

W. Henry Steele

2319

MINUTES

... OF ...

PROCEEDINGS

... OF THE ...

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

... OF THE ...

Presbyterian Church of Australia.



HELD IN SYDNEY, SEPTEMBER, 1916.

SESSION ELEVENTH.

Sydney:

SAMUEL E. LEES LIMITED, PRINTERS AND STATIONERS, 68-70 WENTWORTH AVENUE.

1916.

N. H. H. State

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Presbyterian Church
of Victoria
General Assembly
Held in Melbourne
1916
Printed by the
W. J. ...

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Right Rev. the Moderator :

THE REV. R. G. MACINTYRE, M.A., B.D., SYDNEY.

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. S. ANGUS, M.A., Ph.D.

EMMANUEL COLLEGE, BRISBANE.

- The Rev. GEORGE EWAN, Lecturer in Practical Theology.
The Rev. JAMES GIBSON, M.A., Lecturer in Church History.
The Rev. RICHARD GLAISTER, M.A., B.D., Acting Lecturer in Old Testament Language and Exegesis.
The Rev. RICHARD GLAISTER, M.A., B.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.
Principal—Rev. R. GLAISTER, M.A., B.D.
Secretary of Faculty—Rev. S. MARTIN, M.A.

THEOLOGICAL HALL, PERTH.

The Rev. F. E. OXER, M.A., B.D., Lecturer in Systematic Theology and Church History.
 The Rev. G. N. DODS, M.A., Lecturer in Hebrew and O.T. Exegesis.
 The Rev. W. H. STEELE, M.A., Lecturer in N.T. Greek and Exegesis.
 The Rev. A. CROW, Lecturer in Apologetics.
 The Rev. D. ROSS, Lecturer in English Bible.
 Principal—Rev. F. E. OXER, M.A., B.D.

EXAMINERS.

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

Scrip. and Shorter Catechism—Rev. HENRY G. JONES, M.A., and A. S. MCCOOK, M.A.
 English—Revs. A. R. OSBORN, M.A., and J. H. TERRAS.
 Hebrew—Revs. M. MCQUEEN, M.A., and D. M. BARNET, B.A.
 Greek—Revs. TULLOCK YUILLE, M.A., B.D., and R. NAIRN, M.A.
 History—Revs. D. MACRAE STEWART and G. DAVIDSON, M.A., D.D.
 Moral Philosophy—Revs. KARL FORSTIER, M.A., and J. EDWARDS, M.A.
 Mental Philosophy—Revs. H. KELLY, M.A., and W. GRANT-FORSYTH.
 English Literature—Revs. E. E. BALDWIN, M.A., and J. SCOTT-MACDONALD, M.A.

EXIT EXAMINATION.

Theology—Revs. W. BORLAND, M.A., B.D., 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. J. HOLT, M.A., B.D., and H. M. BURNS, M.A., B.D.
 Apologetics—Revs. W. G. MACONOCHE, 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. ÆNEAS 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 STEELE, B.A.
 Moral Philosophy—Revs. A. I. DAVIDSON, M.A., and G. CHALMERS.

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Perth—February 13, 1917, and March 27, 1917.

H. M. EXAMINATION.

July 3, 1917.

EXIT EXAMINATION.

September 3, 1917.

NOTANDA.

Special attention is directed to the following matters :—

PLACE and **DATE** of Meeting of next Assembly : At **Melbourne**, on the Fourth **Thursday** of September, 1918, at 10 a.m.

Committees meet on preceding Tuesday and Wednesday.

INSTRUCTIONS, &c.

State Assemblies	Minutes 82, 99, 138	72
Presbyteries	Minute 82	72
Ministers	Minutes 21, 122	
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Committees—

College	Minute 109
State Foreign Mission Committees	Minute 119
Public Questions .....	....	....	....	....	Minute 15
Reception of Ministers .....	....	....	....	....	Minute 126

Presbyterian Church of Australia.

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

SESSION ELEVENTH

*At Sydney, and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip St., on Tuesday
the 26th Day of September, 1916, at 7 p.m.*

1. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia ^{Opening.} convened, Public Worship was conducted by the Right Reverend the Retiring Moderator (Dr. Davidson), who preached from Romans 11 : 20. After sermon the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

2. The Roll of Assembly was submitted by the Clerk. The Roll ^{Roll.} was approved. It is as follows :—

NEW SOUTH WALES.

ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

BATHURST.

