the office-bearers and members of these Churches are willing for Union, and that suitable arrangements can be made, and legislative acts obtained to safeguard property interests in the event of a union being consummated.

Your Committee recommend that should the Supreme Courts of the other Churches concerned be willing, authority should be given to the Joint Committee to send down the proposed "Basis of Doctrine and Scheme of Polity" to the lesser courts and to the congregations of the three denominations with the simple question: "Are you willing that a union should be brought about between the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational Churches on the basis of this statement of doctrine and scheme of polity, provided that suitable arrangements can be made and legislative Acts obtained to safeguard the property interests of congregations and denominations in a united Church."

To this question a "Yes" or "No" answer would be given by the entire membership of the three Churches, 'as was done in Canada,' which would show whether or not these Churches were ripe for union at present.

JOHN MATHEW,

PRO D. S. ADAM,  
Convener.

## VI.

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE RECEPTION OF MINISTERS.

The Rev. J. A. Seymour, Rev. John Enright, Rev. H. G. Haesler, Rev. J. Ninian Melville and Rev. C. F. Phillips, having complied with the conditions prescribed by last General Assembly, your Committee agreed to receive them as Ministers eligible for a call.

The following were received under Section A of the Regulations:—

Rev. D. P. Macdonald, from the United Free Church.  
Rev. W. Arthur Roberts, from Presbyterian Church of Wales.

The following Petitions have been received :—

(1) REV. ANDREW GOODALL.

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia

The petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth

That your petitioner was born on 1st June, 1864, in Milnathort, Kinross-shire, Scotland, and received his early education at the Public School there, and at Dollar and Kilmarnock Academies. He attended the Edinburgh and Glasgow Universities 1880 to 1884, and entered the Glasgow Free Church College in Oct., 1885, and finished the course of study in March, 1889. The Free Church Presbytery of Kinross licensed him to preach the Gospel on 2nd July, 1889, and in June of that year he was appointed Assistant Missionary in the United Presbyterian Church, Pollokshaws, Glasgow, where he remained till September, 1890. He received an appointment as *locum tenens* in St. James' Presbyterian Church, England, and on returning to Scotland, took charge of East Campbell Street Free Church, Glasgow, during the protracted illness of the Minister. Called to Braehead Free Church (now St. John's United Free Church) Kilmarnock, in February, 1892, he was ordained on the 14th day of April following. This charge he resigned on 19th April, 1913, on account of the unsatisfactory state of his health. He came to Melbourne, Victoria, on 13th July of the same year, and since then, with the exception of three Sundays, has been employed in the work of the Church at Elmore, Rochester, (2 months), Moorabool (3 months), Darlington (1 month), and since the first Sunday of April in Ryrie Street Church, Geelong. He also supplied the pulpits of Dorcas Street, Parkville, and East St. Kilda Churches, Melbourne and Leongatha.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

ANDREW GOODALL.

Mapphylla, Aberdeen Street,  
Geelong, 5th May, 1914.

Trinity Manse, Galshin,

May 6th, 1913.

PRESBYTERY OF IRVINE AND KILMARNOCK.

Dear Mr. Goodall,—

The Presbytery at its meeting to-day accepted your resignation as Minister of St. John's United Free Church, Kilmarnock, and loosed you from the Charge as from that date.

I am, yours faithfully,

J. G. SUTHERLAND,  
Presbytery Clerk.

THE UNITED FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

May 27th, 1913.

I hereby certify that I have known Rev. Andrew Goodall (formerly Minister of St. John's United Free Church, Kilmarnock) for the past 21 years, and that during that time he has done much faithful and successful work as a Minister of the Gospel in that town and district. He is an able and evangelical preacher of the Gospel, and I commend him as one who is well fitted to exercise the ministry in the land of his adoption.

J. G. SUTHERLAND,  
Minister of Trinity United Free Church,  
Galshin, Ayrshire, Scotland.

UNITED FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

Presbytery of Irvine and Kilmarnock.

At Kilmarnock, the 7th day of July, 1914, the Presbytery of Irvine and Kilmarnock, being met and duly constituted.

*Inter alia* : A letter was read from Rev. Andrew Goodall, formerly Minister of St. John's, Kilmarnock, now residing in Victoria, stating that he was about to apply for admission to the Presbyterian Church there, and requesting a Presbyterial certificate. The Presbytery resolved to grant Mr. Goodall's request, and hereby certify that after a Ministry of 20 years in Kilmarnock, his resignation was accepted by the Presbytery, and he left for Australia preserving his full status as a Minister. The Presbytery, having received testimony from Ministers of the Presbyterian Church in Victoria that Mr. Goodall has been continuously employed in ministerial service during the past 12 months, and that his work has been satisfactory, cordially recommend that his petition for admission be granted, and trust that a permanent sphere of work and usefulness may soon be found by him.

Extracted from the Record of the Presbytery of Irvine and Kilmarnock by  
J. G. SUTHERLAND,  
Presbytery Clerk.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA, STATE OF VICTORIA.

The Geelong Presbytery.  
High Church,  
Geelong, 26/5/14.

The Presbytery of Geelong met as above, pursuant to adjournment, at 1 p.m., Sederunt, etc.

*Inter alia* : The Clerk submitted the report of the sub-committee, re the petition of the Rev. Andrew Goodall. It was moved by the Clerk, seconded by Mr. Murphy, and agreed to that the Presbytery, in terms of the sub-Committee's recommendation, transmit, with the relative documents and the Presbytery's recommendation, the petition of the Rev. Andrew Goodall, to be received as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia."

Extracted from the Presbytery's Records by me,  
ROBT. M. FERGUS,  
Clerk.

(2) REV. T. WORSLEY MAGUIRE.

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth :---

1. That he is forty-seven years of age ; that he was born in Manchester, England, and is a British subject.

2. That he is a graduate of Maryville, College, Tennessee, U.S.A., a Presbyterian institution, from which he received the degree of B.A. on May 29th 1901 (the diploma referring to this was duly shown to Rev. P. J. Murdoch, M.A., Clerk of the Presbytery of Melbourne South, Victoria).

3. That he has held three pastorates in America, viz., at Harriman, Tennessee, for 18 months ; at Gallipolis, Ohio, for 2 years ; and at New Castle, Indiana, for 4 years. Further, that for the six months ended 31st March, 1914, he was District Superintendent of Home Missions for Central Indiana, which position he resigned despite strong pressure to remain at the post, in order that he might come to Australia.

4. That having lived for nearly ten years, off and on, in Australia before settling in America, he has felt throughout his sojourn in the U.S.A. a strong drawing to this country ; and that having come over here uncertain at first of staying, he has resolved to make his home in Australia, and desires to be received as a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

5. That documents in substantiation of the above statements accompany this petition.

Your petitioner humbly prays your Venerable Assembly to take these premises into account, and to grant him his request.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

T. WORSLEY MAGUIRE

## MARYVILLE COLLEGE.

President's Office,  
Maryville, Tenn.,  
October 5, 1901.

To Whom it may concern:

It gives me pleasure to recommend to you Mr. Thomas Maguire, a member of our recent graduating class. Mr. Maguire spent several years in Maryville, and was, during that time, one of our leading Christian workers, and won a warm place in our affections, and commanded the respect of his instructors. He was an excellent student, and is well qualified for the work in which he has enlisted. He was taken under the care of Union Presbytery, and did a good deal of efficient work as a preacher while he was in college.

Again commending him to your confidence and esteem,

I am,  
Very respectfully yours,  
SAMUEL T. WILSON,  
President.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.A.

Witherspoon Building,  
Philadelphia, Pa.,  
April 11, 1914.

To whom it may concern:

This certifies that the Rev. T. Worsley Maguire is a Minister in good and regular standing, connected with the Presbytery of White Water, Synod of Indiana, under this General Assembly. He was Pastor of the Presbyterian Church at New Castle, Ind., until recently, and for purposes of health has removed to Australia.

He is cordially recommended to the Ministers and Judicatories of the Presbyterian Churches of Australia.

In behalf of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.,

I am,  
Yours fraternally,  
WM. H. ROBERTS,  
Stated Clerk.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.A.

Rev. W. H. Roberts, D.D., LL.D.,  
Stated Clerk.

Witherspoon Building,  
Philadelphia, Pa.,  
February 27th, 1914.

To the Ministers and Members of the  
Presbyterian Churches in Australia:

Dear Brethren,—

Herewith I cordially commend to you the Rev. Thomas W. Maguire, a member of the Presbytery of Whitewater, Synod of Indiana, under this General Assembly. Mr. Maguire is highly esteemed by the brethren associated with him in the work, both for his high Christian character and his abilities as preacher and pastor.

In behalf of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

WM. H. ROBERTS,  
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

Commendatory letters accompanying petitions from—Rev. Dr. Hale, Home Missions Committee of Synod of Indiana; Ministerial Association of New Castle, Ind.; Committee of First Presbyterian Church of Gallipolis, Ohio; Committee Presbyterian Church, New Castle, Ind.; also that at Harriman.



## PRESBYTERY OF MELBOURNE SOUTH.

The Manse,  
Camberwell, 5th May, 1914.

The Convener of the Committee on the Reception of Ministers :  
Dear Sir,—

I herewith forward under separate cover a petition to be received from the Rev. T. W. Maguire. The petition is forwarded by this Presbytery with a favourable recommendation. You will greatly oblige me by acknowledging receipt.

Yours sincerely,

P. J. MURDOCH,  
Clerk, Melbourne South

(3) REV. JOHN YATES.

Lismore,  
June 14th, 1914.

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Your petitioner herewith makes application for admission into the Ministry of your Church. His training for such position being, viz :—Four years Science-Temperance Teacher for the North Lancashire Bands of Hope and Temperance Unions. His qualifications for this position being several courses of study in Chemistry, Physiology and Hygiene, for which he gained a Master of Temperance-Science Diploma, and upon further study was made a Fellow of the Templar Institute (Birmingham, England.)

Your petitioner left the above position to enter the Y.M.C.A. work ; where he had five years as General Secretary of the large Y.M.C.A. in Bury, Lancashire. The success in this position brought him promotion to the position of Deputation Secretary to the Lancashire Divisional Council of Y.M.C.A.'s with the oversight of their Military Camp Department, which is perhaps the most successful Christian movement amongst men in the Old World.

After two years of very strenuous and successful work in this position your petitioner left England for the Colonies, anticipating a like appointment, but on arriving in New South Wales he took up the work of the Baptist Ministry, and was appointed to the Woonona Charge. The following extract from the Baptist annual report will give your Assembly an idea of the success of his Ministry there.

"Woonona.—Mr. Yates has not been long in charge of the work, but, since his advent, it has made a phenomenal advance. The congregations now crowd the building, while the finances have so increased that the Church has resolved to assume the responsibility of its own work, and will shortly be declared an independent Church."

During your petitioner's two years' ministry there he took special studies, and after passing the exams. was ordained to full status, upon which he was transferred to the Liverpool (N.S.W.) Charge, where, within twelve months there was a new Church built and the work increased and grew. Here, in September, 1912, he resigned the Baptist Ministry altogether through doctrinal differences on the subject of Baptism. For the past eighteen months your petitioner had been working under the direction of the Home Mission Committee of New South Wales, in the Richmond River Presbytery.

For nine months he supplied the charge at Ballina ; and upon leaving the Church it was strong enough to call a Minister of its own. For four months he supplied the Casino charge ; during which time an effort was made to reduce the debt on the Church, which resulted in £350 to that object. He has been in charge of the Goolmangar-Nimbin Churches for several months ; and over one hundred pounds has been raised in each place to clear the Churches of debt.

Without presumption, your petitioner can humbly claim a quickened and intensified spiritual life, and augmented congregations in each of the Churches he has supplied, as the testimonials will show. He has never wavered in preaching the "One Name through whom we have redemption." Your petitioner has conducted evangelistic Missions in many parts of the World ; and he has done much organising in Temperance and No-License movements. He spent two years in the South African war, missioning amongst the troops. His studies have been fairly wide and varied,

but mostly in his home. For some time he attended the Lancashire Independent College, under Principal W. F. Adeney. He has a large modern library, with many valuable works.

Your petitioner has examined the Presbyterian Position and Church Government from Holy Scripture, and he is in hearty accord with it. He is 45 years of age. Married, with wife and six children. One daughter is a good musician, and has won several prizes for singing at Festivals. She would be a great help in Church work. Your petitioner, wife and family are, and always have been, strong and healthy. Your petitioner prays that your Venerable Assembly will accept him, that he may continue to prove his call to preach the glorious Gospel of the Grace of God; and he will, as in duty bound, ever pray.

And begging to remain,

Faithfully yours,

JNO. YATES.

At Lismore, Richmond River, N.S.W., and within the Presbyterian Church there, on Tuesday, December 2nd, 1913, which place and time the Presbytery of the Richmond being duly met and constituted.

*Inter alia*: The Clerk laid upon the table an application from the Rev. John Yates, to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, through the Presbytery of the Richmond, for admission into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church, together with relative documents.

After due consideration it was moved, seconded and agreed—"That the application be received and forwarded to the General Assembly of Australia with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted on condition that Mr. Yates submit to such course of study as may be deemed necessary by the General Assembly."

Closed with prayer.

Extracted from the Records of the Presbytery of the Richmond this thirteenth (13th) day of July, 1914, by me—

RICHARD MILLER,  
Clerk of Presbytery.

The Manse,  
Blackburn, England,  
7/2/1903.

[COPY.]

Mr. John Yates, who is the Science-Temperance Teacher for this town and district, is a very creditable lay preacher in this district. He is also the teacher of a large Men's Bible Class, which he has worked up. He is a good organiser, a splendid Christian, Temperance and Social worker. He goes into everything he undertakes with his whole heart, and has often attracted the keenest business men in town by his capability and energy for service. He has done lasting good in this town—a town of the most stubborn type. As a preacher and speaker to bodies of men his services are in great demand. What I like about him is his tenacity to what he believes to be right and true.

Yours truly,

T. J. COX,  
Minister.

From the President of the Y.M.C.A., Blackburn:—

December 24th, 1907.

[COPY.]

I have known Mr. John Yates personally for over six years, and in my capacity as President of the Band of Hope Unions, and also ex-president of the Y.M.C.A., I can testify to the first rate powers he possesses. He is an excellent and energetic worker, tactful and intelligent, and a good speaker.

Yours faithfully,

THOS. H. HEATLEY.

From the President, Y.M.C.A., Bury :—

October, 1906.

[COPY.]

Three years ago, when Mr. Yates came to the Bury Y.M.C.A., it was in very low water, in fact, it was a question whether it should be continued. Since then, Mr. Yates has worked energetically and tactfully to bring things around; and in this he has been very successful, for a marvellous change for the better has taken place.

Our membership has increased by leaps and bounds, and a Junior Branch has been started, and is in a healthy condition, with a membership of about one hundred. During my presidency I have come in close touch with Mr. Yates, and have always found him eminently suited for his work. He is an earnest Christian, a hard worker and a good speaker.

Yours truly,  
JAMES BYRON.

Commendatory letters addressed to Home Missions Committee, N.S.W., (1) Rev. Prof. Clouston; (2) Hon. Secretary, Ballina Presbyterian Church; (3) to the Presbytery of the Richmond from Secretary, Nimbin Church; (4) Session Clerk, Casino; (5) Rev. A. M. Gauld, Lismore.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA.

State of New South Wales.

Presbyterian Church Offices,  
23 York Street, Sydney.

Re Rev. John Yates.

This is to certify that the above named has been engaged under the Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church in New South Wales for a period of about nineteen months. During that time he officiated in the parishes of Ballina, Casino, Brunswick, and Goolmangar-Nimbin. In all of these places Mr. Yates carried out the duties of his office to the satisfaction of all concerned, and during his period of work in Goolmangar-Nimbin the debt on the Church buildings within the charge was materially reduced through his special efforts.

I have pleasure in thus testifying on behalf of the Committee to the work which Mr. Yates has done.

Signed at Sydney on this the 24th day of July, 1914.

THOMAS MORGAN,  
Convener, Home Mission Committee,  
Presbyterian Church of Australia,  
State of New South Wales.

(4.) REV. ARTHUR WALL.

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth :—

That he is 31 years of age, is unmarried, and is at the present time a Minister of the Congregational Church.

He received primary education according to the Curriculum of the British School Board, followed by a Business Course at the Higher Grade School.

He entered business, and remained there until the age of 24 years. At 17 he accepted the invitation of his Minister to study for the Ministry, but his health breaking down under the strain of study, business, and much religious work, he had to abandon his intention of applying for admission to College until the age of 24 years. In 1906 he was accepted as a student of the Nottingham Congregational College, England, where he took the full course (4 years). He attended all the classes, and passed all the examinations. The subjects were, as per certificate: Theology, Biblical Introduction and Exegesis, Homiletics, Apologetics, Philosophy, Greek, Bible and Church History, English Language and Literature, Modern History and Social Economy.

In July, 1910, at the close of College Course, he was ordained to the Christian Ministry, and set apart to labour in Australia. He became pastor of the Beaconsfield Congregational Church, Fremantle, W.A., but after fifteen months, of his own choice, resigned. He came east, and was invited by the Rev. A. R. Houston, M.A., to take the Ministerial oversight of his Allansford charge, during his absence in Broome, W.A. In the Allansford charge he has been labouring ever since, with pleasure to himself, and he believes with acceptance to the people.

He has come to prefer the Presbyterian Polity.

He humbly prays that he may be received into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church; and he further prays that if received, he may be declared eligible for a call. Since he has been labouring in the work of the Ministry within the said Church from May, 1912.

Praying as in duty bound.

ARTHUR WALL.

(1) THE CONGREGATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THEOLOGICAL AND MISSIONARY TRAINING,  
NOTTINGHAM.

This is to certify that Arthur Wall has been a student of this Institute for four years.

He has attended classes in Theology, Biblical Introduction and Exegesis, Homiletics, Apologetics, Philosophy, Greek, Bible and Church History, English Language and Literature, Modern History and Social Economy.

He has acquitted himself with diligence and credit, and in testimony of our approbation of the manner in which he has conducted himself during his connection with the Institute, we present him with this Certificate.

(Signed) ARTHUR ARMITAGE, Chairman.

D. L. RITCHIE

HAROLD F. SANDERS, B.A., B.D., } Tutors.

SYDNEY W. BOWSER, B.A.

Nottingham, June 22nd, 1910.

(2) COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

This is to certify that Arthur Wall, lately a student at Nottingham College, has this day, at a service held in the Congregational Church, Rose Hill, Bolton, been solemnly ordained to the office of the Christian Ministry, as the same is exercised among the Protestant Communion, known as Independent or Congregational, and that he has, at the same time been set apart to labour in Australia.

In token whereof, we, the undersigned, being present and assisting at such Ordination Service, have hereunto set our hands this 20th day of July, 1910.

(Signed) D. L. RITCHIE,

Principal.

W. J. COLLIER, M.A.

F. W. LLOYD JONES,

Pastor Rose Hill A.W. Church.

D. BURFORD HOOKE,

Secy. of Colonial Mis. Society.

WILLIAM ROBINSON,

Pastor Farnworth Church.

CECIL NICHOLSON,

Pastor Little Lever Cong. Church.

TRINITY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,

St. George's Terrace,

Perth,

February, 5th, 1913.

Dear Sir,—

The Rev. A. Wall, who is applying for entrance to your Ministry, was trained at Nottingham College, England, and came out to West Australia to the Beaconsfield

Congregational Church, where he rendered good service. At his own choice he resigned the pastorate, and as there were no vacancies in the State at the time, he went to the east.

I feel sorry that he is leaving our denomination, for he is an acceptable Minister of Jesus Christ; at the same time it gives me great pleasure in heartily commending him to you as a thoughtful, sincere and earnest Minister.

I am,  
Yours faithfully,  
W. T. KENCH.

Rev. S. Fraser, M.A.,  
Mortlake Presbytery,  
Terang, Vic.

Scot's Church,  
Fremantle, March, 1913.

The Rev. S. Fraser, M.A.,  
Clerk, Mortlake Presbytery,  
Terang, Victoria.

Dear Sir,—

I have pleasure in certifying that the Rev. Arthur Wall, who is supplying the pulpit of the Presbyterian Church at Allansford, Victoria, has been known to me for the past three years.

For nearly two years he was in charge of the Beaconsfield and North Fremantle Congregational Churches in this State. During that period I was frequently brought into contact with him, and always found him a faithful and studious Minister of Jesus Christ. I understand he is now seeking admission into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, and I most cordially and respectfully commend him to the Presbytery of Mortlake.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT HANLAN.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA.

Presbytery of Mortlake.  
Terang, 28th July, 1913.

The Convener of the Committee on Reception of Ministers.

Dear Sir,—

This Presbytery (the Presbytery of Mortlake, Victoria) transmit to your Committee the accompanying petition from the Rev. Arthur Wall, with relative documents, with their recommendation. The documents are:—

I. Copies of

- (1) College Certificate.
- (2) Ordination Certificate.
- (3) Letter from Oaklands Congregational Church, London.
- (4) Certificate of status from Rev. B. C. Wieland, Secretary of the Congregational Union, West Australia.
- (5) Letter from Rev. B. C. Wieland, in behalf of the Executive Committee of the Congregational Union of West Australia.

II. Original letters:

- (1) Letter from Rev. W. T. Kench, Minister of Trinity Congregational Church, St. George's Terrace, Perth, W.A.
- (2) Letter from Rev. Robert Hanlin, Scots' Church, Fremantle, W.A.

## III. Newspaper cuttings :—

- (1) Newspaper cutting of Ordination Service.
- (2) Copy of " British Missionary " for October, 1910, (See pp. 216-218).

I am,

Yours faithfully,

S. FRASER,  
Clerk of Mortlake Presbytery.

## (5) PETITION OF MR. JOHN FAIRLEY TO BE ADMITTED AS A MINISTER OF THE CHURCH.

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth :—

1. That your Petitioner was born in Edinburgh in 1869, is married (widower), with five children.
2. That after leaving school he was apprenticed to engineering, and became a foreman in the Atlas Locomotive Works, Glasgow.
3. That in 1894, after his conversion, he became a student of the Bible Training Institute (Evening Classes), Glasgow, with a view to equip himself for Christian service.
4. That while employed in Hyde Park Locomotive Works, Glasgow, he conducted meal-hour services there, and a work of grace ensued.
5. That his gifts as an Evangelist having been manifested, he was, in 1898, asked by the Railway Mission to become an Evangelist to Railway men with Bradford, Yorkshire, as centre.
6. That after an eighteen months' engagement he returned to Glasgow to carry on similar Evangelistic work among the operatives in the large ship-building yards on the Clyde, and continued in this for a period of two years.
7. That at the expiry of that term he received an invitation from the Directors to become Superintendent of the Tolbooth Mission (Rescue work), Glasgow.
8. That his next appointment was Evangelist of the Ayrshire Christian Union, in connection with which he remained three and a-half years.
9. That he came to Australia in 1907 for Evangelistic work, beginning in Queensland, where he remained for eighteen months. During this period he gave supply for four months in the vacant charge of Fortitude Valley, and was associated for two months with the Minister of Bundaberg in Church extension work.
10. That after a visit home he returned, in 1909, with his family to New South Wales, and was appointed by the Assembly, through its Committee, one of its Evangelists, continuing in the service of the New South Wales Church until 1911, when
11. He received an invitation from the Evangelistic Committee of the Assembly of the Victorian Church to become its Evangelist.
12. That he resigned from the position in 1913, and became a Home Mission Agent under the Home Mission Committee, receiving from it an appointment to Montague Mission, South Australia, where he is at present engaged.

Your Petitioner prays your Venerable Court to take these premises into consideration, and to admit him as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

And your Petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JOHN FAIRLEY.

Presbytery of Melbourne South,  
15th September, 1914.

The Convener, Reception of Ministers' Committee.

Dear Sir,—This Presbytery yesterday revolved to *transmit simpliciter* to your Committee the Petition of Mr. J. Fairley to be received as a Minister. I have entrusted the Petition to Mr. A. L. Pryde, who has undertaken to hand it to you in Brisbane.

Yours sincerely,

P. J. MURDOCH,  
Clerk, Melbourne South.

On behalf of the Committee,

ALEX. McKINLAY,  
Convener.

## VII.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS.

Your Committee has to report that since the meeting of the previous General Assembly the work of Home Missions has deeply exercised the Church in the various States, and that while a great detail remains to be attempted the duty of caring for the spiritual interests of our people has occupied the thought and energies of the Church. The arrangement with Tasmania has been productive of great good. Victoria has provided some Home Missionaries for Tasmania and South Australia. The large territories of Western Australia and South Australia, the smallness of their resources and the paucity of Ministers have caused these branches to hand over large areas to the care of your Committee, under the larger scheme of the Australian Inland Mission, while Queensland has agreed to hand over, and the Committee has agreed to accept, portion of its Western territory to be exploited by the Australian Inland Mission. Reference to these matters will be found after the report of the general work has been made. Twenty-eight new fields have been opened up, and only one or two have been abandoned, while a good number, and especially some in Tasmania, as a result of the temporary union with Victoria, have been raised to the status of sanctioned charges and have Ministers happily settled. Seventy new agents have been added to the roll, making, with resignations, 190 now employed. Of these 108 are studying under the Home Mission Agents' Training Scheme. It is worthy of note and of commendation that no fewer than fifty-one of the Victorian Agents are studying by correspondence with the Rev. John Barnaby, B.D.

The Australian roll of Home Mission Agents, with many details, has been brought up-to-date, and will be laid upon the table of your Venerable Court. This roll, made up from details supplied by the Agents themselves, ought to prove not only an interesting record, but most valuable for comparative and other purposes.

Your Committee sought and obtained brief reports from the State Home Mission Conveners, and also answers to various questions which give a bird's-eye view of the work. These are as follow :—

#### NEW SOUTH WALES REPORTS

(Convener—Rev. Thomas Morgan.)

The work in New South Wales has gone forward steadily but surely during the past two years. New stations have been opened and worked separately under Home

Mission Agents, and many of these have become sanctioned charges with settled Ministers. Seven such settlements took place in 1913 alone. At the date of last State Assembly the Committee was supplying thirty-one Home Mission Stations; had twenty-two of its Agents at work as assistants in settled charges. Thirty-eight sanctioned charges were supplied by the Committee during 1913, either during a vacancy or continuously. The policy of the Committee is in favour of doing extension work by supplying assistants to settled Ministers, who undertake to open up new centres, rather than by prematurely dividing charges. Experience has proved that new charges formed under the care of an experienced Minister are much more easily brought to the point of settlement than places worked under Home Missionaries apart from a responsible Minister.

The incoming tide of immigration has made the overtaking of the work a severe strain, but, with only a few exceptions, the requirements have been met, although in many instances the Committee has had to send Home Missionaries or students to places where Ministers were wanted.

Good and valuable service has been rendered by the Home Mission Superintendent, Rev. R. G. McCarron, in organising new stations, and in strengthening existing Home Mission charges.

During 1913 the Committee sustained a severe loss through the death of its veteran Convener, the Rev. Professor Clouston, D.D.

#### VICTORIA REPORTS

(CONVENER—REV. JOHN BARNABY, B.D.)

Lights and shadows have rested on this department of the Church's activities. For material support, additional workers, expanding fields of usefulness and lives helped, they give thanks to God.

The Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union has added a Home Mission Branch to its organisation, and is rendering valuable assistance in securing funds, and arousing interest through *The Chronicle*.

The Sunday Schools of Victoria were recommended to transfer their special support from Broome, now taken over by the A.I.M. to the West Coast Mining Fields of Tasmania.

The difficulty of the inexperienced Home Missionary in conducting the devotional services to the edification of the people has been considered, and for the present "Church Services for Laymen" is provided for beginners.

The Committee on "Candidates for the Ministry" is helping to secure suitable Agents, while the provision for superintending their studies is proving a source of encouragement for the men, and is full of promise for the future.

#### QUEENSLAND REPORTS

(CONVENER—REV. GEORGE EWAN.)

The past two years have witnessed a continuous increase in Home Mission work, in both North and South, but we have been hard pressed to find suitable Agents to succeed those who have retired, and those who have completed their studies, and are now in the Ministry of the Church. We have still mainly to look to Scotland for a supply of Missionaries, and the numbers offering from this source are not so large as formerly. In consequence of this, and the condition of our funds during the past twelve months, we have not been able to undertake much new work. Thanks to the generous response of our people, the latter difficulty has been minimised but we are still in great straits for suitable men.