Rev. Charles Crane, B.A.

Mr. Charles Stewart

THE CLARENCE.

Rev. H. D. Mackie

Mr. Benjamin Morrison

GOULBURN.

Rev. George Tulloch

Mr. William Affleck

THE HASTINGS.

Rev. W. Tassie

Mr. R. Davidson

THE HAWKESBURY.

Rev. J. Steele

Mr. J. B. Brown

J. H. Craig, M.A.

K. Campbell

J. McKee

R. Cruikshank

THE HUNTER.

Rev. V. C. Duff, B.A.

Mr. H. Kerr

D. M. Benjamin

D. Sneddon

A. Smith

W. J. Borham

ILLAWARRA.

Rev. Robert Cordiner, M.A.

Mr. Malcolm Mathie

D. McKay Barnet, B.A.

Henry Anderson

MONARO.

Rev. D. B. Morris

Mr. J. C. Ryrie

MOREE.

Rev. T. F. Johanson

Mr. George Wilson

D. K. Telfer

MURRUMBIDGEE.

Rev. A. Boyd, M.A.

NEW ENGLAND.

Rev. H. S. Buntine	Mr. A. K. Cameron
W. C. Moulton	

NORTH SYDNEY.

Rev. A. McKinlay	Mr. Andrew Reid
A. Clark	Fred Wood
J. J. Gilmore, B.A.	J. Prentice

ORANGE.

Rev. H. R. Grassick	Dr. T. G. Campbell
John Calder, M.A.	Mr. George Palmer
A. D. Robertson	

RICHMOND.

Rev. J. B. Fulton	Mr John MacGregor
R. Miller, B.A.	James Barrie

SYDNEY.

Rev. J. A. Barber, B.A.	Mr. G. A. Clifton
D. F. Brandt	W. G. Geikie
F. A. Darling	W. B. Gibson
John Edwards, M.A.	R. B. Job
G. R. S. Reid, M.A.	John Mars
C. H. Talbot	John Morrison
C. A. White, B.A.	J. P. Muir
Professor Angus, M.A., Ph.D.	Henry Perdiau

WAGGA WAGGA.

Rev. J. N. McGee	Mr. W. G. Balfour
James Macandrew, M.A.	

YOUNG.

Rev. James Barr	Mr. J. Murdoch
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ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. John Burgess, D.D.	Mr. W. G. Crane
Thomas Morgan	C. E. Rennie
John Ferguson	S. J. Carruthers
James Goudie	J. H. Baifour
Professor Macintyre, B.D.	Hon. T. Brown, M.L.A.
Arthur J. Wade	Mr. John Cameron
R. Scott West	J. H. Beatson
W. Grant Forsyth	W. Wood
Angus King	John Kirkland
R. J. H. McGowan	Captain Craig
J. Kemp Bruce	Mr. W. Gillanders, B.A.
John C. McDonald, M.A.	W. S. Park

 QUEENSLAND.

ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

BRISBANE.

Rev. R. Moorhead Legate	Mr. W. Morrow
W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.	A. S. Barr
Wm. Duffy	Jno. Campbell

MARYBOROUGH.

Rev. M. Kirpatrick, B.A.	Dr. Luther Morris
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ROCKHAMPTON.

Rev. G. L. Shirreffs	Mr. C. Pateson
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TOOWOOMBA.

Rev. H. E. Hulme	Mr. Alex. Mayes
A. M. Mackillop	Wm. Chisholm

TOWNSVILLE.

Mr. James De Conlay

ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. E. N. Merrington, M.A., Ph.D. Mr. R. J. Shilliday
Jas. Cosh, B.A., B.D. Alex. S. Lang, F.I.A.Q.
Principal Richard Glaister, M.A., B.D.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

ADELAIDE.

Rev. J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc. Mr. J. Drennan
Jas. Davies T. C. McAdam

BELALIE.

Rev. T. V. Charlton Mr. George L. McEwin

ONKAPARINGA.

Rev. J. A. Ford Rev. W. Gray

ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. G. Davidson, D.D. Mr. A. L. McEwin
J. C. McPhee J. Holdsworth

TASMANIA.

ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

HOBART.

Rev. J. Heyer, M.A. Mr. John Macfarlane

LAUNCESTON.

Rev. G. H. Elliott

Mr. D. Storrer

MIDLANDS.

ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. A. D. Leckie

Mr. G. G. Meredith

VICTORIA.

ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

BALLARAT.