We have offered to the Home Mission Board our field at Cloncurry as a base for Inland Mission work through the North-west, extending into Northern Territory.



## SOUTH AUSTRALIA REPORTS

(CONVENER—REV. T. TAIT, B.D.)

During the year the Rev. T. J. Riddle, B.A., formerly of Marino, Victoria, was settled in the United charge of Mount Barker-Woodside, and has a student to assist him. Mr. Hugh Morris, who recently arrived from Scotland, has taken charge of Port Pirie, with very encouraging results. The work at Gawler and Smithfield has been consolidated by the labour of the Rev. E. A. Swan, B.A. Mr. J. M. Forsyth, one of our own students, has been put in charge of Prospect (suburb), and since then the congregation has advanced, and will soon be worshipping in a building of its own. The Eyres, Peninsular Mission, in spite of adverse circumstances has held on its way. Mr. W. J. Mierisch, a Missionary sent by the Church in Victoria, is now in charge of a big field.

At present we have the following Home Mission charges well manned:—Golden Grove, Koolunga-Hart Pinnaroo, Spalding, Iron Knob, Petersburg, Torrensville. We hope soon to have a man in charge of our outpost, Port Augusta, our end of the East-West Railway.

We have a motor boat for work on the Murray River. Work has been initiated at Renmark, and as soon as we can get a man he will be placed in the centre of a new settlement, east of the Murray.

Although it is under a separate Committee, the Smith of Dunesk Mission has been carried on for the past year with unabated vigor and usefulness.

When the Rev. J. Flynn was taken over by the Board of Home Missions Mr. R. B. Plowman served us well, till he entered on his Inland Mission work, with its centre at Oodnadatta.

Our work for years, although we have received help from the Church in Victoria for our Eyres Peninsular work, has been a heavy strain on the financial resources of the Church in this State. The Home Mission Fund is in debit to the extent of £1,354/16/6.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA REPORTS

(CONVENERS—REV. ALEX. CROW AND REV. W. HUEY STEELE, M.A.)

Since the North and North-West Missions were taken over by the A.I.M., our hands have been lightened, but our interest in these faraway, but interesting, parts of our great State has in no way abated. Rev. Payn Lewis has been replaced by Rev. W. J. Stevens at Port Hedland and Marble Bar in the Pilbarra District. Rev. F. G. H. Brady, ably supported by Mrs. Brady, has followed in the track so well laid by Revs. Frank Rolland and A. S. Houston in the unique field at Broome. We have every confidence in our workers in both these fields.

In the field more particularly our own we have twelve Agents. Two of these are on the goldfields, but the population there is dwindling. Six are on the wheat areas. It is there that the greatness of W.A. is going to be. People are swarming on to the land, and we are doing what we can to follow them with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus. The city is growing, as well as the country, and we have established one new charge in the outer suburbs. One of our vigorous suburban Churches has taken hold of the work with both hands. Subiaco has within 15 months opened two preaching stations within its own parish. Sunday Schools are conducted, and Divine service held each Lord's Day in the evening. All the work is done by the session and members of the Subiaco Church.

The increasing work of the Committee was found to be too much for one. Rev. Alex. Crow had shouldered the work for years, but he appealed for relief, and Rev. W. Huey Steele, a new arrival from the east, is now assisting him.

## TASMANIA REPORTS

(CONVENER—REV. P. HOPE, B.A.)

The increased interest in the Church Extension work in that State, the benefits of the temporary Union with Victoria are being made apparent :—

- (1) In the steady supply of Missionaries for regular Stations.
- (2) In the ready support of our work with means when required.
- (3) In the supply of exit-students, and the consequent possibility of Church Extension Charges being formed.
- (4) In the influence of the Larger Church, of the spirit and organisation of the smaller.
- (5) In the personal touch with Ministers and ecclesiastics from the mainland.

The great feature of the work since last Assembly has been the formation of four Church Extension charges, all of which are now settled, the grants to all of them have been guaranteed by the Victorian Church, and three of the Ministers are exit-students from Ormond College.

The interest and support of our people was further secured for Home Missions during 1913 by a United demonstration for the whole State, Ministers and Missionaries exchanging pulpits on Sunday, November 16th, and assisting in special meetings during ensuing week. Five delegates from the Victorian Church assisted in the demonstration, and did much to make it a success. Largely as a result of this new interest, there came an increase in our revenue direct from congregations from £312 in 1913, to £459 in 1914.

We feel that with such support from our own congregations the time is not far distant when we shall be able to meet all our financial responsibilities without assistance from the Victorian Church; meantime, we gratefully acknowledge the security and confidence their support gives to us. The Victorian Church has itself been suffering through the lack of suitable Missionaries, and we have not been able to secure men for new stations we have wished to open up; we are not, therefore, able to report any new districts opened since last Assembly, and for over three months our important North-west Mission has been without a Colporteur Missionary, owing to the shortage of men. The Victorian Assembly has approved of the Sunday Schools giving their grant from revenue to the West Coast mining fields of Tasmania, and we are making a forward movement in this important industrial district, but we fear lest the lack of Missionaries will so hamper our work and prevent that development for which our people are looking, that their growing enthusiasm will be nipped in the bud, and interest wane for want of the vital stimulus of progress.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

QUESTION I.—What new fields has your Committee opened up 1913-14?

ANSWER.—*New South Wales.*—In 1913 seven, viz :—Mascot, Mungerie, Stroud, Longueville, Upper Hunter, Rose Bay, Werris Creek. In 1914 (up till end of August), Bondi, Ardlethan. In addition to the foregoing, a very large number of new centres have been occupied by supplying assistants to Ministers in settled charges.

*Victoria.*—Extension has been following the line of providing assistance for Ministers in growing districts; Camperdown, Kyabram, Wangaratta, Brunswick, South Yarra, Casterton, Ballarat (St. Andrews'), Clarendon Street (South Melbourne), Warrnambool, Numurkah, Mildura, Rochester. New work has been started at Pascoe Vale, Dirimallum, Glenhuntly. Much re-arrangement of stations has been effected, covering more ground; much enterprise has been shown by the Presbyteries in new irrigation districts.

*Queensland.*—Six: Crow's Nest, Hamilton, Innisfail, Nelson, Tallebudgera, Murphy's Creek.

*South Australia.*—Torrens ville, a suburb of Adelaide.

*Western Australia.*—Darling Ranges and South Perth, 2 Merredin and Totadjin.

*Tasmania.*—None; have been ready financially to open up two needy fields, but could not get Missionaries.

QUESTION 2.—What fields has it abandoned ?

ANSWER.—*New South Wales* : Only one, and that cannot be said to be abandoned, as it is now worked by an Agent in neighbouring charge, using a motor car.

*Victoria*.—None.

*Queensland*.—None.

*South Australia*.—Port Lincoln, a part of the Eyres Peninsular scheme.

*Western Australia*.—None.

*Tasmania*.—None. Have left one station unsupplied for past three months owing to lack of Missionary, but will open the field as soon as a man is found.

QUESTION 3.—How many stations have become sanctioned charges, and how many of these are settled ? Give names and numbers.

ANSWER.—*New South Wales*—In 1913 seven : Arncliffe, Coramba, Corrimal, Katoomba, Kurri Kurri, Weston, Rose Bay, all settled.

*Victoria*—Nine : Murrumbidgee, West Caulfield, South St. Kilda, East Brunswick (re-established), Murtoa, Elmore, West Geelong, Omeo (re-established), Moe, have reached the Church Extension platform.

*Queensland*—Four : Manly and Wynnum, Bulimba, Hamilton, Longreach. Of these Manly-Wynnum has been settled.

*South Australia*—None.

*Western Australia*—None.

*Tasmania*—Four, all settled : Glenorchy-Newtown, Queenstown, Burnie, Ulverstone.

QUESTION 4.—How many ordained Ministers does your Committee employ ?

ANSWER.—*New South Wales*—About six for occasional service.

*Victoria*—(1) Licentiate in Victoria render service for one year in Home Mission stations. They may receive a call at any time from the station to which they are appointed. Of those placed in October, 1913, three licentiate have not yet been inducted. (2) Seven elderly ordained men. (3) Seventeen Theological students. (4) Six students in arts.

*Queensland*—Statedly none ; occasionally as they are available.

*South Australia*—Four ordained Ministers and one licentiate.

*Western Australia*—Two.

*Tasmania*—One.

*Review, The*

QUESTION 5.—How many lay Home Mission Agents have you, and of these how many are studying under the Home Mission Agents' Training Scheme ?

ANSWER.—*New South Wales*—Forty ; of these twenty-one are studying under the Scheme.

*Victoria*—Seventy-one ; of these fifty-two are studying under the Home Mission Agents' Training Scheme.

*Queensland*—Forty-six ; of these twenty-two are studying under the Scheme.

*South Australia*—Ten ; one studying.

*Western Australia*—Ten ; two studying.

*Tasmania*—Thirteen ; ten studying.

QUESTION 6.—Do you impress upon them the necessity of study ? What has been your success ?

ANSWER.—*New South Wales*—Yes ; moderate.

*Victoria*—Yes ; for all the younger men deemed suitable to undertake the course of study. To prepare for examination is a condition of employment. At the present time only two are dallying with their studies.

*Queensland*—Yes ; moderate.

*South Australia*—Yes. Now we decline to take on a man as a Home Missionary unless he undertakes to study for the H. M. Course.

*Western Australia*—Yes ; all are studying who we think possibly can.

*Tasmania*.—Yes. Most of them realise it and do well considering their arduous Home Mission labours. Tendency in the best men is to put practical work before study.

QUESTION 7—How many Home Mission Agents not enrolled under the Scheme have you ?

ANSWER.—*New South Wales*—Nineteen, but of these some are Divinity students and some are elderly men.

*Victoria*—Nineteen, but of these four passed a course of three years' training in vogue in Victoria before 1905. Of the remaining fifteen several had been teachers or elders of our Church, or had fairly good general education.

*Queensland*—Eighteen.

*South Australia*—Five. Three are taking Arts Course, and one will take the H.M. Course.

*Western Australia*—Four. Three are a bit on the old side for study, and one has experienced a breakdown.

*Tasmania*—Three.

QUESTION 8—How many Agents have you gained since previous General Assembly ?

ANSWER.—*New South Wales*—Eight.

*Victoria*—Thirty-six.

*Queensland*—Fifteen.

*South Australia*—Six. Two came from Victoria.

*Western Australia*—Five. One ordained man.

*Tasmania*—Temporary Union with Victoria. Their list will include ours.

QUESTION 9.—How many Agents have you lost, and under what circumstances ?

ANSWER.—*New South Wales*—Eight ; some of these passed to the Theological Hall, others resigned the service.

*Victoria*—Nine. Some pass each year to the Theological Hall, some withdraw temporarily for study, some are on leave of absence. One (Mr. Stevens) accepted service in N.S.W. Mr. Mierisch went to S.A. One was retired for inefficiency, one for bad conduct, one retired through age, three for varying reasons, one died of typhoid (Mr. D. S. Findlater).

*Queensland*—Ten. One was asked to resign, one went to South Africa, another to New Zealand, one entered the service of another Church, four took up other employment, two resigned for health reasons.

*South Australia*—One. He was advised to retire.

*Western Australia*—Three ; all resigned.

*Tasmania*—Temporary union with Victoria ; their list will include ours.

QUESTION 10.—What are the special difficulties which you have to face in Home Mission work ?

ANSWER.—*New South Wales*.—The area to be supplied is very large, and neither men nor money are sufficient.

*Victoria*—Want of a sufficient number of educated and experienced Home Missionaries, difficulty of financing Church sites in new suburban areas, and Church buildings in keeping with new surroundings with a handful of people, as a new congregation to face the responsibility; apathy of well-established congregations towards work not within sight of their own parishes; lack of feeling of fellowship and *esprit de corps* throughout the Church; a spirit of sport run mad, and pleasure-seeking to excess in the community.

*Queensland*—Scarcity of suitable Agents; inadequate financial support by the people in settled charges.

*South Australia*—(1) Lack of really suitable men; (2) We are not able to raise money equal to our requirements; (3) The scattered nature of the population; (4) The proselytism of other churches, who lack conscience in this matter.

*Western Australia*—(1) Scarcity of population; (2) Poverty among some of those placed on the land, which cannot give a yield for several years. There is a great deal of this in W.A. at present.

*Tasmania*—Lack of Missionaries; distance of stations from Moderators; men unable to dispense Sacraments in charge of large mining towns and districts.

QUESTION 11.—What is the average stipend paid to Agents?

ANSWER.—*New South Wales*—From £130 to £140. In some cases house is supplied, in all cases horses and sulky.

*Victoria*—£110 to £120. The latter sum is aimed at; house is sometimes provided.

*Queensland*—£130.

*South Australia*—£128, the highest is £170, the lowest £90.

*Western Australia*—£130 to unmarried men; £160 to married men; £10 extra for the goldfields. Horse and vehicle provided, but not maintained by H.M. Committee. Agents provide their own bicycles.

*Tasmania*—£120.

QUESTION 12.—What are your annual income and expenditure?

ANSWER.—*New South Wales*—Income, £10,977/11/3; expenditure, £10,634/16/3. The difference went to reduce deficit, which at the end of 1913 was £478/12/9.

*Victoria*—From all sources, including credit balance carried forward, and special donation in 1913-14, income was £5,899; the discharge was £5,703.

*Queensland*—Income, 1913, £5,866; expenditure, £6,530.

*South Australia*—Income, £482/17/8; expenditure, £789/3/2.

*Western Australia*—Income, including £400 from Scotland and Ireland, £899; expenditure, £881. Debt reduced from £429 to £411.

*Tasmania*—Income, March, 1913.—Collections, £397; 1914, £561. Stipends, 1913, £555; *Victoria*, £22/2/3; 1914, £770; *Victoria*, £73/17/-; Expenditure, 1912, £311; £557; 1913, £563; £766.

QUESTION 13.—What is your outlook for Home Mission work in your State?

ANSWER.—*New South Wales*—Very hopeful, and as a rule we are and have been able to meet all demands fairly well. We can say that we are following the man on the land as closely as circumstances will permit.

*Victoria*—The outlook is good, as augured by (1) success of City Mission and Luncheon Hour Meetings in foundries and factories; (2) success of shearers' Mission; (3) consistent financial advance in Home Mission district for self-support and for equipping parishes better with buildings and Sunday School requisites; (4) larger number of suitable young men offering for the Home Mission field; (5) greater readiness of capable men in Home Mission parishes to serve as office-bearers; (6) increasing interest of Presbyteries in the Home Missionaries and their work within

their bounds ; (7) an apparent deeper sense of religious responsibility in the community and more serious view of spiritual and patriotic duties.

*Queensland*—The outlook is hopeful, though the field is vast and the means slender. We believe a larger and truer conception of the importance of the work has taken hold of our people, and they will more liberally provide for its support.

*South Australia*—Some charges that were receiving aid from the Home Mission Fund are doing without it, or reducing their grants. At present we have the best set of Home Mission Agents which the Church has ever had. Young men are offering for service, and a Lay Preacher's Association has been formed, and should render good service in years to come. We want another Agent for country east of Murray. We shall need two more men for Eyres Peninsula; and we want an ordained man for Port Augusta to serve as Pastor there, and have charge of the region west of Port Augusta—another Smith of Dunesk region in extent and importance. There are also three suburban districts, where work will have to be taken up in the near future.

*Western Australia*—We are on the whole well pleased with the work being done. There are, however, many fields unoccupied, where there should be a Presbyterian Church. This would mean more men and more money, and we are up to our limit in both. The gold boom is over in W.A., with its despiritualising tendencies. The West now looks more and more to the development of the State as a wheat producer. This will be a more wholesome life, morally and financially. Our duty is to follow the wheatgrower over the huge wheat areas (they average more than 1,000 acres). Very few homes are within reach of a preaching station on a Sunday afternoon. At the same time we must lay hold on the rapidly growing wheat towns along the railways.

*Tasmania*—Little immigration, not much natural expansion. Still, with closer settlement and outback development the settled population is growing. New industries are springing up; there will be a steady, if not hasty, inrush of population. There remain yet many districts in which our Church ought to be doing its share of evangelising work.

#### THE AUSTRALIAN INLAND MISSION.

The practical part of your Committee's work was the inauguration of the Australian Inland Mission, to which your Venerable Court pledged itself at the previous General Assembly. The Reverend John Flynn, whom you appointed as Organiser and Superintendent, prepared a map of Australia with the portions to be operated upon as conceded by Queensland, South and Western Australia. Of these maps 40,000 were printed and distributed far and wide throughout the settled portions of Australia and the letterpress information, together with Mr. Flynn's Report on the Northern Territory and invitations to join the Bush Brigade of 5,000 subscribers of £1 each have succeeded in creating an interest outside the limits of our own Church, and the numbers of subscribers, though not yet 5,000, give hope that the end will be accomplished. Mr. Flynn has visited many places in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South and Western Australia, and by lantern lectures, sermons and personal interviews has done much to forward the movement.

In a report of this kind, only an epitome of the work can be presented. The first part of our operations was the taking over of the OODNADATTA HOSTEL. For four years Nurse Latta Bett, with a splendid devotion and heroism, represented the teaching and philanthropy of our Master there. She has been succeeded by Nurse Jean Finlayson, whose spirit, devotion and success your Committee highly appreciate. The necessities of BROOME, the largest pearl fishery of the world, pressed upon your Committee the result being that half the salary of the Minister is met by your Committee. For some time Rev. A. S. and Mrs. Houston laboured there with success. They were succeeded by the Rev. F. G. H. and Mrs. Brady, who, realising what continuity of service means when a place is being impressed, gladly offer to stay for a longer term. A Church building is contemplated; plans have been prepared, donations have been made in Sydney, your Committee has promised to help

and there is every hope that it will be successfully financed. PORT HEDLAND and the Pilbarra Country was likely to suffer, as Mr. J. Payn Lewis, an Agent of Western Australia Church, was giving up, and Western Australia could find neither the man nor the money. Your Committee guaranteed the money and found the man, in the person of Rev. W. J. Stevens, who went forward with a sense of privilege, and, as he has punched his camels along the trackless and vast areas, he has found hearty appreciation. A nurse-deaconess will be appointed to Hedland, and there another influence for good will cheer the people. Quite recently Mr. R. B. Plowman was appointed to itinerate in a vast region from and including OODNADATTA northwards east and west 500 miles. Everywhere he has gone, preaching, lantern-lecturing and visiting, and he has travelled immensely with horses and camels, he has got most hearty welcome and appreciation.

THE NORTHERN TERRITORY proper has now received attention from your Committee; the Rev. J. C. Gibson, formerly of Brisbane, has heard the call of the Inland, and has gone to Pine Creek to represent us. He is just now completing his outfit.

The next part to be taken up by your Committee will be WESTERN QUEENSLAND, and as soon as men and money are available the work will begin.

#### EAST-WEST RAILWAY.

In order to do service among the men employed on the construction works of the East-West Railway, several Churches in South Australia co-operated, each of four paying a fourth of the cost. Your Committee became responsible for, and has paid the Presbyterian portion.

Soon after last Assembly the matter of work amongst the men on the East-West Railway at the eastern end was taken in hand. As other denominations were also considering the matter, an attempt was made to secure co-operation, and this has been followed with very happy results. The Baptists, Congregationalists and Methodists of South Australia are co-operating through their Home Mission Committee. Two other denominations did not see their way to join, viz:—Anglican and Church of Christ.

No little difficulty was experienced in getting a suitable Agent, but, by the special consideration of the Methodist Church of Victoria, the Rev. T. T. Webb, an eminently suitable third-year probationer, was set free for the work. His engagement with the Committee began with the first of October, 1913, and he proceeded at once to Port Augusta. It was altogether a new situation to face, and the fact that the Commonwealth had control introduced phases of difficulty that made the case more unique. However, Mr. Webb very shortly went out to live amongst the men, choosing from time to time amongst the camps the one that offered the biggest opportunities of service. Since February he has had the use for social work of two large tents, provided as social centres for the men by the Commonwealth. These have been fitted up with games, books, writing materials, and have been greatly used by the men. Mr. Webb holds his religious services in them also. He has a good gramophone, a magic lantern, and a little organ, which can be carried from camp to camp, and has been able to win the men's confidence and help them very greatly in various ways, but he naturally finds the real business of interesting them in the higher life a very hard matter.

The committee in Adelaide has met regularly, and much interest has been shown in the work by the members, amongst whom are some of the leading business men of the city, and one or two with a special knowledge of railway construction work. There are five representatives from each denomination, and an honorary secretary, twenty-one in all. The committee has reserved the right for itself, and for either of the co-operating Churches to visit and inspect the work at any time, but no occasion to do so has arisen, as, despite difficulties and discouragements, such good progress has been made.

In conclusion your Committee reports that the work committed to its charge has grown to such proportions and requires so much attention that it will be necessary to frame a proper constitution, and make arrangements for more complete attention to its many and various details.

ROBERT STEEL,  
Acting Convener and Secretary.

## VIII.

## REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE, 1914.

The Committee herewith submits the audited balance sheets and report.

As in previous years, it is desirable to emphasise the necessity of caution in connection with the expenditure of funds in order to avoid further increase of the assessment, and the Committee again desires to point out that with the present source of revenue it is not possible to provide for the travelling expenses of members more frequently than once in two years.

The amount of the Hymnary Royalty on School Praise was £226/3/6, and interest £6/18/5, making a total revenue of £233/1/11, while the travelling expenses in connection with last Assembly amounted to £211/8/8. No Interstate meetings of Committees have been held since last Assembly. At present the credit in the fund available for travelling expenses is £234/17/9, and, as it was estimated that the Queensland Assembly would cost a good deal more for travelling than the Assembly in the other States, the difference will require to be provided for by resolution of Assembly.

The present credit in the General Assembly Expenses Fund account is £276 12s. 10d., with a sum of £1210s still to be collected from the Tasmanian Church. The expenditure on this account since last Assembly has been £381/9/1, as per details supplied, and the assessment paid by the various States for the two years, and including the assessment for honorarium to College Secretary, has been £497/19/-. This, with interest £17/4/6, makes a total revenue of £515/3/6, and provided no extra expenditure is incurred by the Assembly at this meeting, the sum of £100 might be made available, if required, for the travelling expenses fund, and thus avoid making a separate levy.

It must again be noted that, with regard to the Hymnary Royalty amount, your Committee can only spend the money which is placed at its disposal. And that the expenses of members to the Assembly can only be paid *pro rata* up to the amount available, and this has hitherto met the proportion which has been recommended by your Committee.

As formerly, your Committee recommends that the travelling expenses of members for this Assembly be paid *pro rata*, as far as the Fund will admit, in the same proportion as for last Assembly, namely:—That members attending the General Assembly in September, 1914, have the following percentages of their travelling expenses (calculated upon the basis of second-class railway and second-class steamer fares at the reduced rate allowed by the railway and steamship companies) paid by the Church, viz. :—(a) Those paying less than £1, nothing; (b) those paying from £1 to £4, to receive half; (c) those paying from £4 upwards, to receive three-quarters, provided that no one in class (b) shall pay less than £1 himself, and no one in class (c) less than £2.

With regard to the Assembly's Expenses Fund, your Committee recommends that instructions be given to assess State Assemblies for Assembly expenses as follows, making a total of £213 :—New South Wales, £76/10/-; Victoria, £76/10/-; South Australia, £12/10/-; Queensland, £22/10/-; Western Australia, £12/10/-; Tasmania, £12/10/-.

In the Home Mission Account for the past two years the extent of the work laid upon the New South Wales Office has been abnormally great, as reference to the Balance Sheet will show. The total revenue evolved from all sources was £3,525/12/-, and the expenditure £2,552/8/1, leaving a credit of £973/3/11, which is not by any means too much, having regard to the liabilities, present and prospective, in the Home Mission Department. The credit in the account for mission work in the bush of Australia stands at £39/2/-, a proportion of £128/3/11 having been transferred to the Home Mission general account, and your Committee recommends that the balance in this be likewise transferred.

In the Foreign Missions account there was no revenue.

The Expenses Capital Fund stands as formerly at £36/2/6, and the interest amounted to £4/1/5, and was transferred to the General Revenue Account.

The investment of the £1,000 held to credit to the John Frazer Foreign Mission Endowment Fund stands as formerly, *i.e.*, invested in New South Wales Government Stock at 3½%. The interest is paid to the credit of the Board of Missions every half-year, and has been paid to the 30th June, 1914.



Hitherto, the Treasurership Committee of the New South Wales Church, who act as Treasurers for your Board, have not made any charge whatever for the keeping of the accounts, but in view of the large amount of work entailed by the increase of the revenue and corresponding expenditure in the Home Missions Department, the Treasurers have intimated that they desire to be allowed to make a charge, and suggest the moderate figure of 2% for collection upon all revenue for all funds, which your Assembly is asked to ratify; this charge to be in addition to payment for out-of-pocket amounts such as postages, telegrams, exchanges, etc., which are entered up separately. The New South Wales Treasurers desire this to be made retrospective as for the last two years.

With regard to the Year Book your Committee desires to point out that no claim was made for payment of same till March of the present year, when the account was rendered for two issues, the shortage for 1913 being £23/5/5, and for 1914 £24/11/3, a total of £47/16/8. Your Committee is aware of the direction contained in Minute 78, page 46 of last Blue Book, to pay the account, but there was no direction given as to what fund it was to be paid out of, and, in view of the fact that there appears to be practically no demand for the book, the sales for the two years so far as they have been returned amounting to only £2/0/10 your Committee resolved—(1) To ask authority from the General Assembly to pay the accounts now due out of the Assembly Expenses Fund, and (2) To recommend that the publication of the book be discontinued, or (3) In the event of its being continued, that it be not made a charge upon any Fund under your Committee's care.

On behalf of the Committee,

WALTER G. CRANE,  
Chairman.

20/8/1914.

## IX.

### BOARD OF MISSIONS REPORT, 1912-1914.

It is with sincere thankfulness to God for all the manifestations of His blessing on its work during the last two years that the Board of Missions presents its report to the General Assembly.

The protecting care of our Heavenly Father has been over all our Missionaries in their voyages and journeys. He has kept them in a fair measure of health, upheld them in their work, and in a most wonderful manner disappointed our fears of hostility in the new fields by inclining the hearts of the people, both in Port George IV. and Mornington Island to receive the Messengers of the Gospel.

It is with sorrow, however, that your Board reports the removal by death of three of its most honoured members. The Rev. Dr. T. R. Cairns (of Ballarat), Colonel J. H. Goodlet (of Sydney), and the Hon. James Balfour (of Melbourne). The Assembly will doubtless take fitting notice of these sad events; but your Board would place on record its high estimation of the character of these gentlemen, and its appreciation of their most valuable services to the Missionary work of our Church.

A few months after last Assembly, the Board was pleased to welcome back its Convener, the Rev. A. Stewart, from his visit to Europe, and is thankful that his knowledge and experience were available during the difficulties attending the extension of its operations to Port George IV. and Mornington Island. This increased responsibility laid upon the Board necessitated very frequent meetings and considerable correspondence. The Board acknowledges its indebtedness to the Victorian Church for office facilities, and thanks the members of the office staff for their hearty co-operation.

#### THE STAFF.

The following changes and additions to the Mission Staff have to be reported. Mr. and Mrs Hall have been transferred from Weipa to open the new station on Mornington Island.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul appointed as assistants for Mornington Island.

Mr. and Mrs. Holmes as assistants at Weipa.

Mr. Segrott has resigned his position as assistant at Port George IV., and his successors, Mr. and Mrs. L. Edwards, having also withdrawn, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Black, of Angas College, Adelaide, have been appointed.

Rev. A. and Mrs. Richter have been on furlough, but are expected soon on their way back to Aurukun.

Mr. and Mrs. Hall being unable to begin work on Mornington Island last year took short furlough, which has been of great benefit to their health, and they have stimulated interest in their work by visiting among the Churches.

In view of the fact that Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have spent six successive summers on service in North Queensland and North-West Australia, the Board has granted them furlough during next summer.

#### HON. COMMISSION TO MR. J. R. B. LOVE.

At a meeting of the Board held during last Assembly an Honorary Commission was granted to Mr. J. R. B. Love (a son of the Rev. G. C. Love, of Strathalbyn, S.A.) who desired to make investigations amongst the Aborigines in the interior of Australia. Mr. Love has spent most of his time since then travelling over the interior from Flinders Range to Darwin, and from Wyndham to the Queensland border, and maintaining himself by his own exertions. From time to time he has sent most interesting and valuable reports to the Board. He has furnished a complete report to the Board for the Assembly. The Board most heartily thanks Mr. Love for his labour and the valuable information he has made available for it.

#### PORT GEORGE IV.

As instructed by last General Assembly the Board took over the Mission at Port George IV. from the West Australian Church, and by the blessing of God the work has made wonderful progress. Large numbers of natives have come about the station. They have been uniformly friendly and ready to help in manual labour in return for food. Steps are being taken to set up a school for the children.

The Executive in Perth along with the Missionary are considering the advisability of removing the Mission further inland, where the soil would be better for cultivation, and the people more secluded from the baneful effects of coastal trade.

The W.A. Government has shown its appreciation of the Missionary and his work by appointing him Superintendent of the Mission reserves of 58,000 acres, and giving a grant of £150 per annum towards the work.

The outlay on this section of the Board's work has been very heavy, and has been increased by unexpected changes on the staff.

The Revs. Prof. D. S. Adam and W. S. Rolland did good service for the Board in connection with finance, while visiting Western Australia, and Mr. Rolland has placed it under a further obligation by collecting a sum of over £100 for repairing the Mission lugger "W. S. Park."

Mr. H. L. Richardson, of Broome, has given very valuable assistance to our Missionaries by attending to the purchase and shipment of stores and caring for the lugger while in that port. It is a great satisfaction to know that he has now been appointed Agent for our Missionary at Broome.

The Rev. F. G. H. Brady and his wife, as well as their predecessors, Rev. A. S. and Mrs. Houston have made the manse a real home to our Missionaries while in Broome.

#### QUEENSLAND.

##### MORNINGTON ISLAND.

The Mission on Mornington Island, in the south of the Gulf of Carpentaria, is now fairly under way. While Mr. and Mrs. Hall were on furlough, Mr. and Mrs. Paull were gaining useful experience at the Mapoon, Weipa and Arukun stations, and a boat was being built at Thursday Island. The boat, a ketch of thirteen tons, of much the same size as the "J. G. Ward," has been named the "Morning Star," and, with equipment, has cost over £740, the half of which has been paid by the Queensland Government. The Missionaries are making a thorough exploration of the Island, before deciding on the site of the station. The Port of Burketown, at the head of the Gulf, will be the base for mails and supplies.

## VISIT OF REV. J. A. CROCKETT TO NORTH QUEENSLAND.

By the kindness of the Hon. J. G. Appel, the Home Secretary of Queensland, the Board was able to send the Rev. J. A. Crockett along with the Government Party of inspection of the North Queensland Mission Stations in last May. Mr. Crockett has given a most valuable report of his visit, and speaks in the highest terms of the work of our Missionaries. His suggestions as to improvements on the industrial side are receiving the attention of the Board. On one of these the Board desires instruction from the Assembly, viz., that of providing small oil engines, say of 6 h.p., for use in sawing timber, pumping water, etc., at each station.

The Board is of opinion that the advantage of such engines would be very great, and considers that the outlay would be a legitimate charge on the Sandalwood Account.

The Board is taking steps to establish herds of cattle at each station.

The whole Church is grateful that every Government and private visit of inspection at Mapoon sustains and advances the reputation of the Missionary.

The motor launch "Namaleta" supplied to Mr. Hey, by order of the Assembly, is proving a valuable adjunct to his work.

The Board directs attention to the interesting reports of the progress and consolidation of the work at the older stations of Mapoon, Weipa, and Aurukun.

Turning to the work under the supervision of the Churches, the Board is sure that the sympathy of the Assembly goes out to the Church in New Zealand and its devoted Missionaries, Dr. and Mrs. Bowie, in the sudden and appalling destruction by a volcanic outbreak, in December last, of their splendidly equipped Hospital and Mission Station on the Island of Ambrim, New Hebrides.

The Board approves of the proposed arrangement whereby a site on Malekula for a new Hospital is to be made over to the New Zealand Church, and recommends that in accordance with the opinion of our Missionaries the oversight of the whole Mission district around the Hospital be assumed by the New Zealand Church.

## DELEGATION TO NEW HEBRIDES.

The Board learned with gratification that the New South Wales, New Zealand, and Victorian Churches had sent a delegation to the New Hebrides in June, 1913. The result of their investigations into the condition of the Group, and their conferences with the members of Synod and representatives of the other Protestant Missions in the Group, has been set forth most forcibly by the Rev. F. H. L. Paton, in his pamphlet on "Slavery under the British Flag." Its well substantiated statements of the failure of the Condominium Government in grappling with the sale of intoxicants, and firearms, the kidnapping of natives, and the illegal recruitment of women and children, have been placed before the Commonwealth and Imperial authorities. We are hopeful that fuller knowledge will lead to an utter abolition of these abuses. An Anglo-French Commission is sitting at present in London, from which great good may be expected.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

The Board congratulates the Church in New South Wales on its Forward Policy, on the appointment of the Rev. J. T. Lawton as Foreign Missions Secretary, and the on the extension of its work in India by the sending out of the Rev. C. E. Turnbull and Nurse Gill to Sholinghur. Shortly after Mr. Turnbull's arrival, he had the great joy of baptising six men, six women, and eighteen children.

The Rev. D. L. Paterson and his wife are back to Malo, New Hebrides, after a short furlough, and are doing most effective work.

By a recent apportionment of the Group, the island of Santo has been taken over by the New South Wales Church. In this arrangement there is great fitness, as it was a Missionary of this Church, the Rev. Jas. Gordon, of Nova Scotia, who first planted the standard of the Cross on Santo nearly 50 years ago. The story of his martyrdom on Erromanga still lives in the memory of the Church. The Board prays that the blessing of God may rest upon the Church in this new undertaking, and that He will speedily send forth some one to occupy the vacant station at Nogugu, Santo.

By the re-adjustment of spheres in the New Hebrides, rendered necessary by the withdrawal of the Canadian Church, and the notification that the United Free

Church of Scotland will not replace any of its Agents, the Southern islands will be taken over by the John G. Paton Committee, and Victoria will be responsible for Vila Harbour and Efate, in addition to the work it is carrying on already.

The Teachers' Training Institution on Santo, which is ably conducted by the Rev. F. G. Bowie, M.A., of the United Free Church of Scotland, is doing much to keep up a supply of adequately equipped native teachers. The maintenance of the work is now apportioned among the Churches working in the Group.

The Board regrets that the vacancies caused by the retirement of the Revs. Dr. Taylor and J. Gillan are not yet filled. This has imposed a heavy strain upon the remaining workers.

In spite of the political unrest and the manifold temptations arising from the new conditions of life the native Church in the New Hebrides is growing, not only in numbers, but in self-reliance and self-support, as well as in depth of spiritual life.

The South Australian Church has provided its Missionary, the Rev. Thomson Macmillan, with a motor launch; and Tasmania has supplied Rev. J. B. Weir with a new schoolhouse, as well as a horse, a tank, and other helps. Mrs. Weir and her little son, were mercifully saved from death in the destruction of the Hospital on Ambrim.

The Victorian Church has received with great regret the resignation of the Rev. J. Gillan, after 25 years' service, on account of the failure of his wife's health. It has had sorrow over the death of Mrs. F. J. Paton, who had spent only nine short months on Malekula, and the massacre of four devoted native teachers and two Christian men from Wala, by the people of a bush village on Malekula, to which they had gone to preach the Gospel.

The work of the Victorian Church in Korea is steadily advancing. The Rev. A. Adamson has regretfully been compelled to relinquish his work by illness after 20 years' service.

Two additional lady missionaries are on their way at present, and in the early part of this year an expert Educationist, Rev. E. K. Lomas, M.A., M.Sc., was sent out to organise and supervise the educational department of the work in Korea.

An arrangement is almost completed whereby a wedge of territory between the eastern and western districts of the Victorian Church's sphere of work will be transferred from the American Board to that Church. By this change the district will be made more compact, and about half a million more people can be reached, with only a slight addition to the staff.

At the Home-base, the Rev. F. H. L. Paton has been devoting himself to the promotion of Bible and Mission Study Circles, and already good results are apparent in increased liberality and offers of service. A Campaign of Prayer and Self-Denial is being organised for the end of this year.

The work among the Chinese is being steadily carried on, although the number is steadily decreasing year by year.

Other matters of interest are dealt with at length in the reports of the Missionaries and State Committees, and to them the Board directs the sympathetic and prayerful attention of the members of the Assembly.

The Board directs attention to the overture from the F. M. Committee of New South Wales. The Board has no responsibility for the course of events out of which this overture has arisen, and considers it beyond its province to anticipate any discussion of its merits.

The Board thankfully acknowledges the faithful work done by the Missionaries of all the Churches, the loyalty of the Foreign Missions Committees, the self-sacrificing efforts of the Women's Missionary Unions and Associations, and rejoices in the increase of missionary spirit fostered by the Young People's and Senior Girls' Mission Bands; and prays that in ministering to the needs of the heathen world the Church itself may be abundantly refreshed by an outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

#### FINANCE.

The Board has found the outlay consequent on the responsibilities accepted by the last General Assembly much greater than could have been anticipated while the Assembly was sitting. To meet the demands of the Mission at Port George IV, W.A., and Mornington Island Mission, Queensland, and to provide a motor boat

for the Rev. N. Hey, at Mapoon, the Board had to increase the assessment on each contributing Church, and to use a portion of the reserve funds which had been accumulating for furloughs and other certain but occasional expenses. The following are the extra outgoings since last Assembly.

Motor Boat, Mapoon ... ..	£220 0 0
Port George IV. Mission—	
Remittances to Perth ... ..	£750 0 0
Salaries—	
Missionaries ... ..	216 13 4
Assistants) ... ..	144 4 2
Travelling and other Expenses ... ..	14 0 0
	1,124 17 6
Mornington Island Mission—	
Salaries—	
Missionary ... ..	260 0 0
Assistant ... ..	123 16 0
Half Cost Boat and Equipment ... ..	370 2 6
Travelling and other Expenses ... ..	88 13 3
	842 11 9
	£2,187 9 3

In settling the amounts at which the State Churches have been rated, Western Australia was accepted at its own promise, in view of its special concern in the Port George IV. Mission at £150 per annum. This promise is beyond what the W.A. Church might have been expected to contribute on the basis of its membership. The promise has not been fulfilled up to the time of preparing this report, though assurances are recently to hand that it is likely to be.

The amounts receivable for last year (1913-14) from the State Churches, were :—

Victoria ... ..	£970 0 0
New South Wales ... ..	621 0 0
Queensland ... ..	238 0 0
Western Australia ... ..	150 0 0
South Australia ... ..	63 0 0
Tasmania ... ..	51 0 0
	£2,093 0 0

The table appended to the accounts to show the special receipts and expenditures for the period reported on makes the credit balances due to the reserve fund drawn on to fill up the shortage from assessment, stand thus on July 31st, 1914 :—

Upkeep of Stations ... ..	£225 12 0
Furloughs ... ..	189 3 11
General Expenses ... ..	97 0 7
	£511 16 6

As the reserves are required to meet expenses that are sure to emerge from time to time, the Board asks the Assembly to condone the inroad made on them since last Assembly, and to arrange for the repayment of the amounts borrowed from them. When the Church of Western Australia redeems its promise about half the necessary money will then be available for the refund.

The Board recommends that the charge for the salaries of assistant Missionaries should in future be treated as part of the assessment. Hitherto it has been met by special payments from Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland. These Churches might continue to draw their share from the special sources, whence they are now received, while paying them in to the Board as part of their assessment. Since the

number of married assistants has increased to five, it seems better to bring their support into one account than to have the Board providing for two out of general income, and the others differently.

Should these recommendations be approved, the Board estimates the outlay needful in the coming year as follows:—

Missionaries Salaries—					
Mapoon	...	...	...	£240	0 0
Weipa	...	...	...	220	0 0
Anrukun	...	...	...	220	0 0
Mornington Island	...	...	...	200	0 0
Port George	...	...	...	240	0 0
					1,120 0 0
Assistants' Salaries—					
Mapoon	...	...	...	60	0 0
Weipa	...	...	...	60	0 0
Anrukun	...	...	...	60	0 0
Mornington Island	...	...	...	160	0 0
Port George IV.	...	...	...	180	0 0
					520 0 0
Moravian Pensions	...	...	...		21 0 0
Boat Services—					
North Queensland	...	...	...	240	0 0
Port George IV.	...	...	...	240	0 0
					480 0 0
Upkeep of Stations	...	...	...		50 0 0
Furloughs	...	...	...		150 0 0
General Expenses	...	...	...		45 0 0
					£2,386 0 0

The amount thus reached for the ordinary expense of our aborigines Missions will be increased in the year 1914-5 by the repayment already mentioned to the reserve funds and the provision of houses at Mornington Island and Port George IV. The Queensland Government will pay half the cost of the houses on Mornington Island; but the grant of £150 from the Government of Western Australia will not help to reduce our outlay on buildings, the whole being needed as a station fund for the benefit of the aborigines. The total, therefore, required by the Board for the efficient prosecution of the work committed to it next year will be—

Ordinary Expenses	...	...	...	...	£2,386 0 0
Repayment to Reserve Funds	...	...	...	...	511 16 6
Mornington Island—2 Houses and Freight, say	...	...	...	...	450 0 0
Port George IV.—Assistants' House and Freight and Improvements to Missionary's House, say	...	...	...	...	550 0 0
					£3,897 16 6

The Churches of New South Wales and Victoria, which bear the larger share of the cost of our Missions to the aborigines, have found their assessment burdensome when the Board asked them for contributions a little more than half as much as the present estimate forecasts. In some way the strain ought to be relieved. If the extraordinary, non-recurring outlays were distributed over the assessment of five years, this would help; but as the outlay is necessary at once, the Church must in giving this relief guarantee the debt that will be incurred, and find the interest on it until it is paid off. Taking the membership of the Churches as reported, namely:—

Victoria	...	...	...	...	31,461
New South Wales	...	...	...	...	20,856
Queensland	...	...	...	...	8,671
Tasmania	...	...	...	...	1,900
South Australia	...	...	...	...	2,251
Western Australia	...	...	...	...	1,943

and accepting Western Australia at its offer of £150 a year, the assessment may be set out in detail in the following way, from which it will be easy to make any adjustment the Assembly adopts.

	Ordinary Charges.	Special Charges.	Total.
	£2,386 0 0	£1,511 16 6	
Victoria ... ..	£1,080 0 0	£730 0 0	£1,810 0 0
New South Wales ... ..	716 0 0	484 0 0	1,200 0 0
Queensland ... ..	298 0 0	201 16 6	499 16 6
Western Australia ... ..	150 0 0	—	150 0 0
South Australia ... ..	65 0 0	44 0 0	109 0 0
Tasmania ... ..	77 0 0	52 0 0	129 0 0
	£2,386 0 0	£1,511 16 6	£3,897 16 6

In connection with this Report the Board asks the General Assembly to note that special service has been rendered to the Church by the honorary auditor, Mr. W. L. Mollison, the staff of the Queensland Church office, the honorary treasurer of the Church in Western Australia, and the staff of the Church office in Melbourne (under the able supervision of Mr. A. L. Pryde, the Board's honorary treasurer), and especially by one of them, Mr. W. H. Thompson, whose accuracy and care in keeping the books and attending to other business matters have greatly facilitated the Board's work.

Signed for the Board by direction,

ALEX. STEWART, Convener.

T. WATT LEGGATT, Secretary.

#### FOREIGN MISSION BOARD.

Statement showing the combined Credit Balances at 30/6/12, and the Receipts from that date to 31/7/14, also the Debit Balances at 30/6/12 and the payments combined for same period in connection with various objects for which the assessments were made.

	Receipts.	Payments.	Dr. Balances.	Cr. Balances.
Salaries ... ..	£1,279 14 0	£1,335 0 0	55 6 0	—
Moravian Pensions ... ..	76 18 0	87 13 0	10 15 0	—
Boat Maintenance ... ..	191 3 0	175 18 3	—	15 4 9
Upkeep of Property ... ..	225 12 0	—	—	225 12 0
Furloughs ... ..	341 6 5	152 2 6	—	189 3 11
Motor Boat ... ..	166 3 0	220 0 0	53 17 0	—
Mornington Island ... ..	563 3 0	483 11 10	—	79 11 2
Western Australia ... ..	997 3 0	1,124 17 6	127 14 6	—
"Morning Star" ... ..	—	358 19 11	358 19 11	—
General ... ..	736 2 6	470 9 8	—	265 12 10
	£4,577 4 11	£4,408 12 8	£606 12 5	£775 4 8
				606 12 5
				£168 12 3

## Board of Missions (Perth Account).

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FROM 1ST MARCH TO 31ST JULY, 1914.

RECEIPTS.	£ s. d.	DISBURSEMENTS.	£ s. d.
1914—		1914—	
Mar. 21—Remittance from Board ... ..	300 0 0	Mar. 21—Exchange on £300 ... ..	1 17 6
		.. 27—Moss & Richardson, to pay Broome Accounts	269 17 1
		.. --Exchange and Telegram ... ..	2 1 6
		.. Balance forward ... ..	26 3 11
	300 0 0		£300 0 0
1914—		1914—	
April 1—To Balance ... ..	26 3 11	April 18—Moss and Richardson, Broome ... ..	43 0 0
.. 18—Cash on Account W.A. Contribution ... ..	25 0 0	.. --Exchange and Telegram ... ..	0 7 6
May 29—Government Grant to 31/3/14 ... ..	26 8 2	.. 27—Rev. W. F. Turton, Petties to 24/4/14	3 4 6
June 15—Cash on Account W. A. Contribution ... ..	5 0 0	June 15—Mr. Thomas, of Fremantle, on Account	
.. 18—Remittance from Board ... ..	100 0 0	Black's Expenses from Adelaide ... ..	6 7 2
.. 23—Government Grant to 30/6/14 ... ..	37 9 11	.. 18—Exchange on £100 from Board ... ..	0 10 0
July 10—    "    Short Paid in May ... ..	5 10 9	.. 24—H. L. Richardson, Broome ... ..	100 0 0
.. 23—Cash on Account W.A. Contribution ... ..	70 0 0	Exchange and Telegram ... ..	0 16 0
		Mr. and Mrs. Black's Fares from	
		Fremantle to Broome ... ..	16 16 6
		W.C.T. Union—Mr. and Mrs.	
		Black's Board and Residence	
		in Perth ... ..	3 6 0
		Mr. Black, Incidentals between	
		Adelaide and Fremantle ... ..	1 10 0
		Rev. W. F. Turton's Expenditure,	
		Incidentals <i>re</i> the Black's	
		stay in Perth ... ..	1 7 6
			23 0 0
		.. 30—Bank's Keeping Fee to Date ... ..	0 5 0
		Balance in Bank, as per Certificate attached ... ..	118 2 7
	£295 12 9		£295 12 9
July 31—To Balance ... ..	£118 2 7		

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FRED. A. McMULLEN,  
General Treasurer.



## General Assembly's Foreign Missions Board.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FROM 22ND AUGUST, 1912, TO 31ST JULY, 1914.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance, 22nd August, 1912	635	13	3								
Victoria, to 30/6/14 (including £136/2/-, from Ormond College Missionary Society)	1,940	7	0								
New South Wales, to 30/6/14 (including £120 for Assistant)	1,274	15	0								
Queensland to 30/6/14 (including £120 for Assistant)	561	5	0								
South Australia to 30/6/13	63	0	0								
Tasmania to 30/9/13	51	0	0								
Amount collected by Mrs. Rennie for room in Mr. R. H. Wilson's House	42	3	0								
Demonstration, 1912	16	6	5								
Interest on Deposit in Savings Bank	16	5	4								
Interest on Deferred Deposit Receipt	8	1	0								
Interest on Bequest, late Mrs. S. L. Comrie	7	1	3								
	<u>£4,615</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>3</u>								
				By Salaries—							
				Rev. N. Hey—two years to 30/6/14...	470	0	0				
				Rev. E. Brown	435	0	0				
				Rev. A. Richter	430	0	0				
				Mr. R. Hall	260	0	0				
				Mr. R. H. Wilson	216	13	4				
				Assistants to 30/6/14	601	15	8				
				Boatmen to 30/6/14	135	0	0				
								2,548	9	0	
				Rev. N. Hey—Balance re Furlough				4	2	6	
				Rev. A. Richter, Furlough				148	0	0	
				Moravian Pension Fund to 30/9/14				87	13	0	
				Western Australia				750	0	0	
				Half-cost "Morning Star"				358	19	11	
				Rev. N. Hey—Motor Boat				220	0	0	
				Rev. N. Hey—Boat Expenses, two years				37	7	7	
				Mr. R. H. Wilson, for Room in New House				42	3	0	
				Fares and Incidental Expenses—Messrs. R. Hall, T. W. Holmes and E. W. Black				148	18	3	
				Expenses of Delegates to Thursday Island and Western Australia				21	12	0	
				Equipment, Mornington Island				11	2	7	
				Rev. A. Richter—Fees for Special Course of Medicine				30	0	0	
				Exchanges, Drafts, Postages, etc.				27	14	2	
				Executive's Expenses				11	3	0	
				Balance...				168	12	3	
								<u>£4,615</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>3</u>	

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### JOHN FRAZER FOREIGN MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance, 22nd August, 1912	56	5	0				
New South Wales Treasurership Committee Interest to 30/6/14	84	7	6				
	<u>£140</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>				
				By Miss Lyttle Scholarship, 1912...			12 10 0
				Miss Skinner 1913...			12 10 0
				Mr. J. R. Anderson 1914...			25 0 0
				Mr. G. V. Davies			25 0 0
				Miss Skinner			12 10 0
				Nurse Gill			12 10 0
				Balance			40 12 6
							<u>£140 12 6</u>

Examined and found correct,

WM. L. MOLLINSON, A.I.A.V., Hon. Auditor.

A. L. PRYDE, Treasurer.

6/8/14.

## REPORT OF MAPOON MISSION STATION.

Mapoon Presbyterian Mission Station,  
July 8th, 1914.

This report must not go forth without our giving expression to the heartfelt thanks which we owe to your executive and to the Board for the encouragement given, patience displayed with our limitations, and confidence expressed when we were severely criticised. It is further our duty and privilege to thank all the many friends for their practical sympathy and prayerful support. Last, but not least, we are under deep obligation to the Board for the visit of the Rev. J. A. Crockett, whose sympathy and discernment has been very helpful to us, and will, no doubt, prove the same to the Board.

Under the Divine guidance, the work in all its branches was continued during the year without interruption. Sorrow and joy, retrogression and progress, temporal and spiritual labours have been blended in one picture with gratifying results.

The Aborigines under our care are undoubtedly in a transition stage. That which is distinctly heathen is slowly but surely dying. The past year has witnessed many a struggle between light and darkness, but some at least have learnt to live by Christian principles. Others again, have been a failure and a disappointment. As far as we can judge, the full-blooded aborigines are a doomed race. A remnant, however, who have come in time under the elevating and redeeming power of the Gospel, will be preserved, and are gradually finding firmer footing in the Christian life, and further personal experience will add stability to their characters.

(1). There is nothing of a special nature to report. No baptisms of adults have taken place (though seven children of Christian parents have been baptised) hence the number of communicants remains the same as last year (sixty-three).

Divine services have been held twice every Lord's Day, besides Sunday school for the children, Bible expositions and prayer meetings, every Wednesday and Saturday respectively.

The attendance and attention at all the services, both at Mapoon and at the outstation settlements were satisfactory. Many of the younger married people had to walk eight miles to attend the Sunday afternoon service at the head station. The individuals have been regularly visited in their homes, and services were conducted whenever possible, in the camps.

Our evangelists (3) have also occasionally received further instruction and training.

(2) EDUCATION.—The education of the young has been vigorously pushed forward. Though the ordinary plan and method of the State School has been followed, yet the aim has been to equip our boys and girls for the new conditions and demands, without placing them in a false position.

Most of the children are either permanent or weekly boarders, hence a regular attendance was always assured. The number on the roll at the end of the year was seventy-one.

All who have inspected or visited the school have given unstinted praise to the efficiency and attainments of the scholars. The Honorable the Home Secretary stated that the Mapoon school compares favourably with any other school of white children, in the subjects taught. The Government Resident of Thursday Island said that the Mapoon school is still ahead of all the other aboriginal institutions he has visited. Mr. A. M. Brown, one of the deputation from the Society of Friends, wrote in his report that the Mapoon school is, even more than any other Mission he visited, "The centre of much good influence and real home life."

The spirit of self-denial is foreign to the aborigines, but the younger people who have been for years under Christian influence have shown beautiful examples of the spirit of giving. Not only have the girls made and forwarded a fair amount of crocheting for the benefit of children's sales-of-work, but a considerable amount of money thus earned was freely donated to the needs of others.

It may be mentioned here that the school children obtained a number of prizes and certificates at the Brisbane Exhibition.

(3) HEALTH.—The health of the Mission inmates has been uniformly good, but the full-blooded blacks required a great deal of medical treatment. Consumption and venereal diseases were responsible for several deaths.

Eight deaths and seven births have been reported as having taken place during the year at or near the Station. All the births recorded were of Christian parentage, although the heathen still outnumber the Christians.

(4) EXTERNAL OR INDUSTRIAL WORK.—(a) At the Head Station the buildings have been kept in good repair, no easy matter in a land of storms and white ants. The cocoanut plantation was extended and the live stock has increased.

The native village at Mapoon consists mostly of old people who have always been more or less dependent on the Mission, though they have their own homes with a number of cocoanut trees in bearing.

(b) About five miles distant from Mapoon there is a second native village, with nineteen homesteads. Most of the fathers and mothers of these homes have been trained in the Mission. They are nearly all self-supporting, well educated and self-respecting. Their homes are strongly built, and are kept clean and neat, and the children well cared for. The older children are weekly boarders at the Mapoon school.

(c) A third village, or rather, second outstation, has been established during the year. It is fifteen miles distant from Mapoon and, like the other villages, has its own councillor, who has to report to Mapoon at least once every month. This settlement is especially arranged for the training of the ex-schoolboys under a Samoan teacher. The remnant of a small tribe has thereby also been reached, whom we could not influence otherwise.

On all these settlements regular Divine services are provided for.

The motor launch "Mamaleta," (Messenger) has proved very helpful in the regular inspection and supervision of these out stations.

(5) THE FINANCIAL POSITION of the station and outstations will be found in detail, in the yearly Balance Sheet.

The whole expenditure for the year amounted to £658/17/9, and the income reached the sum of £814/3/3, including a Government grant of £367/10/-. After providing a sum of £80 for a new cutter required, during the coming year at the training farm, there is still a credit balance of £75/5/6.

The Mapoon Native Co-operative Store shows a turnover of £203/8/9, with a credit balance of £14/0/2.

A number of our young settlers were allowed occasionally to do their own selling and buying in Thursday Island; such transactions do not appear in the Station books.

(6) The Mission has been again, as other years, visited at various times by officials and friends. The Government Resident from Thursday Island, the late Chief Protector, and Inspectress Beeston carried out their inspection early in the year. Then, again, quite recently The Hon. the Home Secretary, accompanied by a large Government Party (16), including Mr. J. Allan, M.P., Mrs. Allan, the Rev. J. A. Crockett, a member of the Mission Board, and others honoured the Mission by their visit and showed us no little kindness. Full reports of these visits will no doubt appear elsewhere.

In conclusion, we may be permitted to state that our elder daughter Janie, after more than twelve months of faithful service as typist and assistant teacher, has left Mapoon to take up a position as teacher in Sydney. Our younger son, John, also left home (for the first time) to enter Scots' College in Sydney. The Mission House has thus become desolate, and our hearts are heavy, but He who has helped us all these years will not fail us now.