Rev. C. Robinson, B.A.

Mr. W. Rain

R. Thomson

A. Scott

W. J. Murray

Rev. J. G. Wilson

BEECHWORTH.

Rev. R. Robertson, M.A.,B.D.

Mr. D. Arnott

S. H. Dorman, M.A.,B.D.

Mr. N. Sutherland

BENDIGO.

Rev. G. R. Jones	Mr. J. Anderson
L. C. Vickerman	W. D. Rees
Hugh Adams	
B. T. Buntine	

FLINDERS.

Rev. Frank Butchers	Mr. D. Nail
W. R. Cunningham	Robert Gibb

GEE LONG.

Rev. W. H. McCook	Mr. R. Spiers
H. G. Jones	D. McPhee
W. H. Ash	J. Pettitt

GIPPSLAND.

Rev. H. A. Hutchison	Mr. H. Hopkins
W. W. Smith	T. J. Sharply

GOULBURN VALLEY.

Rev. J. Glyn Jones	Mr. J. G. Henderson
A. E. Harvey	A. H. Campbell

HAMILTON.

Rev. R. F. Parry	Mr. Alex. Turnbull
J. Houston	M. Millar,

MACEDON.

Rev. R. A. Green	Mr. J. Balharrie
------------------	------------------

MARYBOROUGH.

Rev. Wm. Macdermid
F. Robinson

MELBOURNE NORTH.

Rev. E. E. Baldwin, M.A.	Mr. C. J. Graham
W. Borland, M.A., B.D.	George Hossack
W. Ride	W. Michie
J. Caldwell	R. Moffat
J. A. Crockett	D. K. Picken, M.A.
J. Gibson	J. M. Scott
G. T. Willing	T. Philips
T. W. Leggatt	W. E. Watkins
J. T. Robertson, M.A.	

MELBOURNE SOUTH.

Rev. W. S. Rolland	Mr. H. D. McBean
D. M. Stewart	R. Richardson
J. Mackenzie, M.A.	R. M. Heriot
W. H. Cooper, B.D.	J. Grimshaw
G. Carson	R. A. McIlwraith
J. T. Lawton, M.A.	Rev. W. Watt
D. Ross, M.A.	W. Thomson
D. Millar	

MORTLAKE.

Rev. W. McBride	Mr. G. S. Mackay
W. D. Marshall, M.A.	Alex. Henderson

PENOLA

Rev. C. R. Houston	Mr. D. McLeod
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SEYMOUR.

Rev. J. P. Macdougall, M.A.	Mr. James Morrison
J. Garde	

WESTERN PLAINS.

Rev. A. O. Hardie, B.A.	Mr. Donald Stewart
C. E. O. Keays	

WIMMERA.

Rev. Wm. Naismith
J. Millar Smith

ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. J. Mathew, M.A., B.D.	Dr. J. H. MacFarland
George Tait, M.A.	Mr. A. L. Pryde
P. J. Murdoch, M.A.	J. M. Campbell, M.A., LL.M.
D. A. Cameron, M.A.	R. K. Gillespie
J. Gray, M.A., B.D.	H. H. Kemp
F. H. L. Paton, M.A.	D. MacMillan
J. Barnaby, M.A., B.D.	J. R. Crowther, B.A.
Professor Skene, M.A.	J. Birtchnell
R. M. Fergus, M.A.	L. K. McNab
J. C. Coutie, B.A.	A. G. Proudfoot
A. Stewart, M.A.	W. A. Sanderson, M.A., LL.M.
W. Goyen	C. McKinnon
John Walker	J. Kelso
J. Jackson	J. G. Johnstone, M.L.A.
J. A. Lee	Rev. A. McDonald, M.A.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

FREMANTLE.

Rev. W. Huey Steele, M.A.

GOLDFIELDS.

Rev. E. G. Petherick

PERTH.

Rev. R. Hanlin

Mr. T. F. Christie

SOUTHERN PRESBYTERY.

Rev. W. F. Turton

ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. Principal F. E. Oxer, M.A., B.D. Mr. W. Currie

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. R. G. Macintyre, M.A.,B.D. Professor of Systematic Theology and Apologetics in St. Andrew's College, Sydney, the nomination was approved by acclamation, and Professor Macintyre declared the Moderator of the Assembly. Professor Macintyre was conducted to the chair and delivered a suitable address.

Ex-Moderator.