In the name of the Mission Staff,

N. HEY.

REPORT OF WEIPA MISSION STATION FOR THE TWO YEARS  
ENDING JUNE 31ST, 1914.

(1.) CHARACTERISTICS.—In submitting a report to cover the two years ending June 31st, 1914, it seems fitting to first outline some of the outstanding characteristics of the work and the people. We cannot build for posterity as can missionaries in most lands. Our people are rapidly passing away, as the statistics for the period under review show. The death rate being a third higher than the births. The figures are:—Births, 13; deaths, 20. This is truly appalling to all who have any hope of the continuity of the race. Our only hope is to achieve all that is possible in spiritual and temporal things for the present generation ere it shall have altogether passed.

In TEMPORAL THINGS, which are more easily gauged than the spiritual, there are various evidences that our efforts are not in vain. The people are decidedly capable of advancement. The home life is gradually replacing the old wandering life, with its gunyah shelter in the wet season and the promiscuous open-air sleeping in the dry season. The village has been largely rebuilt, the old bark houses giving place to more substantial ones of slabs and iron.

Believing that it would conduce to peace to have the people living in small communities, we have established two hamlets, rather than let the village proper grow too big. No young people can get married until the man has a house of his own to take his bride to.

We have also formed a small out-station for some of the older people down near the coast.

Most of the men who occupy houses attempt a little cultivation, the weakening of the old socialistic instinct and the awakening recognition of the individual's right to the fruits of his labours permitting of this.

The system of paying for labour done wholly in money, or partly in money and partly in food, has been beneficial in so far as it has taught the cash value of clothing.

Changes in the staffing arrangements have been varied enough. During the first part of the time under review, Mr. and Mrs. Hall were absent, relieving at Mapoon. Then after nine months again with us, they went forth to make preparations for the commencing of work at Mornington Island.

After two months without assistant or teacher, Mr. and Mrs. Pauli spent four months with us. Then, again, we had six months of two people trying to do the work of four, until Mr. and Mrs. Holmes came in April of this year. It can readily be understood that the settlings, uprootings, and blanks have retarded the maturing and consolidating of advancement.

(2.) SPIRITUAL.—Tabulating under this heading is much more difficult, hence I would rather content myself with recording impressions than tabulating results. Sometimes we are upon the mountain top, at others down in the valley. Sometimes we would emphatically declare that the improvement evident in the lives of the people is the result of their desire to know the truth and do according thereto. Then, again, a wave of unrest sweeps over the community, and we wonder if there has been any spiritual advance made after all.

Sometimes we have been hopeful of admitting this or that one to Church membership, and then we have hesitated lest we should class as convalescents those in whom the disease is still rife. Consequently, we have none but infant baptisms of Christian parents during the time under review.

Perhaps if we had been fully staffed and been able to give more attention to individuals, and to regularly hold evening classes for candidates, we might have had a different record to make. The old heathen forms of marriage and disposal of the dead have almost entirely passed. A runaway marriage is now a rarity, and recently when a woman died thirty miles away from the station, the friends sent in a request for some of the Christian men to go and bury her.

All the public services—Sabbath, daily morning, and weekly evening—have been maintained. The attendance at these has not been all that we could desire. The most regular are the young married women, who have been trained in church-going habits whilst boarders with us.

To sum up, we feel that we are still sowers and cultivators, more than reapers.

(3.) EDUCATIONAL.—(a) *Day School*.—Our two assistant teachers (ex-pupils now married) have proved themselves very useful. In the school there are five classes, with subjects ranging from the alphabet up through the three R.'s to essays, geography, grammar, and compound arithmetic, as far as bills of parcels.

We have not had any examination by any official visitor, but the verdict of the Examiners of Aboriginal exhibits at the National Exhibition in Brisbane last August may be taken as an indication of our scholar's abilities. For various subjects our pupils gained eighteen prizes, six of them being first prizes. According to the daily papers we got more awards than any other aboriginal school exhibiting.

(b) *Sabbath School*.—This has been maintained by utilising all available teachers.

(c) *Industrial*.—Various industrial occupations claim the children's attention for about three hours on school days, and for a longer period on those days when they "spell" from school.

At the National Exhibition last year one boy exhibited a chair which he had made for presentation to the Q.P.W.M.U., and two other boys a set of harness which they had made, one doing the leather work and the other forging and welding the necessary hooks. All this work was highly commented upon in the daily press.

The "Boy's Brigade" and Brass Band each fills its part in the uplifting of the people.

(4.) HEALTH.—Influenza seems to have established itself as our annual visitor. It accounts for a few of the deaths recorded. Fortunately it is only the epidemic that we have learnt to dread. Consumption is unknown amongst us, recruiting for boat work mercifully having been prohibited whilst our people were still considered dangerous by the recruiter.

We had a few cases of pneumonia, but with careful nursing all recovered. As an example of cases which frequently demand attention I may note that whilst engaged upon this report I have been called away to treat a man for snake-bite, and have extracted troublesome teeth for two women.

Of the staff, Mrs. Hall, Mr. Hall, Mr. Paull, and Mr. Holmes have all been laid aside, the three latter with fever.

(5.) INDUSTRY.—Being without an assistant this last wet season (1913-14) agricultural work was much neglected. Still something has been done each year. Buildings, fences, and roads have been kept in repair. These things, with the agricultural work, comprise the ordinary daily routine of the Station life. Settlements have been formed, an area of land was cleared near the mouth of the river, trees planted, three houses built, and a family established in each. On the station about two acres of land were cleared and fenced, three houses built, and three young couples settled, forming Hamlet No. 2.

Several new houses were built in the village, and it was fenced off from the surrounding land to give protection to the gardens. The water question is still a serious one. For about seven or eight months of the year we have to carry from 1,200 to 1,400 gallons a week a distance of about three-quarters of a mile. At present we are engaged sinking a well near the station premises. Probably the most important work in the eyes of the people has been the building, within the compound, of a cook-house.

About 200 young coconuts were planted out during the last wet season.

Mr. Paull utilised a part of his time here in making some substantial Church and school furniture. For school they appear as desks, but when required for services, the desk portion is lowered to form a comfortable back to the seat.

Mr. Holmes, assisted by some of the men, has been busy in the erection of the assistant's house. If all goes well this should soon be completed, and will be a most welcome addition to the station premises.

Last year another attempt was made to procure sandalwood, but not much was obtained. About a dozen of the men made attempts at gardens for themselves this last season. The Chief Protector, when here in May, inspected these gardens, and prizes were given to the owners of the two best.

(6.) GENERAL.—An unusual and noteworthy event was the visit in May of this year by representatives of Church and State. The party consisted of your representative, the Rev. J. A. Crockett; the Chief Protector; Mr. and Mrs. James

Allan, of Brisbane, and the Rev. N. Hey. Unfortunately their visit was such a hurried one (only about two hours of daylight, and about four hours altogether) that they can have but faint impressions of what they saw here. We were sorry that the Church's representatives could not stay a few weeks with us, and to gain a thorough insight into the work and working of the station.

The removal of Mr. and Mrs. Hall was a great loss to us. Mrs. Hall is at present living with us, whilst Mr. Hall and Mr. Paull are engaged in preparatory work at Mornington Island. On the Sunday on which Mr. Hall was here we had a dedication service aboard the "Morning Star." At this a collection was taken up towards the expenses of the vessel, and the sum of just over 30/- was contributed. This was very gratifying, considering that our people do not get much money, and that was the first time they had been asked to give to a collection, and most of the adults had not been apprised beforehand. Some of those who had no money with them at the service brought their mites the next morning, as we were bidding the vessel and her passengers "God Speed."

As usual we have had valuable help from the Church in various ways, particularly in the support of children, and in the Xmas boxes, which always give great pleasure to both black and white, and help very considerably in clothing the women and children, particularly. Besides that, these gifts emphasise to us the love and prayerful sympathy of many in the Church in whose service we are engaged here.

To all these kind friends we give our hearty thanks.

To God, the Giver of all good, we ascribe thanks and praise for all that He has been to us, for all that He has done for us, and for all that He has done by us.

EDWIN BROWN.

Weipa, June 26th, 1914.

#### REPORT OF AURUKUN MISSION STATION, 1913-14.

Sir,—We have continued during the past year to work under disabilities due to being under-staffed. From July to November, Dick Kemp superintended the men at work. I took the school alternately with Mrs. Owen, but when Mrs. Owen had to go to Thursday Island, it was agreed that Mr. and Mrs. Paull should come to Aurukun to help me during Mrs. Owen's absence. It being impossible to retain Dick Kemp's services, I had to let him go, though with much regret. Though Dick could not enforce discipline, his influence was good, and he had the welfare of the people at heart. Annie also was a great help in school, and we missed her much when she left.

The water difficulty has always been a trouble in Aurukun, for as soon as the wet season is finished, we have to begin carrying the water from the swamp. Mr. Paull's first work was to sink a well just above high water mark, and a plentiful supply of water was obtained. It was my intention to put a force pump on the swamp well, raise the water to a sufficient height, perhaps ten feet, and carry by gravitation by means of a simple aqueduct, to the yard, a distance of 200 yards. During the last wet season, from December to April, 100 inches of rain fell. The dimensions of the Mission house are 34 feet by 76 feet., and we have merely one 600 and one 500 gallon tank to conserve this large quantity of water. Ever since I came, I have advocated the building of underground tanks of cement, thus obviating any difficulty regarding the supply of water for the house, besides reducing the expense of running of the station. We have the very best sand here, the only difficulty being that it is perhaps too fine, but I have lately bought a cask of cement with the idea of making an experiment which will show if the scheme is feasible.

Our garden in the swamp soil has so far proved a great success. Bananas in particular, thriving wonderfully. Peanuts also are doing well. One experiment with regard to maize was not a great success, the ground being still sour, having only lately been reclaimed from the bush. I am sure that cocoanuts would do excellently, but there has not been time to prove them. With drainage and turning two or three times, I am certain of success with this soil. I had hoped also to make an experiment with cocoanuts at the landing, where there is a long ridge of deep black sand, but constant hindrances have prevented this, as well as other schemes we had in view.

A new bathroom for the girls has been erected, and the long contemplated hospital (12 feet by 30 feet) is in process of erection. The assistant's house, though not finished, is sufficiently far advanced to be occupied.

The experiment of congregating the young men has proved, on the whole, a success. Though some of them have drifted away to the bush again, others have taken their places, while several have stayed the whole time, submitting themselves well to the regulations imposed, and showing a desire of conforming to the spirit of the Mission Station.

Throughout the year there have been fewer people on the station than in former years, though we have always had enough workers. This is due, I think, in the first place, to the fact that I have rigidly put down fighting on or near the station. While this policy suits the peaceful ones, who are more or less station men, it does not suit the casual visitors, whose idea of a Mission station appears to be that it is a place for "squaring up" their differences. In the second place, I am discouraging the use of tobacco among the people. This means that I no longer give tobacco as part of the daily pay, and do not allow it to the young men at all. One has only to live a very short time among these people to see the harmful effects of tobacco among them. I believe the reason we can do so little with the boys in school is that their senses are dulled by smoking. The girls who are shut away from tobacco surprise one by their brightness in some directions, making the slowness and stupidity of the boys so very apparent.

I have lately been informed by a white man, who employed some of these people for a time, that they told him that "if they could get plenty of tobacco on the Mission station, they would never leave it." My reply was, "I will never bribe the people to stay on this station with tobacco."

Another difficulty that we have had to contend against since November has been the presence of sandalwood getters on the Reserve. I have followed Mr. Richter's practice of charging them a rental of £1 per month for the privilege of camping on the reserve. The interference of men who are out of sympathy with Mission work among the natives has always been a difficulty.

School has been kept regularly throughout the year, the attendance maintaining an average of twenty-nine. Of these twenty-three are girls. Their progress during the past 12 months has been good. As I have already said, the boys are disappointing, and we can only continue in patience, hoping that something will stick.

On the 22nd May, we were honoured by a visit from the Chief Protector, Mr. Bleakley, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. James Allan, our own Church delegate (Rev. J. A. Crockett), and Mr. Hey. They came up the river in the "Namaleta," the new motor boat. Their visit was short, only one night being spent here. All expressed appreciation of the work being done in school.

The general health has been good. As a rule, only the common ailments, such as colds, slight attacks of malaria, etc., have to be prescribed for. One case of snake-bite was successfully treated.

There have been five births, 3 girls and two boys, against the same number of deaths, three males and two females. One man was of considerable influence among the people, and his aim always was to settle grievances in a peaceful way he had expressed a wish to be buried in the cemetery, surprising me considerably, I felt certain the old custom would, in his case, be kept up.

The spiritual life of the younger people has, during the last few months, shown signs hopeful of quickening. Our one baptised convert, Stephen, though disappointing for many months, now comes regularly for prayer, and from what I can learn from the others, his influence is now decidedly good.

Another named Luke, who was taken away several years ago, as a suspected leper, but is now returned, is also a Christian, and is exercising a good influence among the younger men. It is quite common now to hear hymns sung in the village in an impromptu prayer meeting convened by Luke and Stephen.

During Mrs. Owen's absence, I took the school all the time, except on Tuesday afternoon, when Mrs. Paull had a sewing class. Mrs. Paull also had a class for women on Monday afternoons, while Mr. Paull superintended the outdoor work. Unfortunately Mr. Paull had to seek medical aid in Thursday Island in February, and was away six weeks.

And now Mr. Hall having started for Mornington Island, has taken his assistant with him. Our position, however, is fairly good, for Mrs. Paull takes the post of

teacher, while I am free to devote a good deal of time to outdoor work. Mrs. Owen, having returned from Thursday Island in May, has resumed the duties of matron.

Perhaps the most unfortunate occurrence I have to report is the loss of the horses. Just before Christmas, Mrs. Richter's horse died, having apparently been bitten by a snake. Within a day or two the other four horses disappeared, and though I have sent out several expeditions have found no sign of them. I am hoping they may yet be found in the back country of York Downs Station, from which they were bought.

Thanking the members of the Board for all kindness and consideration shown to us during our tenure here.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

WALTER OWEN,

Acting Superintendent.

### REPORT OF THE MORNINGTON ISLAND MISSION

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1914.

To us missionaries who have been for some time working among the aborigines, it is a matter of deep gratitude to God that He has caused the Presbyterian Church of Australia to see its way clear to extend its mission work among this most needy race, and that it has seen fit to choose Mornington Island for its field of operations in this instance.

Finalities in the arrangements to begin this work were reached about twelve months ago, and an endeavour was then made to get a start. It was found, however, that a boat was the first necessity, and as no suitable boat could be either purchased or hired, the only alternative was to have one built. This, we knew, would cause a very considerable delay in operations, but there was no way out of the difficulty. Accordingly, specifications were drawn up, and the contract for the building of the boat was let to Japanese boat-builders in Thursday Island, and the "Morning Star," was launched on the 18th April, 1914. She is a ketch, carrying about thirteen tons, and is very well suited to our requirements. We have been fortunate in getting a very good coloured man, Mr. Henry Lewis, as captain, at a salary of £6 per month. He has had a wide experience in seafaring.

Mornington Island was reached eventually on 10th May, and the time since then has been spent in exploration both of land and sea. Unfortunately the soil is, on the whole, of a very poor quality; the greater part is stony, and there are patches of sand near the beach in some places. Very little is arable and of only moderate quality. Consequently, there are small prospects of much being done in the way of agriculture. The land being poor, the timber is also of poor quality—suitably in the main only for rough building purposes. We have sailed all round the Island, investigating likely harbours, and find that there are only two places which are worth considering. It is clear that a thoroughly good anchorage must be secured for the boat, for we have experienced some high winds and tempestuous seas, even at this time of the year. So much so that at one anchorage our boat snapped the additional moorings which were put out, and we lost an anchor, and at another her excessive straining broke our second anchor. Unfortunately these possible harbours are furthest from the moderately good land. A little more time, however, is required before a definite choice is made.

We have come into contact with a good number of natives—about 140 altogether. But it is very doubtful if their numbers are anything like as great as has been estimated by some visitors. There must, however, be considerably more for we have seen very few young people. We have found them all quite friendly, and I think already we have caused them to realise in some way, at any rate, that we have come to be their friends.

While the boat was being built, it was thought expedient that the missionaries should have a furlough in the South in order that they might recuperate their health, and before commencing the arduous labours of establishing a new station. Much



benefit was gained from that furlough, and we are grateful for having had the opportunity of spending a little time away from the tropics and in civilisation. At the same time we availed ourselves of the opportunity given here and there of making known the needs of the aborigines.

In conclusion, we would give our heartfelt thanks to all those kind friends who have made it possible for us to begin and continue this great work by assisting us in material ways, and by helping "together by prayer." We are convinced that "their labour is not in vain in the Lord," and we look forward expectantly to the time in the near future when there shall be visible fruit on Mornington Island, in the shape of the natives loving and honouring and serving the great Saviour Jesus Christ.

In the name of the Mornington Island Mission Staff.

ROBERT HALL.

#### REPORT PORT GEORGE IV. MISSION.

I beg to submit the first report of our Mission to the Aborigines of North-West Australia.

Our chief aim throughout the year has been to win the trust and friendship of the people. In this we have been wonderfully successful. The natives have received many injuries in the past, and naturally look upon all white men with suspicion. The presence of my wife had a marked effect, and I consider that she is mainly responsible for the peaceful relationship now existing.

So far we have come into touch with upwards of 200 natives. Of this number thirty are children of school age.

The natives have no knowledge of English apart from the few words we have been able to teach them. Under these circumstances we have not been able to impart to them any religious instruction.

In order to make ourselves understood we have to resort largely to signs. Our progress in the study of the language is rendered both slow and uncertain, because of the variety of dialects and the absence of an interpreter.

So far we have not been able to commence a school for the children. The appointment of a married assistant will now make this possible.

Generally speaking our natives are of a very fine type. They differ largely from the people of North Queensland. They are darker in appearance, healthier, and much better developed physically.

I consider that we have grand material to work upon, and that they are worthy of our best efforts. A few months ago there were fully 100 pearling boats working and sheltering in our vicinity. Our people are likely to suffer much harm through being supplied with liquor and tobacco. It behoves us to protect them as far as possible from outside influences, for they are in their most tractable state.

Owing to the recent tragedy near the Mission, in which three young white men lost their lives, our people have been very unsettled.

Two police expeditions were sent out, but returned without having arrested the wrong-doers. A third party is now in our waters.

Except under exceptional circumstances the natives at the Mission have to work for the food and clothing supplied to them. Being so primitive, the work they are able to do is naturally of a rough kind. We employ them mainly in clearing mangrove, and stones, and in cutting and carrying timber. The women and children are employed at lighter tasks. The young men are very willing, and seem eager to be of use.

With the aid of the assistant, I have added another room to the present Mission premises. We used cypress pine largely in its construction. In addition to this we have built a storeroom, outhouse, boatshed, fowlhouses, and a goatpen. We have fenced in a nice garden plot, and have also erected a fence around the Mission premises. Repeated failure has followed all our efforts at gardening. The white ants and blight destroyed all our vegetables and fruit trees. The phenomenal rains early in January washed away or buried our bananas and our melon and pumpkin vines.

The white ants have attacked the house piles to such an extent that within twelve months from the date of erection we have had to replace six. Much time is taken up in trying to check their activity, and in replacing infested woodwork.

We have also tried to improve our water supply by the sinking of an additional well.

In July of last year I put William Reid in charge of the "W. S. Park," and with excellent results. Reid is a missionary at heart, and a good man both ashore and afloat.

The manning, provisioning and upkeep of the boat involves a heavy expenditure. The wages of the crew alone total £20 per month. My efforts to train and employ our own natives on the boat have not proved successful. Our natives are landmen, and rarely venture on the sea. I was able to persuade four young men to make the trip to Broome, but they did not seem anxious to venture again. When we can man our boat, as at Mapoon, the cost of running will be greatly lessened.

During the year the "Park" was only able to make six trips to Broome for mails and stores.

On the 8th December, 1913, Mr. and Mrs. Edwards arrived at the Mission to take up their duties as assistants, in place of Mr. Segrott resigned.

Mr. Segrott deserves great credit for his work at the Mission.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwards were not able to feel at home in the work, and decided to tender their resignations within a few weeks of their arrival. On the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Black, who have been appointed in their place, the Edwards left for Broome.

The future success of the work demands a much more isolated base from which to operate. At the beginning the questions of transport and safety demanded a site easy of access. As the people have so far shown us no very serious expressions of illwill, it behoves us to find a site which will enable us to draw the people from the coast, and from contact with pearling boats.

To make a successful Mission we must adopt Mapoon methods. To do this we must have well-timbered agricultural and pastoral country, upon which to settle ourselves and our people. Our present site does not offer the necessary scope. With the help of our more intelligent natives, and under their guidance, I am hoping shortly to fix upon a site suited to our requirements.

The "W. S. Park" is sadly in need of extensive repairs.

ROBERT H. WILSON,  
Missionary.

## CHURCH OF VICTORIA.

### FOREIGN MISSIONS COMMITTEE.

#### ABRIDGED REPORT FOR 1913, AND 1914.

##### I.—GENERAL.

It is with devout gratitude to God that the Victorian State Committee reports on the past two years of progress in all its four fields of labour. Our Missionaries have been guarded, sustained and blessed, and the work has been most encouraging despite some dark days through which we have passed. Among the things which belong to the dark days are the irreparable losses sustained in the death or resignation of valued workers. The Rev. T. R. Cairns, our loved and trusted Convener, passed away on the 2nd of March, 1913. Only then did we begin to realise in any adequate sense how great a leader he had been, and how hard it would be to fill his place. Death also visited for the second time the Mission Home at Onua, and Mrs. Fred Paton and her little babe passed away together. The Hon. James Balfour and the Rev. J. F. Macrae, of Toorak, have also been called to their reward, to the great weakening of the forces at the Home Base.

In addition to these bereavements the Committee have sustained heavy losses in the resignation of our senior Missionaries, the Rev. J. Gillan, of Uripiv, Malekula, New Hebrides, and of the Rev. Andrew Adamson, our Senior Missionary in Korea.

Mr. Gillan was compelled to retire owing to the ill-health of his wife, while Mr. Adamson himself became incapacitated for service.

As against these sad losses our Committee has to report great gains, for which we give heartfelt thanks to God. In the first place, the Rev. David Ross, M.A., of St. Kilda, has accepted the unanimous call of the Assembly to undertake the Convenership of the Foreign Missions Committee, and his election has been received with a deep satisfaction by the Foreign Missionaries and by the workers at the Home Base. And, in the second place, God has moved some splendid men and women to volunteer for the work abroad, viz.: the Revs. A. Wright, J. T. and Mrs. Kelly, A. W. Allen, F. W. Cunningham, M.A., Mr. E. K. Lomas, M.Sc., and the Misses McPhee, Napier, Lang, Ebery, Skinner, and Nurse Finlay; while Matron Matson has succeeded Matron Main at Vila Hospital. This is a goodly band of workers, of which any Church might be proud.

Our organisations of the Home Base have continued to do fine work. In the very forefront is the P.W.M.U., with its daughter movements, the Mission Band, the Baby Band, and the Senior Girls Missionary Union. The parent movement now supports twelve women in Korea, while the S.G.M.U. supports the matron at the Chingju Memorial Hospital in Chingju, and the Mission Band supports the Rev. J. and Mrs. McKenzie, of Fusanchin.

The Fellowship Union supports its two Missionaries, and is taking a fresh grip on the Church at home through developing the circle method of Bible Study.

The Laymen's Missionary Movement has done good work since its inception, and is now merging itself in the Presbyterian Men's Association. An organiser is being appointed, and the movement is entering upon a new era of usefulness and progress.

The Ormond College students have fully maintained their interest in the aborigines, and have done a good deal of pleading right through the Church.

The circulation of Missionary news has been carried on through the *Messenger*, the *Chronicle*, the *Record*, and *Our Missionaries at Work*. Missionary interest has been greatly deepened through the Bible and Mission Study schools, which are being held all over the State, and much of the Foreign Mission Secretary's time has been devoted to this work. These study schools are everywhere resulting in a great deepening of spiritual life. This movement is fraught with the greatest possibilities for the development of the Church's life at home, as well as abroad.

## II. CHINESE.

The work among the Chinese goes on as usual. At Geelong a new Church has been built, and a new station opened up. Mr. C. Way has been transferred from Rutherglen to Geelong. The work in Melbourne has been considerably hampered for lack of a proper building, the City Council having resumed the one in which the P.W.M.U. Chinese school and services were carried on. The Methodists kindly lent us the use of their Church for the women's work, while the men's work in the city has been suspended. Now the City Council is letting us have the building again and our full work will be resumed.

The work in Ballarat is under the Rev. J. Tong Wai, who is Superintendent of our Mission as a whole. Four catechists are stationed at Beechworth, Brunswick, Geelong, and Warrnambool respectively.

The income for our Chinese work is the least satisfactory of all our Missions, and efforts are being made to secure increased support in those Presbyteries within whose bounds the work is being carried on.

## III. THE ABORIGINES.

Besides our due share in the work at North Queensland and North Western Australia, our Committee takes the spiritual oversight of the work at Coranderrk, where there are about 80 aborigines all told.

There is a growing interest in the work among the aborigines, but the Board of Missions undertakes the administration of that work, and hence it belongs to that Board to report upon it.

## IV. THE NEW HEBRIDES.

The past two years have been marked by heavy trials for natives and Missionaries alike, although the work has gone on in spite of all difficulties. The political

situation has gone from bad to worse, until all shadow of justice for the natives has absolutely disappeared, and the British administration looks on helplessly.

In August last year, the Victorian Committee sent the Foreign Mission Secretary to the New Hebrides, to investigate conditions and confer with Synod and delegates from New South Wales and New Zealand as to a policy for the Mission. The Synod framed a policy whereby our Committee was asked to appoint a new man to Vila, the New Zealand Committee to appoint a medical colleague to Dr. Bowie, and the New South Wales Church to take over the three southern islands of Erromanga, Futuna, and Aneityum, and while all the Churches were asked to bear a share in the expenses of the Teachers' Training Institution, proportionate to the number of Missionaries supported by them in the Group. The Synod also framed a set of resolutions on the political situation in the Group.

These resolutions were published by the Victorian Committee along with a pamphlet drawn up by the Secretary on "Slavery under the British Flag," and distributed broadcast through Australasia and the Old Land. Deputations to the Minister for External Affairs, Lord Emmott, the Admiral and others, and a wide campaign of publicity helped to arouse the Government and the people, and good results have already accrued. The most hopeful feature in the situation is the appointment of an Anglo-French Commission, with Lord Emmott at the head, to discuss the Condominium and suggest effective remedies.

Besides the political evils, the New Hebrides has suffered severe calamities in the death of Mrs. Fred Paton, the massacre of four teachers and two Christians on Malekula, and the total destruction of the Ambrym Hospital and Mission Station. Our Committee has agreed to provide the New Zealand Church with a site on Malekula for the new Hospital. In spite of all these troubles, the work is going on steadily, and the native Christians are in no way daunted.

The New South Wales Church asked the Victorian Church to exchange Nogugu for the three southern islands, in order that they might make a bigger appeal to their Church, and ultimately take over the whole of Santo. After prayerful consideration the Victorian Committee agreed to this, and the John G. Paton Fund has undertaken to provide for the three southern Islands when New South Wales takes over Big Bay, as well as Nogugu, in pursuance of Synod's recommendation that these two stations should be united.

#### V. KOREA.

There has been steady progress all along the line in Korea. The opening of the Margaret Whitecross Paton Memorial Hospital has given a great impetus to the medical work, while the arrival of so many reinforcements has enabled two more main stations to be opened up at Kuchang and Tongying respectively. The opening of Sunday schools for heathen children has proved a great means of reaching parents as well as children, and the outlook is growing hopeful.

By arrangement with the Presbyterian Board of America our Committee has agreed to take over the rest of the Kyung-sang Province. This will add half a million Koreans to our present population of one million, making a total of 1,500,000 Koreans for whom we are responsible.

Our Mission takes its full share in the general work of the country, by allowing Dr. Currell and Dr. McLaren to teach for three months each at the Severance Medical College at Seoul, and Mr. Engel to teach for a similar period at the Union Theological Seminary at Pyeng-yang.

The following statistics will show something of the progress and development of our work in Korea:—

Foreign Staff, including Wives	...	...	...	30
Korean workers	...	...	...	45
Organised Churches	...	...	...	3
Imperfectly organised Churches	...	...	...	128
(all of which are self-supporting).				
Membership	...	...	...	2,109
Added during last year	...	...	...	618
Catechumens	...	...	...	1,603
Total Korean Christians	...	...	...	7,132
Sabbath Schools	...	...	...	89
Sabbath School membership	...	...	...	4,366
Primary Schools	...	...	...	9
Primary Schools enrolment	...	...	...	529

Korean contributions—				
Congregational expenses ...	...	...	...	£122
Education ...	...	...	...	£292
Buildings and repairs ...	...	...	...	£115
Home and Foreign Missions ...	...	...	...	£89

## VI. FINANCIAL.

The financial position is causing the Committee grave concern, chiefly owing to the lack of interest in the Chinese work on the part of the Church as a whole. Year by year the deficit has grown till it now stands at £1,250/19/9. On the Korean side the building and initial expenditure, for which no special provision was made, caused a deficit of £3,203/9/5, making an accumulated deficit for the year of £4,754/9/2. The position has been greatly aggravated by the sudden increase in the assessment for the Board of Missions, which absorbed practically the whole of our general income. To meet the situation thus created, and to provide for new buildings, it is proposed to raise a special fund of £8,000 by means of an every-member canvas, with a simultaneous campaign of meetings from November 15 to December 15.

The income for the two years since last General Assembly is £29,670/16/7; while the expenditure has been £38,648/6/6. Part of the deficit is covered by reserve funds, leaving £4,754/9/2 to be raised in the simultaneous campaign in November.

The Tasmanian Committee has been active in adding to the equipment of the Rev. J. B. Weir, in his station at Epi. A new school has been built, costing, with freight, over £100. A new horse has been provided, also several tanks, mosquito netting and other helps. The increasing interest of our people has made these things possible, although we are not yet in a position to do all that is required, and some accounts are still outstanding.

Mr. and Mrs. Weir have been in good health, except for occasional fever. We rejoice with them in the joy that they now have in their home life by reason of the little son who is the delight also of the natives. Mrs. Weir was among those who were mercifully spared in the eruption on Ambrym.

There has been much less trouble with the drink evil, but the Missionary has a hard field and many strong influences among the natives are against the best spiritual results.

The receipts and expenses are for a term of two years, and three months, the last statement having been extended to bring the financial year into line with that of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

Receipts and expenses from January 1, 1912, to March 31, 1914:—Receipts, £1,331/4/4; expenses, £1,367/8/2.

F. H. L. PATON,  
Secretary.

## CHURCH OF VICTORIA.

## STATEMENT SHOWING RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR FOREIGN MISSION FUNDS FOR THE YEARS 1912-13 AND 1913-14.

	Receipts.		Expenditure.	
Foreign Missions ...	£3,303	16 5	£409	18 9
Aborigines ...	45	16 5	32	11 7
Chinese ...	610	17 10	1,505	14 3
Korean ...	8,867	15 3	14,165	3 8
New Hebrides ...	2,241	8 6	7,175	6 11
Dayspring Maintenance ...	607	15 2	821	1 4
Native Teachers ...	592	3 2	713	16 9
New Hebrides Trust ...	£1,365	1 4	108	3 0
A. G. Russell ...	455	14 3	560	12 3
Australian Aborigines ...	253	8 11	1,655	10 3
P.W.M.U. ...	6,114	0 11	6,284	0 3
	£24,457	18 2	£33,431	19 0
			24,457	18 2
Expenditure exceeds Receipts by ...			£8,974	0 10

CHURCH OF NEW SOUTH WALES.  
FOREIGN MISSIONS COMMITTEE.—ABSTRACT REPORT.

THE LATE COLONEL GOODLET.

It is with a deep sense of loss, not only to the work of the Foreign Missions Committee, but to the whole Church and community, that we record the translation of Colonel J. H. Goodlet to higher service. His deep interest in all that makes for the extension of the Kingdom of God was maintained unabated to the last, and by his consecrated munificence he has not only left a noble example, but has done much to forward the work of Him whom he loved to serve. While we sorely miss his personal presence and wise counsel, yet the influence of his powerful life will long remain to encourage, to cheer, and to inspire. The following Minute has been recorded by your Committee :—

"The Foreign Missions Committee desire to place on record their great grief and their sense of the irreparable loss sustained by the death of Colonel John Hay Goodlet. For the long period of more than thirty years Colonel Goodlet was a member of the Committee, and always took the deepest interest in the work of Foreign Missions. His whole heart was in Mission work. The evangelisation of the world was the intense desire of his soul, and hence his knowledge of what our Church ought to do in taking her part in extending the Kingdom of God. His wise counsel and mature judgment, combined with his exact knowledge of the conditions of affairs, made him practically indispensable in the Committee's work; while his unflinching courtesy, even to those who differed from him made his presence a source of great strength. He was ever devising liberal things, and his princely benefactions, frequently unsolicited, greatly stimulated the Committee in their work. The Committee deeply sympathise with Mrs. Goodlet in her sorrow, and earnestly and tenderly commend her to Him Who alone can comfort and sustain and whom she knows as her own God and Father."

One of the problems of Home administration is the relation of Women's Societies to the Foreign Missions Committee. To meet this problem the N.S.W. Assembly has enacted that the whole of its Foreign Missions work is to be under the control of the Foreign Missions Committee, and that the Executive of the W.M.A. are to be members thereof. The plan is working satisfactorily.

A further step has been taken by the New South Wales Church in the appointment of the Rev. J. T. Lawton as Foreign Missions Secretary for a term of three years. In addition to Sunday and other deputation work, he is vigorously prosecuting a similar programme to that which is being prosecuted in Victoria, namely :—the holding of Bible and Mission Study Schools.

In October, 1913, a United Conference on Missionary Organisation at the Home Base took place, the report of which, together with synopsis of conclusions has been published under the title of "Handbook on Missionary Organisation at the Home Base," and is procurable at the Church Offices. The following manifesto was sent by the Committee of the Conference to each Foreign Mission Board :—

MANIFESTO FROM UNITED CONFERENCE ON HOME BASE ORGANISATION TO THE  
MISSIONARY BOARDS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

It is a recommendation that an effort be made to make the study of the principles of the Missionary Enterprise an obligatory subject for theological students.

It is recommended that Missionary instructions be made an integral and normal part of the Sunday School curriculum, and that each Board consult with those responsible for the planning of Sunday School lessons with a view to bringing this about. Meanwhile that every effort be made to enrol Sunday School Teachers in Mission Study Circles.

It is recommended that in each parish or congregation a regularly appointed Missionary Committee be set up to plan for the Missionary efficiency of the whole congregation.

It is recommended that in view of the fact that the inadequate financial support of Missions is due to a low standard of the sense of stewardship, steps be taken to ensure due emphasis on the obligations of Christian Stewardship and that the "Every Member Canvass" be recommended.

The Conference expresses its solemn conviction that prayer is the most triumphant method of advancing the Missionary Enterprise, and recommends that Missionary Boards take more definite steps to encourage corporate prayer for Missions.

It is also a recommendation that one day be set apart annually as a national day of prayer for Missions.

#### MISSION STUDY MOVEMENT.

A decided advance has been made in the matter of training Leaders for the Mission Study Movement. The United Mission Study Council has adopted the following programme :—

1. Course C, which is the minimum required from those who are to lead a Circle, embraces not only training in the material of the Text Book, but also training in the principles of Missionary enterprise, together with some of the fundamental principles of education.

Course B.—Those who pass their Course C may undertake Course B., which involves a thorough study of G. T. Manley's "Mission Study Principles." This course carries with it the Council's certificate for proficiency in leading a Circle.

Course A.—Those who wish to qualify to train others in Course C or B be asked to take the A Course, which contemplates a careful study of the fundamental principles of education, the principles of organisation at the Home Base, together with a survey of the present world situation.

#### ABORIGINES.

(See separate report by the Board of Missions.)

#### CHINESE.

Since last report the Rev. J. Young Wai, at Sydney, and Mr. Kem Yee, at Newcastle, have well maintained their work, and have been assisted by a staff of voluntary helpers. Mr. Wai reports that he has for two years baptised twelve adult converts and seven children; that services have been held regularly, the attendance at Campbell Street averages twenty-eight in the morning, and sixty-five in the evening. At Waterloo the attendance is twenty-five in the afternoon. Campbell Street Sunday School has an average of twenty-seven scholars. Night Schools for teaching English and Chinese have been held two evenings each week at Campbell Street and Waterloo, at the former the attendance has been twelve, with eight teachers; and the latter thirteen, with seven teachers.

On the 12th June, 1913, Mr. Kem Yee celebrated the semi-jubilee of the Newcastle Chinese Mission, where he has laboured since its inception. Early in 1914 Mr. Kem Yee completed a tour of the Northern district, and has furnished the Committee with a valuable and comprehensive report with recommendations.

#### NEW HEBRIDES.

Since last report the Church at Abnatare was destroyed by hurricane. On being re-built it was opened by the Rev. J. Kemp Bruce, who was touring the New Hebrides. After returning from short furlough, about the middle of last year, Mr. Paterson entered upon his work with zest and reports as follows :—

Stations, 2; out-stations, 8; organised Churches, 2; communicants, 81; deaths of communicants, 5; number of heathen added, 13; backsliders, 4; Sunday schools, 10; pupils, 170 (this does not include very young children); children baptised, 6; marriages, 1; cases for medical aid since September 1st (previous to that no record kept), 997; surgical dressing cases, 478.

No members have been admitted since our Missionaries' return from furlough, but in the Catechumens Class there are 14 who will, it is hoped, be admitted to Communion before the end of the Synodical year, which terminates in May.

#### NOGUGU.

As the result of representations made by Synod consequent upon notification by the U. F. Church of Scotland and the Canadian Presbyterian Church, that they did not contemplate appointing successors to their present representatives in the Islands, negotiations were opened up with the Victorian Church. After discussion of the situation, N.S.W. has taken over from the Victorian Church the station of Nogugu, Santo. Unfortunately we have not yet been able to secure a Missionary for the post.

The report of the Rev. C. E. James, the N.S.W. representative of a special Commission that visited the Islands, confirmed the report by Missionaries relative to the supplying of liquor to the natives, kidnapping and illegal recruiting. (Or finding on the New Hebridean question generally, together with Mr. James' report, you will find in the full report).

#### INDIA.

The outstanding event in connection with India is the appointment of the Rev. C. E. and Mrs. Turnbull to the Sholinghur field. They arrived on 1st November, and received a most enthusiastic reception. At Christmas time the Evangelists, Catechist-teachers and Teachers gathered for a series of meetings at Sholinghur, which proved to be a real blessing to all. On 1st January, Mr. Turnbull had the great joy of baptising six men, six women and eighteen children.

Miss Holt, who had come home on furlough, did some excellent deputation work during the year. Though she is not returning to India, she is still rendering helpful service in awakening interest in our Mission, both in Jerilderie and elsewhere.

The staff has been further increased by the appointment of Nurse Gill, who has just recently arrived at her destination.

Miss McLean and Miss Symonds are both prosecuting their work with unabated zeal.

*Medical.*—The erection of a fine new hospital—the gift of the late Colonel Goodlet—is nearing completion, and the plans for the Bungalow for the lady doctors—also the gift of the late Colonel Goodlet—have been approved.

The strain of the work, however, has necessitated Dr. Innes returning home for complete rest. She is, however, making a steady, though slow, recovery. The report gives some indication of the claims made upon the doctor.

The total number of out-patients for the year 1913 was 19,450, a decrease of 228 on 1912. The number of out-patient operations was 793, and increase of 284. The in-patients numbered 402, an increase of 149. The in-patients operations numbered 103, an increase of 27. There were 653 visits paid to patients in their homes, an increase of 345 on last year.

Mr. Turnbull, on his arrival, made certain suggestions as to the alterations of our boundary in the northern side, and also suggested the enlarging of our field so as to take in approximately an additional 40,000 people.

The Assembly confirmed the recommendation that we surrender Kartvenagar to the Lutheran Mission, and that we take over the village of Pallipet with the tract of country extending some thirteen miles west along the main Chippoor road up to the Zemindari boundary, and running south some eight miles, and that our boundary between Sholinghur and Atamancheri be henceforth fixed about three miles west of the main road. We are taking over the American Arcot Mission Schools and other property at a cost of £66 13s. 4d.

The Assembly has also agreed to "Authorise the native Church within our Mission to unite with the South India United Church."

The South India United Church was formed in the year 1908. The Declaration of Union was: "Whereas the churches of the Madura and Jaffra Missions of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions and those of the South India District Committee, and the Travancore Mission of the London Missionaries Society in their organised capacity as "the United Churches of South India and Ceylon" as the one part; and the Churches of the Arcot Mission of the Dutch Reformed Church and those of the United Free Church Mission of Madras in their organised capacity as "The South India Synod of the Presbyterian Church as the other part, have determined for the glory of God to unite organically into one body;

"And whereas in pursuance of this determination the above two bodies have agreed upon a common basis of union, which has been accepted by the Churches which they represent;

"And whereas the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in India did at its meeting in Calcutta, on December 28th, 1907, resolve to release its Synod of South India in order to become part of this Union.

"Therefore, Resolved that we, the duly appointed Representatives of the two above-mentioned bodies, under the authority vested in us by our respective ecclesiastical organisations being assembled for the purpose of consummating the proposed Union, gratefully acknowledging God's guidance in the past and invoking His blessing upon us at present, do hereby constitute ourselves the Provisional Assembly of the South India United Church."





## CHURCH OF QUEENSLAND.

## REPORT OF THE HEATHEN MISSION COMMITTEE.

Your Committee, in presenting this report, do so with a deep sense of gratitude to God for His goodness, and for the many tokens of His providential guidance in the affairs of the Mission in which we are interested. During the year, the work on the field has progressed quietly, without any outstanding feature to mark its record, but we are confident that the conscientious labours of our faithful missionaries are not without spiritual results.

With reference to the staff, we have to report that the Rev. A. Richter is still on furlough in Germany, and that Mr. and Mrs. Hall have been recuperating in New Zealand. Mr. and Mrs. N. Paull joined the staff in May last, and have been gaining experience on the various stations, with a view of taking up work on Mornington Island, when the settlement of that island is accomplished. Notwithstanding this addition, however, to the workers on the field, the stations, for a period, have been undermanned, and Weipa has, by force of circumstances, been deprived of an assistant Missionary. Difficulty has been experienced in securing a suitable person to take up the position, but it is confidently expected that, in the near future a married couple will go forward to the work.

## MORNINGTON ISLAND.

In addition to the illness of Mr. Hall, other circumstances arose, and difficulties presented themselves, which made it impossible to carry out the intention of forwarding an expedition to Mornington Island for exploration purposes, at the close of the year, and before the "wet season." No suitable craft could be procured at Thursday Island, and the Government boats being in dock, were not available for transport, although very kindly offered for our assistance by the Home Secretary. Efforts to secure a boat through Messrs. Burns, Philp and Co. proving unsuccessful, it was resolved to build a boat specially for the work, to be ready by April. We are indebted to Mr. F. C. Hodel for advice in this matter, and also for supervising the building of the boat. It is expected that everything will be in readiness, on Mr. Hall's return, for the carrying out of the project of establishing a mission station in the new territory.

Speaking of the extension work leads us to draw special attention to an item in the Aboriginal Mission Fund Account of £238, under the heading of "Queensland's Quota to the General Assembly of Australia's Foreign Mission Board." This sum goes towards the meeting of the expenses in connection with the Aboriginal Mission Stations of Australia, and had to be remitted during the year. Had it not been for a very generous donation from the Women's Missionary Union of £100, you will see that we would have been left in a bad way financially. The fact is before us that we are working upon a revenue altogether inadequate to meet the demands of an ever-enlarging field of operation. We here take the opportunity of recording our gratitude to the W.M.U. for the very welcome donation, and of expressing our appreciation of their untiring efforts on behalf of mission work in general.

We would also draw the attention of members to the amount contributed by Congregations, by way of collections to the Mission Fund. The sum sent in was £47/17/1, which must be regarded as out of all proportion to the importance of our work and the number of Congregations. With a view of meeting the debit with which we are faced, your Committee, with the concurrence of the Welfare of Youth Committee, again made an appeal to the Sabbath Schools. Collecting-cards have been issued, and to date the sum of £71/10/11 has been received.

Another item in the statement of the account that should commend itself to members is that relating to the support of children at the different Mission Stations by individual schools. This is a scheme that might be greatly extended, to the benefit of the work.

We are pleased to report that an application for a lease of about 5,000 acres of land on the Mission Reserve in close proximity to Weipa Station, which has been causing us anxiety for upwards of two years, has been finally refused by the Government. We hope and trust that the terms of the original grant, with regard to the Aboriginal Reserves in the North, will be maintained in their integrity, and that all attempts to take advantage of the civilising and uplifting influences of Missionary

enterprise, for the purpose of personal gain and for securing cheap labour, will be frustrated in the future.

We cannot help expressing our appreciation of the change made in the personnel of the Chief Protectorship, and we believe that, in the newly-appointed Chief and in the Deputy Chief, we have men who understand the problem of the native race, and also can appreciate Missionary work. We are deeply grateful to the Home Secretary (Mr. Appel), to Mr. Ryder (late Under-Secretary), and to the present Under Secretary (Mr. Gall), for the unfailing courtesy with which they have always received and met us in regard to matters of mutual interest to ourselves and the Department.

Above all, we are indebted to Mr. Jas. Allan, M.L.A., who has been of the greatest service to the Committee, and has given up valuable time, and devoted himself with heart and soul to assist us with his experience and mature judgment, when a delicate situation had to be met. Our one regret is that he has not a seat on the Committee because of the fact that he is so conversant with the work, and because of the deep interest he takes in all that pertains to the welfare of the aboriginal race.

In the name and behalf of the Committee,

J. C. GIBSON,  
Convener.



# GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA.

## FOREIGN MISSION BOARD'S BRISBANE ACCOUNT.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDING 31st JULY, 1914.

DR.

CR.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1913—				1914—			
July 31—To Balance			11 14 3	July 31—By MAPOON :			
1914—				Mission Station Account ...	367	10	0
July 31—MAPOON :				Teachers' Salary, 12 months			
Government Grant, 1913-1914	500	0	0	till 30/6/14 ...	120	0	0
WEIPA :							487 10 0
Government Grant, 1913-14	300	0	0	.. WEIPA :			
AURUKUN :				Mission Station Account ...	173	13	0
Government Grant, 1913-14	500	0	0	Mrs. Hall, Teacher, Refund			
Foreign Mission Board, Mel-				Passage to N.Z.	18	17	0
bourne ... ..	370	2	6	Mrs. Paull, Teacher, Salary			
			870 2 6	3 months	25	0	0
				Mrs. Holmes, Teacher, Sal-			
				ary, 3 months ...	25	0	0
							242 10 0
				.. AURUKUN :			
				Mission Station Account ...	192	10	0
				Mrs. Owen, Teacher			
				3 months ...	25	0	0
				Mrs. Paull, Teacher,			
				9 months ...	75	0	0
				Allowed for Teaching Sewing	3	0	0
							295 10 0
				.. MORNINGTON :			
				Cost of " Morning Star " ...	717	19	10
				Smellie & Co., Outfit and			
				Equipment	22	5	2
							740 5 0
				.. Exchange on Cheques and Drafts			10 10 7
				.. Balance in Bank of North			
				Queensland			205 11 2
							1,981 16 9
			£1,981 16 9				£1,981 16 9

Audited and found correct,  
A. LANG, F.I.A.

31/7/14

## CHURCH OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

## REPORT OF MISSIONS TO THE HEATHEN COMMITTEE.

It is our privilege to report another year of progress. Despite hindrances of various kinds, our Missionaries and their native helpers on Tanna have been cheered by the continued success of their work. During the year 31 adults and 52 children were baptised. In addition to these adults 5 previously baptised in childhood were admitted to the Communion. Not less than 454 partook of the Lord's Supper at one or other of the celebrations. We would most heartily express our gratitude to God for the blessing bestowed on the work.

As it seemed beyond question that the Condominium had utterly failed in its object, we consulted with representatives of other churches carrying on work in the New Hebrides, so as to secure joint action in the matter. It was decided that a deputation representing the Church of England, the Churches of Christ, and the Presbyterian Church within the State should wait on the Hon. P. Glynn, the Minister for External Affairs. Mr. Glynn received the deputation sympathetically, and assured us that the Commonwealth Government were in communication with the Home Government on the subject of securing better arrangements for the control of the Islands.

Mr. Macmillan still exercises supervision over the New Zealand Church's Mission at Port Resolution and Kwamera.

We have appointed Professor Rennie and Miss McCaul to represent our Church on the Mission Study Circle Council which meets in Adelaide, and we trust that you will endorse our action.

We are pleased to report that the deficit has been reduced from £276/1/10 to £214/6/7. The Congregational collections and the contributions from our Sabbath Schools and Young People's Societies show a slight increase which affords us some gratification. The improvement in our financial condition is due, however, to the special effort made by the Women's Missionary Union. Owing to the critical state of the funds we felt that immediate action was necessary. The sympathy and assistance of the P.W.M.U. were so effectually enlisted that a canvas was undertaken throughout the Church with a view of receiving shilling subscriptions from all Presbyterians. As the result of this special effort the sum of £149/17/9 came in before the close of the year. A few pounds in addition have come in since. The total income amounts to £553/18/9. The assessment of the Board of Missions has been increased to £63, and the total expenditure for the year amounts to £492/3/6.

In conclusion, we would refer, with special gratification, to the legacy of £250 left by the late Mr. William Taylor, who thus showed his interest in the Foreign Mission Work of the Church. The legacy was paid in by the executors just as the year closed, and has been placed in a suspense account.

By authority of the Committee,

GEO. DAVIDSON,  
Convener.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA: MISSIONS TO THE HEATHEN ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1913.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Debit Balance, 31/12/12				276		1 10	Balance in hand, N. Teachers				7		1 0
Agents' Salary to 31/12/13	250		0 0				Collections	92		18 8			
Children's Allowances	100		0 0				P.W.M.U. Contributions	182		3 5			
			350 0 0				S.S. and Y.P. Contributions	73		19 0			
Sundries			22 10 5				Sundry Donations	32		0 11			
Allowance for Medicine			5 0 0				Proceeds of Tea Meeting	13		15 6			
Provident Fund Levy			1 18 2								394		17 6
			379 8 7				Sundries				2		17 6
Share of Support Board of Missions			63 0 0				Special Effort by P.W.M.U.				149		17 9
Interest on Overdraft			9 3 8				Subscriptions for Native Teachers				15		9 0
Office Charges			41 6 8				Support of Orphan Lilly				4		0 0
Remitted for Native Teachers			22 2 0				Contributions, Queensland Mission				16		15 0
"    for Orphan Lilly			4 0 0				Contributions, Zenana Mission				3		6 11
"    for Motor Launch, Tanna			29 17 5				Contributions for Motor Launch				29		17 5
To Transfer Other Accounts			19 3 1				Cash in hand—Sundries	5		14 7			
			£844 3 3				To Balance	214		6 7			
											220		1 2
											£844		3 3

165

## CHURCH OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

REPORT OF FOREIGN AND ABORIGINES MISSION  
COMMITTEE.

In presenting its report the Committee desires gratefully to acknowledge the goodness of Almighty God for the abundant entrance He has vouchsafed the workers at the Mission; so that instead of the hostility which was prophesied, friendliness and welcome has been experienced during the almost two years of the Missions' existence on the present site.

When last General Assembly closed, only the site of the Mission had been obtained, it had not been occupied. To-day, over 200 of our coloured brethren, who roam over the deserts of the almost boundless Nor'-West, go in and out of the Mission freely; working at set tasks, receiving for their labour their meal of rice or damper, and are, we are told, obedient and fairly willing. The value of the work done, has been recognised by the State Aborigines' Department, the Chief Protector declaring the results to be better than he had anticipated. Whilst the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, speaks of the results as far beyond his anticipation, hence his recommendation, which led to the Government subsidy of £150 per year.

Considerable changes have taken place during the two years in the personnel of the Mission Staff. The services of Ah Mat Police, who for some time had command of the "W. S. Park," have been dispensed with, and William Reid has been given command in his stead.

After serving a year, Mr. G. B. Segrott expressed his desire to sever his connection with the Mission, and a married assistant having become a necessity; his place was filled by the appointment of Mr. and Mrs. Louis M. Edwards. In consequence of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson's absence from the station for some time, these assistants had entire charge, and it is gratifying to know that upon Mr. Wilson's return he found everything in excellent order. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards have since resigned their position. Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Black, of Angas College, have been appointed in their place.

In a letter dated March 10th, 1914, Mr. Wilson bears excellent testimony to the "W. S. Park," speaking of it as a boat with a wonderful record, and quite equal to the work required of it, for a few years, if put in order; but as needing repairs. In the light of this statement, the excellent response to the Rev. W. S. Rolland's appeal for funds for this purpose, leads to thankfulness. It is hoped that the large expense involved in the running of the boat will shortly be materially lessened, as our own natives are gradually being prepared for service in this direction.

The success of the Mission thus far, threatens to be the means of its undoing, unless great care is exercised, in that pearl-ers, who, previous to our settlement, dared not labour on this coast in consequence of the warlike character of the natives; are now appearing in great numbers, over eighty boats having visited the neighbourhood of the Mission during last year. This will necessitate the Missionaries moving further inland, so that the natives may be kept from contact with the crews of the luggers. Your Committee feel confident, however, that in the large area at their disposal a sufficiently remote and suitable site will be found.

In April last, the Committee of the Western Australian Zoological Society presented the Mission with three pairs of carrier pigeons, which have now their home at Broome and Hanover Bay, and in case of need should prove very speedy messengers.

We are able to report with pleasure a considerable improvement in our financial position, due largely to the increased interest manifested by our Church and the continued loyalty of the Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union, and confidently anticipate that by the time Assembly meets all our liabilities to date will have been met.

In all indications of the Divine favour, the Committee rejoices, and gathers courage, in a work, the conditions of which are peculiarly difficult, and which still needs, in order to its furtherance, much watchful effort and prayer.

By authority of the Committee,

W. F. TURTON,  
Convener.



## CHURCH OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS, FROM 1ST OCTOBER, 1912, TO 31ST JULY, 1914.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
			£ s. d.				£ s. d.
Remittances from Board ...	...	...	750 0 0	Exchange and Bank Charges ...	...	...	9 16 4
W. A. Government Grant ...	...	...	144 8 10	Salaries ...	...	...	211 9 2
W.A. Contribution ...	...	...	181 0 10	Rations and Stores ...	...	...	262 1 4
				Travelling Expenses ...	...	...	54 14 2
				Remittances to Broome for Local Accounts ...	...	...	412 17 1
				Photos and Lantern Slides ...	...	...	3 4 6
				Petties ...	...	...	3 4 6
				Balance in Bank ...	...	...	118 2 7
				(as per Bank Certificate herewith.)			
			£1,075 9 8				£1,075 9 8

31/7/14.

FRED A. McMULLEN,

General Treasurer.

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA.

## MISSION STAFF.

## I.

## FEDERAL MISSIONS.

## NORTH QUEENSLAND.

*Mapoon*—Mrs. J. G. Ward, Rev. N. and Mrs. Hey.  
*Weipa*—Rev. E. and Mrs. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Holmes.  
*Aurukun*—Rev. A. and Mrs. Richter, Mr. and Mrs. W. Owen.  
*Mornington Island*—Mr. and Mrs. R. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. N. Paull.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

*Port George I V.*—Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Wilson.

## II.

## CHURCH OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

## NEW HEBRIDES.

*Malio*—Rev. D. L. and Mrs. Paterson.

## INDIA.

*Sholinghur*—Rev. C. E. Turnbull and Mrs. Turnbull  
 Dr. Flora Innes, M.B., Ch.M.  
 Miss McLean.  
 Miss Daisy Synmonds, B.A.  
 Nurse Gill.

## TO THE CHINESE.

*Sydney*—Rev. J. Young Wai.  
*Newcastle*—Mr. Kem Yee.

## III.

## CHURCH OF VICTORIA.

## NEW HEBRIDES.

*Malekula*—Rev. F. J. Paton.  
 Rev. R. Boyd and Mrs. Boyd.  
 Rev. J. S. Jaffray and Miss Jaffray.  
*Vila*—Rev. D. Crombie, L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin.), and Mrs. Crombie.  
 Matron Matson, Nurse Finlay.  
 (John G. Paton Fund.)  
*Santo*—Rev. Dr. Ewen McKenzie, L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin.), and Mrs. McKenzie.  
*Paama*—Rev. Maurice and Mrs. Frater.  
*Tanna*—Rev. J. C. Nicholson, F.R.C.S. (Edin.), and Mrs. Nicholson.  
*Malekula*—Rev. J. Sandilands, M.B., Ch.M., (Glas.), and Mrs. Sandilands.

## KOREA.

- Fusanchin*—Rev. G. Engel, M.A., and Mrs. Engel.  
Rev. J. N. McKenzie and Mrs. McKenzie.  
Miss Menzies, Miss Niven, Miss Alexander.  
Miss M. Davies, M.A.
- Masampo*—Rev. D. M. Lyall, B.A., and Mrs. Lyell.  
Rev. A. Wright.  
Rev. E. K. Lomas, M.A., M.Sc.  
Miss Napier, Miss McPhee.
- Tongyeng (Chillam)*—Rev. R. D. Watson and Mrs. Watson.  
Rev. D. Taylor, L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin.), and Mrs. Taylor.  
Miss Moore.
- Kuchang*—Rev. F. J. L. Macrae, B.A.  
Rev. J. T. Kelly and Mrs. Kelly.  
Miss Ebery, Miss A. Skinner, B.A.
- Chinju*—Rev. H. Currell, M.B., Ch.B., and Mrs. Currell.  
Rev. C. I. McLaren, M.D., and Mrs. McLaren.  
Miss Scholes, Miss Clerke, Miss Laing  
Miss M. Campbell, M.A.

## TO THE CHINESE.

- Ballarat*—Rev. J. Tong Wai.  
*Melbourne*—Miss Pye.  
*Brunswick*—Mr. Paul Chin.  
*Warrnambool*—Mr. T. W. Cheong.  
*Rutherglen*—Mr. George Young.  
*Geelong*—Mr. Charles Way.

## IV.

## CHURCH OF TASMANIA.

- New Hebrides (Epi)*—Rev. J. B. and Mrs. Weir.

## V.

## CHURCH OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

- New Hebrides (Tanna)*—Rev. T. MacMillan, M.A., and Mrs. MacMillan.

## X.

## REPORT OF THE COLLEGE COMMITTEE.

The General Committee clothed with Assembly powers met at Moss Vale, N.S.W. on September 30th, 1913. There was a small attendance.

The returns of the Exit Examiners, as received to date, were laid on the table. The Chairman of the N.S.W. Section, and the Secretary were empowered to deal with the remaining returns on their coming to hand, and authorised to publish the names of the successful candidates

Syllabuses for the Exit Examination, 1914, were adopted, and ordered to be issued. The Executive was empowered to prepare and issue syllabuses for the Extra-Mural Examination, 1914, and for the Entrance and H.M. Examinations, 1915.

It was resolved that the 1914 Exit Examination be held on Monday, September 7th, and the 1915 Entrance Examination on Tuesday, February 2, and Tuesday, March 30th.

The Executive met regularly as business required. The following items are reported to the Assembly.

An application to be admitted as a 3rd year student of the Theological Hall was received from Brian Cavanough, formerly a probationer of the Methodist Church. On the recommendation of the N.S.W. Section, Mr. Cavanough was admitted as a 2nd year student, to take all subjects except Hebrew.

W. A. Thompson, H.M. Agent (N.S.W.), was, on the recommendation of the State Assembly, N.S.W., admitted to the Entrance Examination; his studies at Occidental College, Los Angeles, being accepted as equivalent to a full H.M. Course.

Stewart Robertson, H.M. Agent (N.S.W.), forwarded a petition (for transmission to the G.A.) praying that he might be granted an Extra-Mural Course. The petition is transmitted with a recommendation which is printed in connection with it.

A petition (also for transmission to G.A.) was received from James Raff, H. M. Agent (Vic.), praying that petitioner receive full ministerial status. This petition is transmitted *simpliciter*.

John Nicol, H.M. Agent (V.), a 3rd year student in the H.M. Course of Training, who had proceeded to Scotland, presented, on his return, certificates from the Professors of St. Andrews' University in the subjects of Hebrew, Greek and Moral Philosophy. The Committee recommend that the Assembly declare Mr. Nicol eligible to make application as a candidate for the Entrance Examination.

E. F. Cameron, H.M. Agent (W.A.), under terms of resolution of last Assembly, has been admitted to the two year's course of study prescribed in the meantime for H.M. Agents in W.A., who have passed the Entrance Examination, and who are required to attend a Theological Hall in the third year. The Committee determined that the work of the two years' course of study be the same as that prescribed in the Theological Hall, and that the examination be conducted by examiners appointed by the State Theological Hall Committee. Mr. Cameron sat for the 1st year examination, and the Rev. F. E. Oxer, Chairman of the Theological Hall Committee, W.A., reported that his marks were as follow—Apologetics, 78%; Church History, 77%, English Bible, 83%; Systematic Theology, 76%; Greek, N.T., 65% O.T., 61%.

The examinations under the control of the Committee were all held at the appointed times.

At the 1913 Exit Examination, 3rd year, 24 passed. 14 from Ormond College, 6 from St. Andrew's College, and 4 from Emmanuel College. In second year Exit subjects, 14 passed; 7 from St. Andrew's College, 4 from Ormond College, and 3 from Emmanuel College.

One Extra-Mural candidate, John McD. Forsyth, presented himself at the third year Exit Examination, and passed.

At the February Entrance Examination, 1913, 11 passed, and at the April Examination, 8 passed.

At the February Entrance Examination, 1914, 13 passed; and at the April Examination, 2 passed. In connection with the latter, no fewer than 7 are required, to take a Supplementary Examination. In most cases the subject failed in was Greek. The Examiner reported that the Greek papers were the worst that had passed through his hands. The Committee are strongly of opinion that all Students for the Ministry should take Greek in their University Course. Only by doing so can they come to the Hall properly equipped for profiting by the teaching given by the professors in this subject.

In connection with the H.M. Course of Training, 47 H.M. Agents have been admitted since last Assembly—Victoria, 32; N.S.W., 7; Queensland, 8.

The Annual H.M. Examinations were held in July, 1913, and July 1914. At the 1913 Examination 56 candidates presented themselves, of whom 34 passed; 6 received a Supplementary Examination, which they succeeded in passing; and 16 failed.

At the 1914 Examination, 68 candidates presented themselves. 35 passed; 21 received a Supplementary Examination; and 12 failed. The Supplementary Examinations have not yet been held.

Examiners in all subjects have frequently pointed out the lack of a competent knowledge of English Grammar on the part of many H.M. Students, and this year the Examiner in English suggested in his Report that the College Committee bring the matter under the notice of the Assembly, with a view to some steps being taken to secure a better training of these men by the Churches of the several States—especially in English. The Committee feel that the matter is of sufficient importance to engage the attention of the Assembly and refer to it accordingly.

The attention of the Assembly is likewise called to the fact that several Presbyteries prescribed trials for license to certain candidates at the 1913 Exit Examination before the results of the examination were officially announced. The Committee are of opinion that this practice should be strongly discountenanced.

The following changes have taken place in the staff of Examiners:—

- Rev. A. Dunn, B.A., B.D., has been appointed in place of Rev. S. Fraser, M.A., resigned—Exit and Church History.
- Rev. W. W. Watts, in place of Rev. Dr. Dunlop, resigned—Exit, Greek.
- Rev. W. J. Holt, M.A., in place of Rev. J. Cosh, B.A., B.D., resigned—Exit, Hebrew.
- Rev. W. Grant Forsyth, in place of Rev. John Edwards, M.A., resigned—Exit, Theology.
- Rev. G. R. S. Reid, M.A., and Rev. J. Sinclair, B.A., have been appointed to examine in the new subject "Contents of the Bible in English"—Exit Examination.
- Rev. J. H. Terras, in place of Rev. G. R. S. Reid, M.A.—Entrance, English.
- Rev. W. Grant Forsyth, in place of Rev. James Kinghorn, deceased.—Entrance, Mental Philosophy.
- Rev. A. Yule, M.A., in place of Rev. W. Huey Steele, M.A., resigned—Entrance, English Literature.
- Rev. W. Fraser, B.A., in place of Rev. F. W. Rolland, M.A., resigned—H.M., English.
- Rev. W. Huey Steele, M.A., in place of Rev. A. McDonald, M.A., resigned—H.M., Scripture and Catechism.
- Rev. H. S. Legge, M.A., in place of Rev. W. Huey Steele, M.A., resigned—H.M., Scripture and Catechism.

A Petition forwarded through the New South Wales section was received from A. R. McVittie, M.A., praying that the Petitioner be permitted to postpone sitting for the Entrance Examination on account of eye trouble, and that he receive certain concessions in regard to attendance at lectures and examinations. The New South Wales Committee recommended that Mr. McVittie be allowed to defer the Entrance Examination, and that he be admitted to the Theological Hall as a second-year student, with exemption from attendance at lectures, and examinations upon Old and New Testament Literature and Theology. The Committee resolved that Petitioner be permitted to postpone sitting for the Entrance Examination, and that the matter of attendance at lectures and examinations be determined, in the meantime, by the Theological Faculty of St. Andrew's College.

James Hannen, H.M. Agent, New South Wales, who presented a Diploma from the Bible Training Institute, Glasgow, which showed that he obtained 2,736 marks out of a possible 3,000, has been graded as a third year student on the recommendation of the New South Wales Committee.

The Presbytery of Sydney have recommended that the Petition of W. A. Thompson for an Extra-Mural Course be granted, and the Committee endorse the recommendation.

The General Assembly of 1912 sustained an Overture on the Training of Home Missionaries in so far as it brought "under notice the matter of securing University training for a larger number of Theological students," and remitted "to the College Committee for consideration the best method of achieving the end in view," with instruction to "report to the Assembly."

The Committee are of opinion that the question resolves itself into devising the best means for supporting young students during the period of their preparation for the Matriculation Examination, and believe that what is aimed at would be accomplished by such an extension of the Pre-Matriculation Bursary system as would provide for promising students fairly liberal bursaries for several years—say £50 a year for at least three years, if need be—and by arranging for their being taught at one of the secondary schools at as little cost to themselves as possible.

The Committee would urge upon the Assembly the necessity for the State Assemblies raising a fund, respectively, to provide such bursaries.

As an additional means, young Home Missionaries—even if over 23 years of age—might be encouraged to take up at least four Junior Public subjects (including English, Greek, and History) for three years instead of the Home Mission Preliminary Course, such study to be tested by an annual examination under the supervision of the College Committee, and to count for that complete Course, provided they pass the annual Home Mission Examination each of the three years in Scripture and Catechism. And in the event of their passing in four subjects in the Junior Public Examination, they should have a prior claim upon Pre-Matriculation Bursaries to enable them to matriculate with a view to their prosecuting a University course.

The Committee deeply deplore the death of the Rev. Dr. Clouston, late Professor of Exegetical Theology of the N.T. and Historical Theology, St. Andrew's College, Sydney; the Rev. James Kinghorn, late Examiner in Mental Philosophy Entrance Examination; and the Rev. S. Fraser, M.A., late Examiner in Church History Exit Examination; and express their sincere sympathy with the relatives in their sore bereavement.

The detailed results of the Examinations, and the Syllabuses are subjoined.

JOHN MEIKLEJOHN, M.A., D.D.,  
JOHN MATHEW, M.A., B.D.,  
Joint Conveners.

## EXAMINATION RESULTS AND SYLLABUSES.

### ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, FEBRUARY, 1913.

The following passed :—J. F. Hanlin, B.A. (V.), 94 per cent. ; J. C. Jones, B.A. (V.), 87½ per cent. ; W. J. Gray, B.A. (N.S.W.), 85½ per cent. ; W. Meikle (Q.), 74 per cent. ; F. J. Thomas (V.), 70½ per cent. ; E. F. Cameron (W.A.), 71 per cent. ; (without Hebrew); J. C. Milliken (Q.), 66 per cent. (without Hebrew); C. E. Hipwell (V.), 60½ per cent. ; E. L. Slade Mallen (N.S.W.), 58½ per cent. (without Hebrew); C. E. Turnbull (N.S.W.), 58 per cent. ; R. C. Racklyeft (N.S.W.), 55 per cent.

### ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, APRIL, 1913.

G. M. Scott (N.S.W.), 78 per cent. ; H. E. Thomas (N.S.W.), 71½ per cent. ; P. L. Forster (V.), 65 per cent. ; S. R. W. Richardson, B. A. (N.S.W.), 64½ per cent. ; A. M. Ferrie (N.S.W.), 64½ per cent. (without Hebrew); G. A. Corson (S.A.), 60½ per cent. ; W. W. Ingram (V.), 59½ per cent. ; (without Languages); J. H. Bates (N.S.W.), 59 per cent.

### ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, FEBRUARY, 1914.

The following passed :—W. G. S. Johns, B.A. (V.), 75½ per cent. ; H. M. Robertshaw (V.), 74½ per cent. ; K. D. McDonald, B.A. (N.S.W.), 74 per cent. ; E. M. K. Raff (V.), 74 per cent. ; C. Harland (V.), 63½ per cent. ; A. C. Kennedy (Q.), 61½ per cent. ; P. E. Shepherd (V.), 60½ per cent. W. N. H. Joughin (V.), 59½ per cent. ; A. C. Weber (V.), 59½ per cent. ; W. Adams (V.), 59½ per cent. ; G. W. McAlpine (N.S.W.), 57 per cent. ; R. H. Roberts (V.), 57 per cent. ; O. Jones (V.), 54½ per cent.

### ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, APRIL, 1914.

The following passed :—A. E. Bates (N.S.W.), Supplementary Examination, 71½ per cent. ; and G. Anderson (V.), 62 per cent.

A Supplementary Examination was granted to :—J. Waugh, B.A. (N.S.W.), J. R. Blanchard, B.A. (N.S.W.), R. J. Howie, B.A. (N.S.W.), K. F. Partridge, B.A. (N.S.W.), C. J. Page, B.A. (N.S.W.), G. Cowie (N.S.W.), and A. W. Thompson (N.S.W.).

#### EXIT EXAMINATION, 1913, THIRD YEAR.

The following passed :—

Ormond College.—F. S. Souter, B.A., 85 per cent. (First Class Honours) A. L. G. Ash, B.A., 77 per cent. (Second Class Honours); C. Matear, 75 per cent. (Second Class Honours); A. J. Porter, 71½ per cent.; J. A. Ford, 71 per cent.; F. G. Faram, 70½ per cent. (without Hebrew); J. W. Meers, 70½ per cent. (without Hebrew); H. E. Carey, 70 per cent.; F. W. Rankin, 64½ per cent.; G. H. Elliott, 60½ per cent.; J. A. Pawson, 54 per cent. (without Hebrew); W. Bennet, 53 per cent. (without Languages); J. N. Melville, 67½ per cent., and C. F. Phillips, 55½ per cent., passed in terms of resolution of General Assembly.

St. Andrews' College.—L. J. Shortland, B.A., 82½ per cent. (Second Class Honours); J. B. V. Steel, B.A., 70 per cent.; C. E. Turnbull, 69½ per cent.; J. H. Bates, 66 per cent.; R. G. Hoisler, 67 per cent., and A. D. Robertson, 62½ per cent., passed in terms of resolution of General Assembly.

Emmanuel College.—T. Harvey, 72 per cent.; J. Sinclair, 72 per cent.; J. G. Scarfe, 63½ per cent.; H. E. Hulme, 61½ per cent. (all exempted from Hebrew).

#### EXIT EXAMINATION, 1913, SECOND YEAR.

St. Andrews' College.—W. H. Smith, B.A., 72½ per cent.; R. C. Racklyeft, 70½ per cent.; R. J. W. G. Crawford, B.A., 63 per cent.; E. L. Slade Mallin, 58 per cent.; A. E. Bates, 57½ per cent.; J. Richardson, 55 per cent.; C. G. Walkom, 50 per cent.

Ormond College.—A. Brownlie, 76 per cent.; J. Shaw, 69 per cent.; H. D. Fearon, 58 per cent.; S. Williams, 57 per cent.

Emmanuel College.—R. Bardou, B.A., 92 per cent.; R. Miller, 74½ per cent. J. Robb, 59 per cent.

#### EXTRA. MURAL COURSE, 1913, THIRD YEAR.

J. McD. Forsyth (S.A.), 60½ per cent.

#### HOME MISSIONARIES ANNUAL EXAMINATION, 1913.

The following passed :—

First Year.—A. R. Uren (V.), 80 per cent.; E. Smyth (Q.), 77 per cent.; J. P. Chaliner (V.), 63 per cent.; H. J. Thomson (V.), 63 per cent.; W. Kelly (V.), 62 per cent.; J. Blake (Q.), 62 per cent.; E. B. Dalziel (V.), 61 per cent.; W. H. Patterson (V.), 60½ per cent.; G. Raff (V.), 59 per cent.; R. L. Reid (Q.), 53½ per cent.

Second Year.—S. C. Hadley (V.), 81 per cent.; H. J. Saw (V.), 67 per cent.; S. Robertson (N.S.W.), 61 per cent.; W. E. Porter (V.), 59 per cent.; G. R. Johnson (V.), 58 per cent.; K. C. Billinge (V.), 57½ per cent.; W. G. Fitzgerald (V.), 54 per cent.; A. S. Rowan (V.), 53½ per cent.; A. S. Morrison (Q.), 53½ per cent.; A. McIlroy (V.), 53 per cent.

Third Year.—J. Marshall (N.S.W.), 76 per cent.; S. J. Atkins (V.), 70½ per cent.; A. H. Northy (V.), 66 per cent.; A. S. Macaulay (Q.), 60 per cent.; A. S. Eastman (V.), 58 per cent.; A. H. Holden (N.S.W.) 58 per cent.; J. B. Clarke (N.S.W.), 57 per cent.; C. F. Fletcher (V.), 55½ per cent.

Fourth Year.—A. J. Eipper (V.), 73½ per cent.; W. Adams (V.), 70 per cent.; A. C. Kennedy (Q.), 70 per cent.; J. P. Schussler (V.), 69½ per cent.; A. C. Weber (V.), 67 per cent.; R. H. Roberts (V.), 64½ per cent.; W. H. Lang (V.), 58 per cent.

## HOME MISSIONARIES' SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION, 1913.

The following passed :—

First year.—W. J. Mierisch, 64 per cent.  
 Third Year.—J. G. Sharpe, 68 per cent.; N. McDonald, 61½ per cent.; D. F. Thomas, 58½ per cent.; G. D. Phillips, 54½ per cent.  
 Fourth Year.—P. E. Shepherd, 61 per cent.

## HOME MISSIONARIES' ANNUAL EXAMINATION, 1914.

The following passed :—

First Year.—C. H. Ball (V.), 77½ per cent.; D. A. Brown (Q.), 73 per cent.; E. G. Spencer (V.), 72 per cent.; J. P. Hamilton (V.), 68 per cent.; F. G. Southall (V.), 68 per cent.; D. Finlayson (N.S.W.), 66½ per cent.; J. Jones (V.), 66½ per cent.; A. Brodie (V.), 64 per cent.; G. C. Wood, (N.S.W.), 63½ per cent.; F. Fletcher (V.), 63 per cent.; W. H. D. McMeekin (V.), 61½ per cent.; J. A. Moscript (V.), 55½ per cent.; C. W. T. Headen (V.), 52½ per cent.; H. Corbett (Q.), 52½ per cent.; J. B. Thorn (N.S.W.), 50 per cent.  
 Second Year.—R. Uren (V.), 88 per cent.; H. J. Thompson (V.), 71 per cent.; E. Smyth (Q.), 67 per cent.; G. Raff (V.), 58 per cent.; W. H. Patterson (V.), 52 per cent.  
 Third Year.—S. C. Hadley (V.), 77 per cent.; H. J. Saw (V.), 68½ per cent.; S. Robertson (N.S.W.) 66½ per cent.; A. S. Morrison (Q.), 65 per cent.; K. C. Billing (V.), 61 per cent.; A. Duff (Q.), 60½ per cent.; W. Cuthbert (Q.), 53 per cent.  
 Fourth Year.—A. N. Northey (V.), 65½ per cent.; A. S. Eastman (V.), 60 per cent.; S. J. Atkins (V.), 60 per cent.; A. S. Macaulay (Q.), 59 per cent.; C. T. Fletcher (V.), 58 per cent.; D. A. Mackenzie (V.), 58 per cent.; A. Hay-Holden (N.S.W.), 55 per cent.; N. McDonald (V.), 54½ per cent..

## SYLLABUS, ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, 1914.

Scripture—Haggai, Zachariah and Malachi (Cambridge Bible for Schools Series); the Gospel according to St. Matthew (Cambridge Bible for Schools Series).

Shorter Catechism—Salmond's Handbook.

Hebrew.—Davidson's Grammar, Sections 1-27 (matter in small print excepted), omitting Section 10; Exercises from 11 onwards; Genesis, chaps. i. and ii. Home Mission students may take English Literature as an alternative for Hebrew. Text-book: Stopford Brooke's "Primer of English Literature."

Greek.—"Initia Græca," Pt. I., by Dr. W. Smith, Revised Edition. Xenophon's Anabasis, Book I. (Bell's Classics); Book of Acts, chaps. xvii. to end. Home Mission students are not required to take Xenophon.

Mental Philosophy.—Student's History of Philosophy (by A. K. Rogers: Macmillan & Co.). Modern Philosophy: Introduction to end of book.

Moral Philosophy—Mackenzie's Manual of Ethics.

History—Green's "A Short History of the English People," chaps. i. to viii.; and Adeney's "From Christ to Constantine"

English—Meiklejohn's English Language, Parts I. and III.; and "A School Treasury of English Literature," Part II., Section iv. (text-book for Junior and Senior Public Examinations, Melbourne University).

## SYLLABUS, ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, 1915.

Scripture—Exodus (Cambridge Bible for Schools Series); the Gospel according to St. Mark (Cambridge Bible for Schools Series).

Shorter Catechism—Salmond's Handbook.

Hebrew—Davidson's Grammar, Sections 1-27 (matter in small print excepted), omitting Section 10; Exercises from 11 onwards; Genesis, chaps. i. and ii. Home Mission students may take English Literature as an alternative for Hebrew. Text-book: Tucker & Murdoch, "New Primer of English Literature."



Greek.—"Initia Graeca," Pt. I., by Dr. W. Smith, Revised Edition. Xenophon's Anabasis, Book II. (Bell's Classics); Book of Acts, chaps. i. to viii. inclusive. Home Mission students are not required to take Xenophon.

Mental Philosophy.—Student's History of Philosophy (by A. K. Rogers: Macmillan & Co. Modern Philosophy: Introduction to end of book.

Moral Philosophy—Mackenzie's Manual of Ethics.

History—Green's "A Short History of the English People," chaps. i. to viii.; and "The Student's Gibbon," chaps. i. to xvi.

English—Meiklejohn's English Language, Parts I. and III.; and "Selected English" (Adele Ellis, B.A.), text-book for Junior and Senior Public Examinations, Melbourne University.

#### SYLLABUS, EXIT EXAMINATION, 1914.

##### HEBREW AND O.T. EXEGESIS.

##### I.—Grammar—

- (a) Davidson's Grammar with simple composition from English into Hebrew.
- (b) Davidson's Hebrew Syntax—"the Syntax of the Sentence," pp. 1-57.

##### II.—Translation—

- (a) 2 Sam. Chaps 1-7 inclusive.
- (b) Ezekiel, Chaps 1-6 inclusive.
- (c) Psalms 120-134 inclusive.

##### Text-books for Introduction and Exegesis—

1. Kirkpatrick's 2 Sam. Sections I., IV., V.
2. Davidson's Ezekiel. Introduction.
3. Kirkpatrick's Psalms (Books IV. and V. Introduction, Chaps. 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9.)

##### III.—History and O.T. Theology—

- (a) Box's "Short Introduction to the Literature of the Old Testament," pp. 95 to end.
- (b) Otteley's "History of the Hebrews," pp. 193 to end, including appendices.
- (c) Burney's "Outlines of Old Testament Theology."

##### For Home Mission Students as an alternative for Hebrew Language—

Besides all the English work prescribed above, these students are required to get up the following:—

1. Davidson's Ezekiel, Exegesis of Chaps. 1-6 inclusive.
2. Kirkpatrick's 2 Sam. The whole introduction and the exegesis of the chaps set.
3. Box's Introduction, pp. 1-27 (Canon of O.T. and Text of O.T.)
4. Kirkpatrick's Psalms (Books IV. and V.). "The whole Introduction, especially what is said of the Psalms of Degrees"

##### CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHY AND APOLOGETIC.

Flint's "Anti-Theistic Theories" (omitting Chaps V. and VI. and Appendix).  
Sir Oliver Lodge's "Life and Matter."

##### NEW TESTAMENT GREEK AND EXEGESIS.

##### I.—Text and Translation (W. H. Text) Colossians and Philippians.

##### II.—Exegesis, Grammar, etc.—

1. Lightfoot's Colossians, pp. 131-245.
2. Lightfoot's Philippians, pp. 81-167.

##### III.—Introduction Lightfoot's Colossians, Intro. pp. 1-128. Lightfoot's Philippians, pp. 1-73.

##### IV.—Lightfoot's "Dissertation" on the Christian Ministry, pp. 181-232.

V.—N.T. Theology. Stevens' Theology of the N.T., part IV., chap VI., "Jesus Christ" (Abbott's "Colossians," and H. A. A. Kennedy's Phillipians in Expositor's Greek Test are recommended for additional study.

CHURCH HISTORY.

The History of the Christian Church till A.D. 800 (including the History of Doctrine during that period.)

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY.

I.—The doctrine of the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit.  
The Doctrine of the Church and the Sacraments.

II.—Christian Ethics.—Newman Smyth's "Christian Ethics." Introduction and Part I., chaps. 1 and 2 (pp. 1-143.)

CONTENTS OF THE BIBLE IN ENGLISH.

The Pentateuch and the Four Gospels.

Books recommended for Study.—Dummelow's Commentary, Expositor's Bible, Cambridge Bible or Century Bible.

EXTRA-MURAL SYLLABUS, 1914.

OLD TESTAMENT.

I.—Ottley's Hebrew Prophet's, pp. 62-118.

II.—(a) Box's Short Introduction to the Literature of the Old Test., pp. 1-27.  
(b) Ottley's History of the Hebrews, pp. 193 to end, including appendices.  
(c) Burney's Outlines of O.T. Theology.

III.—Special Introduction and Exegesis of Psalms, 120-134. (Kirkpatrick's Psalms).

NEW TESTAMENT.

Same as for Exit.

APOLOGETICS.

Same as for Exit.

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY.

Same as for Exit.

CHURCH HISTORY.

Same as for Exit.

CONTENTS OF THE BIBLE IN ENGLISH.

Same as for Exit.

SYLLABUS, HOME MISSION COURSE, 1914.

FOR FIRST YEAR STUDENTS

Bible and Shorter Catechism—

(a) General Knowledge of the Books of the Bible—New Testament.

(b) Salmond's Exposition of the Shorter Catechism, Questions 1-38 (T. & T Clark's Bible Class Primer Series).

English—

(a) Meiklejohn's "English Language" pp. 1-115.

(b) "A School Treasury of English Literature," Part II., Section IV. (Text-book for Junior and Senior Public Examinations, Melbourne University.)

History—Green's "A Shorter History of the English People," chaps. iii. and iv.

Logic—Mellone's Introductory Text-book, pp. 1-156.

Greek—"Initia Gracca," Part I., pp. 1 to 34, by Dr. W. Smith (Revised Edition.)

## FOR SECOND YEAR-STUDENTS.

Bible and Shorter Catechism—

(a) As above.

(b) As above, but Questions 39-81.

(c) I. and II. Samuel, Kirkpatrick (Cambridge Bible for Schools Series).

English—

(a) As above, but pp. 116-242.

(b) As above.

History—As above.

Logic—As above, but pp. 157-345.

Moral Philosophy—Mackenzie's "Manual of Ethics" (The University Tutorial Series), pp. 1-233.

Greek—As above, but pp. 35-71.

## FOR THIRD YEAR STUDENTS.

Bible and Shorter Catechism—

(a) As above.

(b) As above, but Questions 82 to end.

(c) As above.

English—

(a) As above, but pp. 271 to 346.

(b) As above.

History—As above.

Moral Philosophy—As above, but pp. 234 to 452.

Greek—As above, but pp. 71 to 109.

## FOR FOURTH YEAR STUDENTS.

Bible and Shorter Catechism—

(a) As above, and (c) as above.

English—

(a) As above, but pp. 347 to 443.

(b) As above.

History—As above.

Mental Philosophy—"Students' History of Philosophy," by A. K. Rogers :  
Modern Philosophy, Introduction to end of book.

Greek—As above, but pp. 110 to end of book.

Sermon—On prescribed text.

## SYLLABUS, HOME MISSION COURSE, 1915.

## FOR FIRST YEAR STUDENTS.

Bible and Shorter Catechism—

(a) General Knowledge of the Books of the Bible—Genesis to Esther.

(b) Salmond's Exposition of the Shorter Catechism, Questions 1-38  
(T. and T. Clark's Bible Class Primer Series).

English—

(a) Meiklejohn's "English Language," pp. 1-115.

(b) Selected English (Adele Ellis, B.A.), (Text-book for Junior and  
Senior Public Examinations, Melbourne University.)

History—Green's "A Short History of the English People," chaps. v. and vi.

Logic—Mellone's Introductory Text Book of Logic, pp. 1-156.

Greek—"Initia Graeca," Part I., pp. 1 to 34, by Dr. W. Smith (Revised  
Edition).

## FOR SECOND YEAR STUDENTS.

Bible and Shorter Catechism—

(a) As above.

(b) As above, but Questions 39-81.

(c) The Book of Job, A. B. Davidson (Cambridge Bible for Schools Series).

English—

(a) As above, but pp. 116-242.

(b) As above.

History—As above.

Logic—As above, but pp. 157-345.  
 Moral Philosophy.—Mackenzie's "Manual of Ethics" (The University Tutorial Series), pp. 1-233.  
 Greek—As above, but pp. 35-71.

## FOR THIRD YEAR STUDENTS.

Bible and Shorter Catechism—  
 (a) As above.  
 (b) As above, but Questions 82 to end.  
 (c) As above.  
 English—  
 (a) As above, but pp. 271 to 346.  
 (b) As above.  
 History—As above.  
 Moral Philosophy—As above, but pp. 234 to 452.  
 Greek—As above, but pp. 72 to 109.

## FOR FOURTH YEAR STUDENTS.

Bible and Shorter Catechism—  
 (a) As above, and (c) as above.  
 English—  
 (a) As above, but pp. 347 to 443.  
 (b) As above.  
 History—As above.  
 Mental Philosophy.—"Student's History of Philosophy," by A. K. Rogers :  
 Modern Philosophy, Introduction to end of book.  
 Greek—As above, but pp. 110 to end of book.  
 Sermon—On prescribed text.

## XI.

## REPORT OF YEAR BOOK.

Your Committee reports that it appointed Rev. W. M. M. Alexander, Editor of the Year-Book, two annual numbers of which have been issued since your Assembly was last in session.

Your Committee desire to express its thanks to contributors for information forwarded, but especially to emphasise its appreciation of the arduous labours of the Editor.

The Committee is convinced that the Official Hand-Book is already serving a good purpose, and that any trouble which members take to supply the Editor with complete information, and any reasonable expense involved in making the form of its issue more becoming the dignity of its title, is justified by the important function which the Year-Book is to fulfil, and recommends that the Finance Committee be authorised to arrange for the cost of its publication. The Report of the Editor is appended.

G. A. GORDON, Convener.

The Year Book for 1913 and for 1914 was duly prepared, and circulated at the cost of the Committee.

To all interested in the welfare of our Church it has proved most useful and helpful. The information has been varied and valued, and although errors appear the effort was made to reduce their number.

The Year Book is of great value, and with the assistance of the Church officials and others can be made increasingly useful.

Attached is the report of expenditure and receipts.

W. M. M. ALEXANDER, Editor.











## WELFARE OF YOUTH.

TABLE IX.

	Schools.		Teachers.		Scholars.		Average Attendance.		Scholars	Attending Bible Classes.	
	1909.	1913.	1909.	1913.	1909.	1913.	1909.	1913.	1911.	1909.	1913.
N. S. Wales	336	379	2,150	2,187	20,487	21,529	14,103	14,127	21,133	1,478	1,515
Victoria	530	552	3,954	4,166	36,896	37,258	26,183	26,101	38,389	4,116	4,388
Queensland	158	265	1,067	1,456	10,159	12,487	7,289	8,180	11,073	487	456
South Australia	41	—	267	313	2,251	2,288	1,570	—	2,199	212	167
Western Australia	38	32	248	287	2,176	2,143	1,904	1,668	—	114	116
Tasmania	22	—	140	—	1,370	—	922	—	—	123	—
	1,125	—	7,826	—	73,339	—	51,971	—	—	6,530	—
Increase	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Decrease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

FINANCIAL.—TABLE X.

	Revenue for Congregational Purposes.				Foreign Missions.		Home Missions.	
	Ordinary.		Special.		1909.	1913.	1909.	1913.
	1909.	1913.	1909.	1913.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	54,734	64,896	16,348	25,193	1,476	1,876	1,045	1,192
Victoria	87,066	97,750	14,977	21,406	5,614	—	2,294	—
Queensland	16,665	20,113	7,106	8,856	255	160	379	765
South Australia	5,736	—	832	—	358	529	198	524
Western Australia	6,309	6,748	1,654	1,972	23	—	205	—
Tasmania	3,000	—	353	—	15	—	—	—
	173,510	—	41,270	—	7,741	—	4,121	—
Increase	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

FINANCIAL.—TABLE X. (Continued.)

	S.S. Revenue.		Charitable.		Other Sources.		Total Congregational Revenue.		Stipends.	
	1909.	1913.	1909.	1913.	1909.	1913.	1909.	1913.	1909.	1913.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	1,371	1,507	747	665	820	631	76,541	95,960	46,904	53,121
Victoria	7,190	9,319	2,427	3,967	6,031	9,931	125,599	142,373	63,461	66,278
Queensland	1,700	2,150	121	251	820	2,934	27,146	35,229	13,643	11,637
South Australia	345	—	82	—	69	9,107	7,620	10,160	4,518	5,778
Western Australia	495	664	115	58	113	759	8,914	8,982	4,467	4,750
Tasmania	253	—	58	—	—	—	4,240	—	2,982	—
Increase	11,354	—	3,550	—	—	—	250,060	—	—	—

For the first four States, as above, Returns for 1911 show Revenue as follows:—

N.S.W., £87,282; Victoria, £113,386; Queensland, £30,401; South Australia, £9,923; making a total of £260,871.

## CAPITAL FUNDS AND CREDIT BALANCES.

	1909.	1913.	Increase.
New South Wales	£142,141	£197,184	£15,043
Victoria	382,800	426,654	43,854
Queensland	12,049	12,088	39
South Australia	21,051	23,230	2,179
Western Australia	—	—	—
Tasmania	7,959	—	—

G. A. GORDON,  
Joint Convener.

## XIII.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE THEOLOGICAL CURRICULUM.

To assist the Committee in advising the General Assembly, letters requesting information as to the teaching staff, subjects taught, and the general arrangement of the Theological Curricula, were addressed by the Convener to the secretaries of the governing bodies of the following Colleges:—Church of Scotland in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen and St. Andrews, United Free Church—New College, Edinburgh and Theological Halls, Glasgow and Aberdeen, Presbyterian Church in England—Westminster College, Cambridge, Congregational Church in England—Mansfield College, Oxford, Irish Presbyterian Church—McCrea Magee College, Londonderry, Presbyterian Church of Canada—Knox College, Toronto; and to the following in the United States of America, viz., Princeton, Yale and Harvard Colleges and the Union Seminary, New York.

Very courteous and informative replies were received from thirteen sources, accompanied by printed matter supplying details of the curricula. The following is a summary of such parts of the information supplied as are of chief importance for the work your Committee had in hand:—

## DETAILS OF CURRICULA.

*Church of Scotland, St. Mary's College, St. Andrew's.*—Four Chairs, viz., (1) Divinity, (2) Biblical Criticism, (3) Church History, (4) Hebrew, and Oriental Languages. Length of course, three years.

*Church of Scotland, Glasgow University.*—Four Chairs. (1) Divinity, (2) Hebrew with Syriac, (3) Ecclesiastical History, (4) Biblical Criticism and N. T. Greek, and Lectureship in Elementary Hebrew and Arabic. A three years' course. Classes beginning second Monday in October.

*United Free Church, New College, Edinburgh.*—Five Chairs. Their subjects being: (1) Apologetic Theology, Christian Ethics and Practical Training, (2) Systematic Theology, (3) N.T. Language and Literature, (4) Church History, (5) O.T. Language and Literature. Also two Lectureships—one in Natural Science and another in Elocution. The course covers four years. Lectures begin second Wednesday in October and close last Wednesday in March. An experiment is being made with brief courses in Church Praise and Educational Theory and Method.

*United Free Church College, Glasgow.*—Same Chairs and Lectureships. Length of course and of session as in New College. The Professor in Apologetics and Dogmatics does what is practicable in Symbolics and in Comparative Religion.

*United Free Church College, Aberdeen.*—Four Chairs, viz., (1) O.T. Language and Literature, (2) N.T. Language and Literature, (3) Apologetics and Systematic Theology (4) Church History and Christian Ethics. Two Lectureships, viz., (1) Natural Science and Theology, (2) Elocution. A four years' course. No changes contemplated.

*Presbyterian Church in England, Westminster College, Cambridge.*—Four Chairs, viz., (1) O.T., (2) N.T., (3) Dogmatics (including Apologetics), (4) Church History. The teaching of Practical Theology is shared by all the Professors. Voice Training is also given. The course is three years. No change contemplated.

*Mansfield College, Oxford.*—Four Chairs, viz., (1) Systematic Theology and Philosophy of Religion, (2) Old Testament, (3) New Testament, (4) Church History, also Lectureships in N.T. and Elementary Hebrew. The course is three years. There is a summer term of six weeks. No change contemplated.

*Presbyterian Church of Ireland, McCrea Magee, College, Londonderry.*—This College has a Faculty in Arts, with classes open to all comers, and a Faculty in Divinity for the Presbyterian Church. Some of the lectures in Arts fit in to those in Divinity. There are five Professors and three Lecturers in Arts.

In Divinity there are three Chairs, viz., (1) Theology, (2) Ecclesiastical History, (3) Hebrew and Biblical Criticism. The subjects include Metaphysics, Ethics, Church History, Practical or Pastoral Theology, Hebrew, N.T. Greek, Criticism, Theology (including Apologetics, Systematic Theology, Historical Theology and Comparative Religion). Elocution is also taught. The course is three years. There is a hope of making Hebrew and N.T. Greek two separate Chairs and of appointing some lectureships. Four or five Chairs regarded as sufficient.

*Divinity School, Yale University.*—Seven Chairs, viz., (1) Practical Theology, (2) Theory and Practice of Missions, (3) Biblical Theology, (4) N.T. Criticism and Interpretation, (5) Philosophy of Religion and of Religious Education, (6) Ecclesiastical History, (7) Systematic Theology. In addition there are instructors in Semitic Languages, Biblical Literature, Elocution, Hebrew Language and Literature and N.T. Greek, Social Problems, Comparative Study of Religion, Philosophy, Economic History, Principles and History of Education, Ethics and the Philosophy of Religion, &c. The course of study prescribed depends upon the kind of work the student proposes to qualify for. The different courses or departments are—A. Pastoral Service, three years; B. Missions, three years; C. Religious Education, three years' course with fifteen hours per week; D. Social Service, three years' course; E. History and Philosophy of Religion. All departments except A. have sub-divisions.

*Divinity School, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.*—Six Chairs, viz., (1) Theology (two Professors), (2) Ecclesiastical History, (3) History of Religion, (4) Hebrew and other Oriental Languages, (5) Divinity, (6) Christian Morals; and lecturers or instructors in Church History, Public Speaking, Semitic Languages, Education, Music.

Associated with Harvard University there are also six Andover Chairs, viz., (1) Biblical Theology, (2) N.T. Interpretation (3) Ecclesiastical History, (4) Systematic Theology, (5) Hebrew Language and Literature, (6) Practical Theology, and a Lectureship in Church History.

Like Yale it accepts the elective system of studies, depending on the work intended by the student. The length of ordinary course is three years.

*The Union Theological Seminary, New York, U.S.A.*—The subjects taught are, Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, Philosophy and History of Religion, Systematic Theology, Christian Ethics, Religious Education, Theological Encyclopedia and Symbolics, and Practical Theology, including Homiletics, Pastoral Theology, Polity, English Bible, &c., constituting in all, apparently, nine Chairs. There is a new endowment for a Chair in Christian Institutions. The course is three years, and a student must be in residence three years to obtain the Diploma of the Seminary or the degree of B.D. No change contemplated, except a new Chair in Christian Institutions.

*The Princeton Theological Seminary, N.J., U.S.A.*—There are ten Chairs, viz., (1) The Philosophy of Religion, (2) Didactic and Polemic Theology, (3) Oriental and O.T. Literature, (4) Church History, (5) Apologetics and Christian Ethics, (6) Biblical Theology, (7) Semitic Philology and O.T. Criticism, (8) N.T. Literature and Exegesis, (9) Practical Theology, (10) Homiletics. In addition there are two Assistant Professors and there are Instructors in Elocution, Church History, New Testament, and Semitic Philology. A University degree, preferably in Arts, is the regular condition of matriculation. The regular course includes Hebrew. All students take Greek. The course is three years of approximately thirty weeks each, and sixteen hours attendance on lectures per week. The student can, at option, take the same work in four years.

*Knox College, Toronto.*—Six Chairs, viz., (1) Pastoral Theology and English Bible, (2) Church History and Government, (3) Apologetics, Christian Ethics and Homiletics, (4) Systematic Theology, (5) N.T. Literature and Exegesis, (6) O.T. Literature and Exegesis. Also a Teacher in Elocution and a Lecturer in Practical Theology. Length of course, three years. All students entering on study of Theology required to have a knowledge of Greek and Hebrew. The question is being considered whether either or both languages should be made optional. To matriculate a University degree or evidence of having completed a three years' course at a College is necessary.

#### AUSTRALIAN THEOLOGICAL HALLS.

*St. Andrew's College, Sydney.*—Three Chairs. (1) Old Testament Language and Literature, (2) Systematic Theology and Apologetics and Ethics, (3) New Testament Language and Literature and Church History, (4) Lectureship in Homiletics and Practical Theology and the English Bible, (5) Lectureship in Voice Culture and Elocution.

*Ormond College, Melbourne.*—Three Chairs, viz., (1) (a) New Testament Greek and Exegesis and (b) Christian Philosophy and Apologetics (including Comparative Religion), (2) Hebrew and Old Testament Exegesis and Practical Theology, (3) Systematic Theology (including Ethics) and Church History. Lectureships in (1) English Bible and Paideutics, (2) Elocution.

*Emmanuel College, Brisbane.*—Lectureships in (1) Old Testament Language and Exegesis, (2) New Testament Language and Exegesis, (3) Systematic Theology, (4) Church History, (5) Christian Philosophy and Apologetics, (6) Practical Theology.

## ORDER OF SUBJECTS IN COURSE.

	<i>First Year.</i>	<i>Second Year.</i>	<i>Third Year.</i>	<i>Fourth Year.</i>
C. of Scotland, Glasgow ...	N. T. Gk., Jun. Heb., Jun. Divinity, Jun. Ch. Hist.	Sen. Heb., Bib. Crit., Sen. Divinity	Hons. Heb., Bible Crit., Sen. Ch. Hist., Sen. Div.	
St. Mary's Col., St. Andrew's	Divinity and N. T., Heb., Ch. Hist.	Divinity, Sen. Heb., Biblical Criticism and N. T.	Divinity, Sen. Ch. Hist., Bible Criticism and N. T.	
New College, Edinburgh ...	Jun. Heb., Pract. Training, Nat. Sc., Apologetics.	Divinity, Sen. Heb., Jun. Exeg., Elocution.	Sen. Syst. Theol., Jun. Ch. Hist., Sen. N. T. Theol. Elocution	Practical Theology, Sen. Ch. Hist.
U. F. C. College, Glasgow...	Chr. Ethics, Jun. O. T., Jun. N. T., Nat. Sc.	Jun. Systematic, Sen. O. T., Sen. N. T.	Sen. Systematic, Jun. Ch. Hist.	Elocution, Practical Training, Sen. Ch. Hist.
U. F. C. College, Aberdeen	O. T., Apologetics, N. T., Elocution, Nat. Sc.	N. T., O. T., Ch. Hist., Elocution, Nat. Sc.	Dogmatics, Ch. Hist., Nat. Sc.	Dogmatics, Chr. Ethics, Nat. Sc.
Westminster Col., Cambridge	O. T., Dogmatics. Ch. Hist., Pract. Theol.	O. T., N. T., Ch. Hist., Pract. Theology, Voice Training.	O. T., N. T., Dogmatics, Pract. Theol., Voice Training.	
Mansfield Col., Oxford	Practically all Subjects are taken each year.			
McCrea Magee Col., London-derry	Heb. (voluntary), Ch. Hist., Ethics, Catechetics, Eloc.	Heb., Ch. Hist., Past. Theol., Bib. Crit. (N. T., Gk.), Theol., Catech., Eloc.	Heb., Bib. Crit. (with N. T. Gk.) and Interpret., Theol. & Catech., Eloc.	
Union Seminary, N. Y. ...	O. T., N. T., Syst. Theol., Other Subjs. order optional.	O. T., N. T., Syst. Theol., Homiletics.	More Advanced Courses	
Theol. Seminary, Princeton	Heb., Apol., O. T., N. T., Syst. Theol., Eng. Bible, Hom., Eloc.	Apol., O. T., Bib. Theol., Ch. Hist., Pract. Theol., Hom.	Ethics & Chr. Sociology, O. T., N. T., Bib. Pract. and Syst. Theol., Hom.	In a four years' course the subjects are differently arranged.
Div. School, Yale ...	O. T., N. T., Ch. Hist., Art of Preaching, Voice Training, Rhetor., Extra Elective Subjects for special work.	Syst. Theol., N. T., Ch. Hist., Past. Theol., Hom., Vocal Expr., Rhetoricals, For. Mission Fields, Extra Elective Subjects.	Bib. Theol., Ch. Hist., Preaching, Hom., Liturgics, Public Speaking, Rhetor., Miss. Adminstr. Home Base, Extra Elective Subjects.	

ORDER OF SUBJECT IN COURSE.—Continued.

	<i>First Year.</i>	<i>Second Year.</i>	<i>Third Year.</i>	<i>Fourth Year.</i>
Knox College, Toronto	O.T., N. T., Apol., Ch. Hist., Syst. Theol., Pract. Train. & Missions, Education, Hom., Elocution.	O. T., N. T., Apol., Ch. Hist., Syst. Theol., Hom., Pract. Train. and Missions.	O. T., N. T., Ch. Hist., Syst. Theol., Chr. Ethics, Hom., Pract. Train. and Missions, Vocational Courses.	
Divinity School, Harvard ...	Wide option is allowed as to order but Students are advised to take Introductory Courses in Rel. of Israel, N. T. Ch. Hist., Hist. of Rel., Soc. Ethics and Theism as early as possible and it is recommended not to take Syst. Theol. before second year and that it be preceded by the Hist. of Chr. Thought.			

N.B.—In all the above Colleges the time devoted to each subject is proportionate to its relative importance

AUSTRALIAN THEOLOGICAL HALLS.

	<i>First Year.</i>	<i>Second Year.</i>	<i>Third Year.</i>	<i>Fourth Year.</i>
St. Andrew's College, Sydney	O. T., N. T., Syst. Theol., Ch. History, Homiletics, English Bible, Voice Culture and Elocution.	Sen. O. T., Sen. N. T., Ch. Hist., Apologetics, Syst. Theol., Homiletics and English Bible.	Sen. N. T., Apologetics, Ch. Hist., Syst. Theol., Pastoral Theology, Homiletics and English Bible	
Ormond College, Melbourne	O. T., N. T., Apol., Comparative Religion, Chr. Ethics, Syst. Theol., Ch. Hist., English Bible and Paidentics.	Homiletics, Pastoral Theology, English Bible and Paidentics and Senior Classes in the other subjects of First Year.	Same Subjects as Second Year except Apologetics.	
Emmanuel College, Brisbane	O. T., N. T., Ch. Hist., Syst. Theol., Apologetic, Practical Training.	Practical Training Continued and Senior Classes in other Subjects.	Same Subjects as Second Year.	

The Assembly is under special obligations to the following, who so courteously answered the inquiries, viz. :—

- Rev. Chas. R. Brown, M.A., Divinity School, Yale, New Haven, Conn.  
 Rev. Prof. J. Denney, D.D., United Free Church College, Glasgow.  
 Rev. Prof. R. H. F. Dickey, D.D., Londonderry.  
 Rev. Prof. W. W. Fenn, D.D., Harvard, Cambridge, Mass.  
 Rev. Prof. Chas. R. Gillett, D.D., Union Seminary, New York.  
 Rev. Principal A. Gandier, D.D., Knox College, Toronto.  
 Rev. Principal J. Iverach, D.D., United Free Church College, Aberdeen.  
 Rev. Prof. A. Martin, D.D., New College, Edinburgh.  
 Rev. Paul Martin, A.B., Registrar, Princetown, N. J., U.S.A.  
 Rev. Prof. G. Milligan, D.D., Glasgow.  
 Rev. Prof. J. Skinner, D.D., Westminster College, Cambridge.  
 Mr. Norman H. Smith, M.A., Bursar, Mansfield College, Oxford.  
 Rev. Principal A. Stewart, D.D., St. Mary's College, St. Andrew's.

It will be noted that various divisions of Theology are treated as distinct, *e.g.*, Systematic, Biblical, Pastoral, Polemic, and Practical. In some of the colleges Systematic is not begun until the second year. The following subjects receive attention in one or other of the colleges, viz., Liturgics, English Bible, Foreign Mission Field, Home Base, Christian Sociology, Practical Training, Education, History of Religion, Social Ethics, Natural Science, Syriac, Arabic, Semitic Philology, Church Praise, Metaphysics, Comparative Religion, Philosophy of Religion, History of Religion, Church Polity, Social Problems.

Such of these as might be thought most valuable, and are not already dealt with in our Theological Halls, could be overtaken by short courses of lectures given by special lecturers.

A comparative view of the work done in the various colleges shows that what is regarded as most essential in a theological curriculum is already being overtaken in the course we are following, which might be in some respects re-arranged but not curtailed, and that no more work could be introduced without additional teachers.

JOHN MATHEW,

Convener.

#### XIV.

#### REPORT ON "OFFICAL ORGAN."

This Committee had no opportunity of meeting before the White Book was put together, and naturally has not been able to do very much in pursuance of its appointment. The Convener contributed an article "An Australian Presbyterian Paper" to the "Presbyterian Banner" (S.A.). Copies of this were forwarded to all members of the Committee, with a letter inviting suggestions and criticisms. On the suggestion of the first member who replied, a reprint was obtained, and the article more widely circulated, with a similar request.

The replies, although not very numerous, were yet very representative and valuable. In the opinion of some, the present arrangements which exist for the circulation of the "Messenger" in four States might be extended to the remaining two, and thus the "Messenger" might become the Official Organ of the Australian Assembly. But, on the other hand, others deplored the absence in that paper of the Australian note, and the absence of such Interstate Presbyterian news as is indispensable to a Commonwealth paper. It was contended also that the Church official organ must come more directly under the control of the Church it represented.

Generally speaking, the importance of some organ to voice Australian Presbyterianism was insisted on. A protest was made against adding one more to the rather large number of publications which loyal Presbyterians are expected to buy. That would, of course, be disarmed if some of these could be amalgamated.

In reply to communications sent to the United States and Canada as to Church papers there, much valuable information was given. It seems to be very widely the case that the provision of general reading matter of a religious nature is left in the hands of private publishers, though their publications are recognised by the Church. But every large Presbyterian Church has its own official organ to advocate its own work. This is generally a monthly, but is always the property of the Church, and also a responsibility of the Church. The starting of such a monthly as an Australian organ was advocated strongly in one communication, or, as an alternative, the publishing of an "inset" that could be made the body for the many congregational papers that are issued, and for the official organs of the smaller States.

On behalf of the Committee,

J. R. FIDDIAN.

## XV.

### REPORT OF THE IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE.

The Committee appointed at the last General Assembly has pleasure in presenting its first report. In doing so the attention of the Assembly is drawn to the fact that the Committee appears amongst the Standing Committees, without any minute recorded to that effect, or any alteration of Chapter V. of the Code of Rules which names the Standing Committees of the Assembly.

The Executive members of the Committee, with Headquarters in Melbourne, were Revs. J. T. Lawton (Convener); W. Thomson (Corresponding Convener); Messrs. D. Macmillan and J. A. Robertson (Hon. Secretary). Several changes have taken place. The Convener was removed to Sydney, and Mr. Macmillan has been acting in the interim. Mr. J. A. Robertson has been called to higher service. We desire to minute the Committee's highest appreciation of his faithful and generous services, for he gave very much of his strength to this work while he had the privilege of serving the Church on the Committee.

The Committee early established communication with the various State Committees, and a uniform schedule was decided upon, and half-yearly reports were asked from the States. A pamphlet was prepared and sent to Great Britain, where it was printed and distributed through Dr. Milne Rae, of the United Free Church, Edinburgh. Dr. Milne Rae agreed to do what was in his power, and to notify the various State Representatives of those who were emigrating. So far as can be ascertained there have been very little practical results accruing from this method, and your Committee regret that the Home Churches have not appointed Chaplains on boats carrying large numbers of immigrants.

The following statistics have been supplied from the various States:—

NEW SOUTH WALES.					
	1913.		1914.		Total
	Jan. to Dec.	Jan. to June.	Jan. to June.	Jan. to Dec.	
Number of Steamers	80	23			103
Number of Presbyterians	715	195			910
Number reported to Ministers	339				339
Number otherwise advised and assisted	104				104
VICTORIA.					
Number of Steamers	64	23			87
Number of Presbyterians	2,352	520			2,872
Number reported to Ministers	2,055	447			2,502
Number otherwise advised and assisted	952	531			1,483
Men and lads engaged for farm work	344	274			618



No definite Statistics are forthcoming from Queensland, South Australia, or Western Australia.

During 1913, Mr. Thomson, who has done signal service for the Victorian Church, visited Sydney and Brisbane, with a view to securing co-operation amongst the Agents of the various Denominations. He was cordially received by all, and a movement was set on foot in each place for such co-operation. The Melbourne Committee further placed its services at the disposal of both the Sydney and Brisbane Committees, but the offer has not been availed of as might have been expected. It is only through close co-operation of the various State Committees that the work can be thoroughly and effectively done. A comparison of the statistics will show how necessary co-operation is.

Early in the year Mr. Thomson, at the request of the Victorian Government, left for Great Britain, with a view to placing the advantages of Australia before those—especially in Scotland—who would be likely to prove useful on the land. Mr. Thomson expects to return to Australia in November.

In conclusion, the Committee would urge upon the various State Assemblies to closely co-operate in order that really effective work may be done, and a cordial welcome extended to all Presbyterians who come to settle amongst us.

The Victorian Convener, owing to his removal to Sydney, intimates his resignation from the Joint Convenership.

On behalf of the Committee,

ROBT. CRAIG,

JOHN T. LAWTON,

Joint Conveners.

## XVI.

### REPORT ON NAVAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS.

The principal work undertaken by the Committee since its appointment was the organising of "Naval and Military Affairs" Committees in connection with the State Churches. Where special committees were not appointed, the work was placed in charge of one of the Standing Committees, so that naval and military affairs are now receiving, throughout the whole Church, the attention that the subject deserves.

To complete the organisation in the naval department your Committee selected for nomination certain ministers for the position of Port-Chaplain. These names were forwarded to the Moderator of the General Assembly, to be submitted by him to the nominating Committee.

Recently the Military Chaplaincy work has been re-organised by the Military authorities. Representatives of the Anglican and Methodist Churches, and the Moderator of our General Assembly, met a representative of the Military Board in conference, and a scheme was drawn up and adopted. Your Committee had no opportunity of considering this scheme, although the Conference agreed that it should be submitted to each Church for consideration. One grave defect of the regulations is that the right of the General Assembly of Australia to appoint its own Chaplain-General, and the right of the State Assemblies to appoint their own Senior Chaplains has been withheld. As the regulations are meanwhile only provisional, the Committee thinks that the Assembly should take steps to secure an amendment so that they shall have the power to control all nominations and appointments.

The importance of naval and military affairs in the Commonwealth, intensified at the present moment by the dreadful war, in which the British nation is to-day unhappily engaged, necessitates the continuance of the Committee, but while the scope of its work should be clearly defined, it should, at the same time, be clothed with power sufficient to enable it to cover the whole ground of administration. This alone will make for efficiency.

For the Committee,

JAMES JACKSON,

Convener.

## XVII.

REPORT OF COMMISSION ON TRANSFERENCE OF PENOLA  
PRESBYTERY FROM VICTORIAN TO SOUTH AUSTRALIAN  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Owing to the Rev. John Ferguson not being able to carry out his commission with the Rev. D. A. Cameron to visit the Penola Presbytery, it was suggested that the Rev. John Barnaby, Convener of the Victorian Home Mission Committee, should take up the duty, and this he agreed to do.

The Rev. Thos. Tait, of Adelaide, was also asked by the Commission, and consented to be an associate for the visitation.

Meanwhile the State Assembly of Victoria had been approached *re* the position of the ministers in regard to the Victorian Beneficiary Funds if their congregations in South Australia in the Penola Presbytery were transferred. The Victorian State Assembly agreed that such ministers should remain on the Victorian Beneficiary Funds, without loss of increment, if the Penola Presbytery paid £5 annually for each minister.

The Presbytery prepared an itinerary for the Commissioners, but at a meeting held shortly before the visitation, appointed deputies to the General Assembly of Australia, and instructed them to strenuously oppose the transference. The Revs. John Barnaby and D. A. Cameron thereupon declined to visit the congregations.

The Commission recommend that no further action be taken.

DONALD A. CAMERON,

Acting Convener.

## XVIII.

## REPORT OF CODE COMMITTEE.

I. As regards the remit to this Committee by last Assembly to draft an Overture relative to proposed Rule 7, brought up by the Committee on Spiritual Independence (Minute 61), your Committee, seeing that these Rules had by the General Assembly of 1910 been remitted to Presbyteries and Assemblies, does not consider that any Overture is necessary, but that this Assembly may deal with the Rule as it thinks fit.

However, if the Rule is passed, your Committee thinks that there would be a seeming inconsistency with Rule 3 of the Chapter on Discipline, and would therefore overture the General Assembly as follows:—

That the following words be added to Rule 3 of the Chapter on Discipline, viz. :—

“ Provided that nothing in this Rule shall be held to prevent or prejudice the exercise of the original jurisdiction of the General Assembly or any State Assembly ”;

and that this proposed addition be sent down to Presbyteries

II. As regards the Petition from the Presbytery of Hobart (Minute 99), your Committee reports that the opinion of the Procurator is as follows :—

“ In my opinion, when the provisions of the Deed of Union between the Presbyterian Churches of Victoria and Tasmania came into operation in respect of questions as to the constitution of Presbyteries and their due representation in the State General Assembly, the law of the Tasmanian Church ceased to be operative and the law of the Victorian Church at once came into effect.

“ The Presbyteries and Sessions of the Church are the only subordinate bodies that in my opinion have representative rights.

“ In the representative constitution of Presbyteries and General Assemblies the principle of equality of representation as between Ministers and Elders has always been recognised by the Church.

“ The provision of Article III. of the Articles of Agreement that ‘The General Assembly shall be representative, and shall consist of an equal number of Ministers and Elders,’ is, in my opinion, simply declaratory of what has ever been a rule of the Church.

“ JOHN GARLAND.”

The Law Agents concur in this opinion.

Your Committee therefore recommends that the Petition should be answered in accordance with the opinion.

GEORGE TAIT.

## DECLARATION AND RULES RELATIVE TO SPIRITUAL INDEPENDENCE.

### DECLARATORY STATEMENT.

Whereas recent decisions affecting the relations of the administration and discipline of the Church to the Civil Courts have been given by the Civil Courts in the Commonwealth of Australia :

And whereas the Presbyterian Church of Australia is directly interested in such decisions :

It seems good and necessary to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to make a Declaration on this matter, lest the Church be assumed to acquiesce in any infringement of the Crown Rights of Christ within His own Church as declared in the standards of the Church, or in any infringement of the essential principles of Presbyterianism as held by Presbyterian Churches throughout the world.

Accordingly the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia hereby declares as follows :—

(I) That the General Assembly holds, in accordance with the Word of God and the Westminster Confession of Faith as accepted by this Church :

(a) That God has ordained Civil Magistrates, to be under Him, over the people for His own glory and the public good, and the Church has ever been instant

in teaching the people to pray for the Sovereign of the realm, and all who under him administer the government, to honour their persons, to obey their lawful commands, and to be subject to their authority for conscience' sake.

- (b) That the Lord Jesus has instituted His Church in the world as a society of His believing people, to which He has promised His own presence and Spirit to guide and rule the Church to the glory of His holy name and the advancement of His kingdom upon earth; and this Church of the Lord Jesus is distinct from the kingdoms of this world, both in its origin and its nature, and not subject to them in spiritual affairs.
- (c) That the Lord Jesus, as King and Head of His Church, has therein appointed a government and jurisdiction, in the hands of Church Officers, distinct from the Civil Magistrate. With this distinct jurisdiction, which is directly from Christ, the only King and Head of His Church, the Civil Magistrate has no lawful right to interfere or to assume to himself any authoritative control over the same. This jurisdiction comprehends the determining, interpreting, changing, adding to, modifying its constitution and laws, its subordinate standards and Church formulas; the preaching of the Word; the administration of the Sacraments; the exercise of ecclesiastical discipline, including the admission and exclusion of members, and the ordination, induction, and suspension, or deposition of office-bearers; and generally all matters touching the doctrine, worship, discipline, and government of the Church.
- (d) That all matters coming within the jurisdiction of the Church, as defined above, office-bearers and members of the Church are bound to abide by the decision of the Church Courts, and recourse to Civil Courts against any decision of the Church in these matters, or against the execution thereof, is excluded.

(2) That Christ, having established His Church and appointed a distinct government and jurisdiction therein, the maintenance of the spiritual freedom of the Church specially concerns His honour and dignity, as the Church's only Head and Ruler.

(3) That, while the Church claims to be in the spiritual sphere under no authority other than that of Christ, whose mind and will is it bound earnestly to seek to know and obediently to follow, it makes no claim to infallibility of interpretation as to the mind and will of Christ in any particular case, any more than the Civil Magistrate claims to be infallible in his own sphere; yet such absence of infallibility in either case does not warrant the intrusion of the Church into the sphere of the Civil Magistrate or of the Civil Magistrate into the sphere of the Church.

#### DECLARATION REGARDING THE NOBILE OFFICIUM.

Whereas the Presbyterian Church of Australia, in accordance with the word of God and the Westminster Confession of Faith, as accepted by this Church, recognises "no other Head of the Church but the Lord Jesus Christ" and whereas by the Articles of Agreement contained in the Deed of Union of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, it is, among other things, provided that the General Assembly of the said Church shall have functions—legislative, administrative, and judicial—supreme with regard to the doctrine, worship and discipline of the Church; and whereas questions have arisen as to the nature and extent of such functions and as to their exercise:

#### NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DECLARED.

(1) That the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, as the supreme legislative, administrative, and judicial Court of the Church in those matters which have been or may hereafter be assigned to its jurisdiction, claims and possesses

the extraordinary (equitable) jurisdiction inherent in every supreme governing authority, commonly known as the Nobile Officium.

(2) That, while the limits of this inherent right cannot be drawn beforehand, as from its nature it must be exercised at the dictates of conscience, illuminated by the influence and the Spirit of the Head of the Church, its exercise would be mainly in the direction of validating or correcting errors of procedure in the lower Courts of the Church ; dealing with and disposing of any matter not specifically provided for in the laws or rules made by the Church ; providing remedies for wrongs to individual members of the Church for the remedying of which there is no provision ; restraining the application of any rule or law which would press with undue severity upon any member of the Church ; and redressing any wrong to the Church for which no statutory or other provision had been made.

3. That this inherent power shall be exercised by the General Assembly alone, in those matters which belong to its jurisdiction ; but in any case in which the Judicial Commission considers that a matter before it calls for the exercise of this power, the Judicial Commission shall refer the case to the General Assembly, under whose express authority only this inherent power can be exercised by the Judicial Commission.

4. That nothing in the foregoing shall interfere with the State Assemblies in the exercise of the Nobile Officium in matters in which they are supreme.

#### RULES TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE DECLARATORY STATEMENT ON THE SPIRITUAL FREEDOM OF THE CHURCH.

1. That the following Rules and all other Rules and any forms heretofore or hereafter to be made or prescribed by the General Assembly shall regulate and guide the several Courts and Judicatories, Congregations, members and Office-bearers of the Church, in their respective proceedings ; but such Rules and forms are not to be regarded as laws which can in no instance be added to or deviated from, but as indications of what is considered by the Church to be the ordinary method of procedure in the cases and under the circumstances to which the Rules and forms refer, and are not to be held as limiting or prejudicing the Nobile Officium of the General Assembly, or of any State Assembly, in dealing with any matter in which it is the supreme authority of the Church.

2. That every office-bearer, member, and adherent of the Church is subject to the Church in the exercise of its functions relating to doctrine, worship and discipline, and shall be deemed to have agreed to submit to every decision of the Court of the Church which has proper cognisance of the matter in question—whether such decision shall involve any question as to the meaning or effect of the Constitution, or of any Rules or Regulations of the Church, or as to the jurisdiction of the said Court to deal with the matter in question or otherwise, and every such decision shall be valid and final, unless upon an appeal to a Higher Court of the Church it shall be reversed or varied by such Higher Court.

3. That any office-bearer, member, or adherent of the Church who shall bring any action or suit against any Court of the Church, or any member of any such Court, to compel any act to be done or in respect of, or to set aside or restrain, or have declared null and void, any act done or proposed to be done or decision come to by such Court, in the exercise of its functions relating to doctrine, worship, or discipline, shall be guilty of contumacy, and if he shall be a Minister or Elder shall also be guilty of a breach of his ordination vow.

4. That an act of contumacy may be dealt with summarily by the Court against the authority of which the offence has been committed, and punished at the discretion of the Court.

5. That nothing in these Rules shall apply to any action brought to determine the civil effects of the decisions and sentences of the Church, nor shall any one be debarred by these Rules from raising an action for civil damages for an alleged infringement of his civil rights provided that any person who is or shall be entitled to hold or occupy any property or receive any emolument by virtue of a spiritual office or position in the Church shall on ceasing to hold, or on being removed from such office or position by any any Court of the Church, cease to be entitled to hold or occupy such property or receive such emolument.

6. That the General Assembly, and every State Assembly, has original jurisdiction in every matter and case of discipline, and may either remit the matter or case to an inferior Court, or deal with and dispose of it by the direct exercise of its own authority, subject to the provisions of Rule 34 of the Precedure in regard to Discipline.

7. That nothing in these Rules, or in the Rules as to Procedure in regard to Discipline, shall be deemed to take away the right of any State Assembly in the exercise of its administrative functions, and, according to its own Rules, to dissolve the pastoral tie between the Minister and his congregation.

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XIX.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT, AUSTRALIAN INLAND  
MISSION, 1914.

In laying down the commission given me two years ago, I wish to thank most heartily all those who have laboured so earnestly in the interests of the A.I.M., and to express appreciation for countless kindnesses received in many wanderings in various States.

There has been a real wave of sympathy for our Australian movement, and we are profoundly grateful to God for a visitation of His Spirit in many hearts.

But my feelings are mingled, indeed. It must not be thought that the A.I.M. is yet approaching completion. We have laid the keel; we have added a rib or two here and there; we are steadily assembling material for the rest. That is all.

As to my own work during the last two years, I would say—changing my metaphor—that I have not accomplished any serious campaign.

I have conducted a series of skirmishes, both in the Home Bases and The Field. I have used the opportunity to take observations, and have throughout done a deal of thinking, in the midst of miscellaneous duties, including preaching, lecturing, and writing.

The difficulties confronting us, the task looming up, and my own recommendations towards overtaking all, have been incorporated in a long statement just presented to the Committee.

Owing to larger requests than expected from Queensland and Western Australia, our task promises to become much greater than originally outlined in my report of 1912.

There is no likelihood, however, that more than £5,000 a year will be called for within the next two years, and the problem of ultimate extension will be best left for future consideration.

In the statement referred to I have taken up the position that, while we can win no hasty success, yet there is a silent, spontaneous growth of interest and power throughout our Church, which, under wise, patient leadership of Ministers and other workers, will enable all to be accomplished in due course.

Our attainments to date must be considered with caution.

Both optimists and pessimists must beware lest they be betrayed by things which do appear. We cannot yet say whether the actual happenings are the evidence of a passing fancy, born of a love of the novel, or the first reluctant expressions of a people slow to hear, slow to hearken, slow to move forward, and—slow in proportion to turn back.

After all our enthusiastic Assembly declarations, publication of elaborate reports and magazines, formation of committees, campaigns in Church meetings and public demonstrations, deluges of circulars, and individual canvassing for funds; after all our patriotic Church talk, and writings of the needs of workers in Inland Areas—

**We have increased the number of Church workers in Inland areas by Two men "and a quarter"!!**

i.e., we have now, in addition to places taken over from South Australia and Western Australia, two new stations, viz., Central Australia and Northern Territory, with one man in charge of each; and a quarter share of expense and honor in the United Mission on the East-West Railway—eastern end.

Certainly not much to boast about.

Expressed in terms of money, we who started out to raise a fund of £5,000 a year have a record to date—approximately as follows:

Six months to 31st March, 1913 (purely preliminary effort)	... ..	about £750
Twelve months to 31st March, 1914	... ..	£2,350
Five months to 1st September, 1914	... ..	£1,120

Also not, on the face of it, a very brilliant performance.

But we must look beneath the surface of things. Doing this we immediately find evidence of much to be deeply grateful for, much to justify very great hope.

**First.**—We have engaged five excellent new workers—3 experienced Ministers, one layman, and one deaconess-nurse. (The three places we took over were all vacant, or about to become vacant, at time of transfer). The Union worker was found by our Methodist friends.

**Second.**—In Ormond, St. Andrew's, and Emmanuel Colleges eyes are turned our way, and it is more than probable that the Challenge of the Inland will be taken up by several students when their training days are over.

Several ordained Ministers are very thoughtful, but not many feel free to enter; others rather shrink back in self-disparagement on the mistaken ground that "heroes" are required. We are faced with a serious difficulty, though not, I hope, insuperable.

Then among trained nurses and women in general there is an extremely encouraging attitude towards the Inland Mission. Here is concrete evidence:

One most experienced nurse has for a time been cherishing the hope of volunteering for A.I.M. work in a year or so when certain present obligations end.

One definite volunteer, Sister Haines, tested and proved in the two principal hospitals of Western Australia for three years since completing her general training, is about to enter the Queen's Home, Adelaide, to complete her preparation for Inland work.

Another nurse, of promising character, will enter the Queen's Home almost simultaneously with settled intention to volunteer at a later date.

Miss G. Innes, now training in Brisbane Hospital (sister of Dr. Flora Innes, of Sholinghur) and Miss Hepburn, a prominent member of the Young Women's Bible Class Union of Victoria, now training at Austin Hospital, Heidelberg, have both volunteered definitely for future service.

Another definite volunteer is Miss Inglis, of Port Adelaide, who expects to enter training this year.

Besides these, there are many whose hearts are with us, though they are not now, and never may be, free to go forth in person. Every month I come into contact with some new friend in the nursing world, some in very responsible positions. Their help has proved so valuable and so hearty that I have no doubt whatever of the ultimate and brilliant success of the nursing department of the A.I.M.

**Third.**—Committees have been formed in most of the States co-operating with those formally appointed by last Assembly. Organisation is by far the best in Victoria, but slowly other States are falling into line. The work of women is as usual proving invaluable.

**Fourth.**—The idea of an "Inland Brigade" seems to have caught on—not only among our own people, but also among outsiders.

One man who didn't know where to be relieved of his pound, turned out to be an Anglican, who dropped in accidentally at our meeting. The first subscriber in Tasmania was a Methodist gentleman. Two men who never go to church, and one who goes on principle and stays away in practice, came in and pressed their money on us as permanent supporters. An Anglican lady, who saw the *Inlander* at her sister's house, and an Anglican business man whose copy was picked up on the bookstall and read during a holiday journey, sent £5 each, and a Church of England Girls' Grammar School also appears as a "Group" contributing £2/2/-.

One of our helpers sent the Magazine to a Methodist relative, who lent it to a Congregational neighbour, who promptly joined the Inland Brigade as contributor of £10.

Whether these instances are isolated cases—mere accidents—or symptoms of a great well of sympathy, a reserve of power only waiting to be drawn on more fully as the days go by, I am not in the position to say.

Several Ministers have assured me that their people are becoming more serious in their support, but only time can tell.

**Fifth.**—Figures, small enough in themselves, already demonstrate a significant development.

Take the result in New South Wales for 1913-4, viz., £600, as against £1,634 in Victoria.

On the surface the comparison is most discouraging.

But our brethren in New South Wales are the first to admit that their Home Mission movement generally is not as strong a department as it should be, and they are now very industriously extending and developing force.

Meantime, we must not neglect the significance of this success, for it is a success.

The general Home Mission contribution from the Home base in New South Wales, amounted in 1913-14 to £1,515; i.e., in giving £600 to the A.I.M. the people of the Mother State increased their contributions to Australian Missions by 39%, and that in a year when all plans were upset, and enormous business losses entailed, by small-pox in the metropolis; and when the minds and pockets of our people there were disturbed by the sudden letting loose of three new Church organisers—for Sustentation, Foreign Missions, and Capital Fund of £30,000.

Certainly the result in Victoria looks prettier, and by it alone were we enabled to extend as we did. But the fact stands clear, nevertheless: with comparatively little effort New South Wales' total Home Mission Giving was increased by 39% in a year of considerable embarrassment, and this is a result not to be ashamed of even alongside the splendid response from Victoria, which figures out at a trifle over 43 per cent.

In Western Australia our movement was upset by war and drought both maturing suddenly and unexpectedly. There the brethren aimed at £200, a little more than their fair proportion of the £5,000.

The estimated result, when I left was a trifle over £200, but we must not complain should some hopes fail to mature now. Cash actually in hand at that date, speaking from memory, included following amounts from individual congregations:—

£44, £20, £17, £13, £7, £5, £10, £3, £1 (unvisited Mission Station).

No serious effort has yet been made, really, in South Australia and Tasmania, but a few odd amounts have come to hand from these States.

In Queensland results are small yet, as is only to be expected with the mind of that Church centred on its College Fund and local difficulties, but, when the A.I.M. redeems its promise shortly by opening one or two stations in Western Queensland, we may look forward to an increasingly generous response from a State which already



gives more per communicant for its own Home Missions than either of the older neighbours.

Small, then, as is the record of formal accomplishments, we have considerable grounds to justify hope of an increasing rate of progress in the future.

I may add that the *Inlander* has been founded nearly a year, and the fourth number is now in preparation for the press.

A system of bookkeeping so adjusted as to provide a mailing list for the Magazine and a record of exact analysed results from every State, Presbytery, and Charge or Mission Station, has been evolved, and will be easily kept posted up once we have a typiste (or share thereof) at Headquarters. The use of standard schedule forms would greatly assist the various office staffs by ensuring the inclusion of all necessary details concerning individual givers represented in large remittances.

Gradually the burden of the A. I. M. is being distributed among enthusiastic workers, and slowly the mind of the Church is grasping the greatness of the difficulty and the honour of the undertaking.

To me there is much meaning in the quiet unfolding of plans, and the steady gathering of strength during the past two years, and my confidence is strong that by next Assembly there will be an increasing rapidity of growth to refresh us all.

J. FLYNN.

## V.

### RETURNS TO REMITS.

#### (1) ANENT MARRIAGE WITH DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

*Approve* : Presbyteries of Brisbane, Townsville, Rockhampton, Maryborough, Fremantle, Perth, Monaro, Hastings, Clarence, Hawkesbury, Hunter, Illawarra, Moree, North Sydney, Richmond, Sydney, Wagga Wagga, Young, Bathurst, Belalie, Onkaparinga, Adelaide, Seymour, Geelong, Maryborough, Macedon, Hamilton, Mortlanke, Gippsland, Ballarat, Beechworth, Melbourne South, Goulburn Valley, Midlands, Launceston, Lachlan.

#### (2) ANENT TASMANIAN DEED OF UNION.

*Approve* : Presbyteries of Brisbane, Toowoomba, Rockhampton, Maryborough, Fremantle, Monaro, Hastings, Young, Richmond, Illawarra, Sydney, Onkaparinga, Adelaide, Geelong, Maryborough, Hamilton, Mortlake, Gippsland, Ballarat, Beechworth, Melbourne South, Goulburn Valley, Midlands, Launceston, Lachlan.

*Disapprove* : Presbytery of Townsville.

#### (3) ANENT RULE 7.

*Approve* : Presbyteries of Brisbane, Townsville, Toowoomba, Rockhampton, Maryborough, Monaro, Young, Richmond, Hastings, Illawarra, Sydney, Belalie, Onkaparinga, Adelaide, Maryborough, Hamilton, Mortlake, Gippsland, Ballarat, Beechworth, Goulburn Valley, Launceston, Lachlan.

*Disapprove* : Geelong.

VI.

RETURNS FROM STATE ASSEMBLIES.

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(1) ANENT MARRIAGE.

*Approve* : New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, Queensland, Victoria, (Victoria suggests that the words from "and enact" down to the words "contracting it" be omitted.)

(2) ANENT DEED OF UNION.

*Approve* : New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, Queensland, Victoria.

(3) ANENT RULE 7.

*Approve* : New South Wales, Tasmania, Queensland.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA EXPENSES FUND ACCOUNT.

DR.

AUGUST 10TH, 1912, to AUGUST 10TH, 1914.

CR.

DISBURSEMENTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Meeting in Melbourne, September, 1912.							
To Church Officer	...	4	0	0			
" " Assistant	...	2	0	0			
" Organist	...	3	3	0			
" Electric Light	...	1	0	0			
" Cartage	...	0	19	2			
" Advertising Messenger	...	0	10	0			
" " Argus, Age	...	4	12	0			
					16	4	2
" College Committee—							
Secretary's Honorarium—Rev. J. C. Coutie	...	40	0	0			
" Secretary Foreign Mission's Board—							
Rev. W. M. M. Alexander	...	1	10	0			
" Church Hymnary—							
Postages and Stationery—Rev. W. H. Ash	...	1	0	4			
Printing—Brown, Prior & Co.	...	2	0	0			
" E. H. Hume	...	2	17	4			
Stationery—W. E. Smith	...	2	4	3			
Cables—Frowde	...	2	10	6			
					10	12	5
" Immigration—							
Printing—W. Thomson	...				2	14	10
" Year Book	...				19	10	9
" Engrossing Address to His Excellency the Governor—							
General	...				10	10	0
" Printing Blue Book	...				131	0	6
" Postages per Victorian Church	...				11	14	0
" Printing for Moderator	...				3	4	0
" Printing and Stationery	...				2	16	3
" Postages and Telegrams	...				1	12	2
" Honorarium—Moderator, 1912	...	50	0	0			
" " " 1913	...	50	0	0			
					100	0	0
" Honorarium—Clerk							
					30	0	0
					381	9	1
" Balance							
					276	12	10
					£658	1	11

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Balance, 10th August, 1912	...				142	18	5
" Proportion of Expenses—							
For 1910—							
Tasmanian Church	...	22	4	6			
For 1911—							
Tasmanian Church	...	22	4	6			
For 1912—							
Victorian Church	...	76	10	0			
New South Wales Church	...	76	10	0			
South Australian Church	...	12	10	0			
Queensland Church	...	22	10	0			
West Australian Church	...	12	10	0			
Tasmanian Church	...	12	10	0			
					213	0	0
For 1913—							
Victorian Church	...	76	10	0			
New South Wales Church	...	76	10	0			
South Australian Church	...	12	10	0			
Queensland Church	...	22	10	0			
West Australian Church	...	12	10	0			
					200	10	0
					457	19	0
" Honorarium—Secretary College Committee, 1912-1913—							
Victorian Church	...	20	0	0			
New South Wales Church	...	20	0	0			
					40	0	0
" Interest to December 31st, 1913							
					13	3	1
" Interest transferred from Capital Account							
					4	1	5
					£658	1	11
By Balance							
					£276	12	10
Amount due by Tasmanian Church, 1913							
					£12	10	0

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Examined and found correct,

JAMES LITTLE, R. S. SIDEY & CO.,

Official Auditors Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.

Sydney, 11th August, 1914.







DR. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA CAPITAL FUND ACCOUNT. CR.

DISBURSEMENTS.		£ s. d.	RECEIPTS.		£ s. d.
To Interest to Expenses Account	...	4 1 5	By Balance, 31st July, 1912	...	36 2 6
„ Balance	...	34 17 8	„ Interest to 31st December, 1913	...	2 18 7
		<u>£38 19 1</u>			<u>£38 19 1</u>
			By Balance	...	£34 17 8

DR. JOHN FRAZER FOREIGN MISSIONS ENDOWMENT FUND ACCOUNT. CR.

		£ s. d.			£ s. d.
To Interest to Current Account	...	84 7 6	By Balance, 31st July, 1912	...	1,000 0 0
„ Balance	...	1,000 0 0	„ Interest 1st April, 1912, to 30th June, 1914	...	84 7 6
		<u>£1,084 7 6</u>			<u>£1,084 7 6</u>
			By Balance	...	£1,000 0 0

DR. JOHN FRAZER FOREIGN MISSIONS ENDOWMENT CURRENT ACCOUNT. CR.

		£ s. d.			£ s. d.
To Treasurer, Board of Missions—			By Interest transferred from Capital Account	...	£84 7 6
Interest to 30th June, 1914	...	£84 7 6			

DR. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA FOREIGN MISSIONS ACCOUNT. CR.

		£ s. d.			£ s. d.
To Treasurer, Foreign Missions Board (Mr. A. L. Pryde)	...	£16 6 5	By Balance, 31st July, 1912	...	£16 6 5

Examined and found correct,

Sydney, 11th August, 1914.

JAMES LITTLE, R. S. SIDNEY & CO.,

Official Auditors Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.

The first part of the book is devoted to a general history of the world, from the beginning of time to the present day. It is written in a simple and plain style, and is intended for the use of the young. The second part of the book is devoted to a description of the different parts of the world, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The third part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of animals and plants, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The fourth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of minerals, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The fifth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of metals, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The sixth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of stones, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The seventh part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of fossils, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The eighth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of shells, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The ninth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of insects, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The tenth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of birds, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The eleventh part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of fishes, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The twelfth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of reptiles, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The thirteenth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of amphibians, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The fourteenth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of mammals, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The fifteenth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of human beings, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The sixteenth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of diseases, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The seventeenth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of medicines, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The eighteenth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of surgery, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The nineteenth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of anatomy, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The twentieth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of physiology, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The twenty-first part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of psychology, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The twenty-second part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of logic, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The twenty-third part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of metaphysics, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The twenty-fourth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of ethics, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The twenty-fifth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of politics, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The twenty-sixth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of law, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The twenty-seventh part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of history, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The twenty-eighth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of geography, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The twenty-ninth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of astronomy, and is also written in a simple and plain style. The thirtieth part of the book is devoted to a description of the different kinds of natural philosophy, and is also written in a simple and plain style.



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