4. On the motion of the Rev. Wm. Borland, seconded by the Rev. J. Gray, 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 Clerk, 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. Dr. Burgess (Convener), George Tait, P. J. Murdoch, R. M. Fergus, John Edwards, W. C. Radcliffe, Dr. Davidson, F. E. Oxe, J. Heyer, A. Stewart, Messrs. J. M. Campbell, A. G. Proudfoot, William Wood, S. J. Carruthers, A. S. Lang and Dr. MacFarland.

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 :—Rev. C. A. White (Convener), Angus King, J. Barnaby, J. Heyer, W. F. Turton, James Cosh, T. V. Charlton and Messrs. A. L. Pryde, William Wood, D. MacMillan, J. H. Balfour.

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 11.45 p.m. The following were appointed scrutineers of

the ballot, with instructions to prepare voting papers :—Messrs. S. J. Carruthers (Convener), D. K. Picken, Hon. T. Brown, A. L. Barr.

8. By leave of the House the Rev. J. Gray moved :—

That it be remitted to the Business Committee to arrange :—

(1) For a special season of Intercession for the War—if possible ^{Intercession and Conference.} this week—arrangements to be left with the Moderator.

(2) For a time of special conference on the religious life of our Church and nation in reference to the present crisis—arrangements to be made by a Committee consisting of :—Revs. C. A. White, Dr. Merrington, J. Fiddian, A. D. Leckie, F. E. Ozer, J. A. Barber, J. Gray (Convener).

The motion was seconded and approved.

9. The Rev. Dr. Burgess gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :— ^{Moderator-General.}

That the use of the term " Moderator-General," as a designation of the Moderator of Assembly, be discontinued.

10. The Rev. P. J. Murdoch gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :— ^{The War.}

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, meeting during the progress of a war unparalleled in history desire (1) to declare their firm belief in the righteousness of the cause championed by Britain and her allies and their abhorrence of the action of the Central Powers in initiating the war and of the inhuman methods they have adopted in prosecuting it ; (2) to proclaim their complete loyalty to His Majesty the King and their cordial support to his advisers and to the Government of this Commonwealth in whatever measures may be necessary to the successful conduct of the war.

Further, the Assembly, while deeply sympathising with the immeasurable distress entailed by the conflict, humbly recognise GOD'S purpose to cleanse the chastened peoples and summon them to a nobler national life ; and the Assembly urge all their people to earnest prayer and effort that this end may be achieved, and more especially that this Commonwealth may be drawn nearer to the great ideal of the Kingdom of God.

The Assembly desire to express their great gladness that the Australian people have responded so amply to the call for service. They applaud those who have gone to the front as physicians, as chaplains,

as nurses, and those who at home have given their wealth, their time and their toil in aid of the great cause. Especially they applaud those who have volunteered to hazard their lives as combatants: and they deeply sympathise with them in their efforts, their successes, their hardships and their perils. As fully do they sympathise with those who love them in their anxieties, alarms and bereavements. They earnestly pray that our soldiers, having served gallantly on the battle-field, may on their return take their part in the life of the Commonwealth with deeper earnestness, holier purpose and larger vision than they could have attained without this experience.

Finally, the Assembly exhort all the members of the Church prayerfully to consider the problems of life and service in the new era after peace has been secured, and to prepare themselves to enter on it with an assured faith that GOD will accept and guide and bless their efforts and sacrifices for the up-building of the City of GOD in this land.

11. 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.

SECOND SEDERUNT.

At Sydney, and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip St., on Wednesday, the 27th September, 1916.

Communion
Service.

12. The members of the Assembly united in a Communion Service conducted by the Moderator, assisted by the Revs. F. E. Oxe, J. Gray, John Walker, J. A. Barber, and Mr. W. Gillanders.

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

14. The Minutes of the First Sederunt were read and confirmed.

15. A communication from the Presbyterian Alliance was submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee. Alliance.

The communication was received and the Public Questions Committee authorised to give Commissions to Delegates to the next meeting of the Alliance.

16. The Report on Sites in the Federal Capital was submitted by the Rev. R. G. Macintyre, who moved :— Federal Capital.

1. That the Report be received.

2. That the Committee be authorised to take such steps as may be necessary to forward the work of the Church in the Federal Territory.

3. That the Committee be titled "The Committee on the Federal Territory."

4. That the Committee be re-appointed with the omission of the names of the Rev. Robert Steel and the Rev. C. E. James and the addition of the names of the Rev. John Walker and Mr. Wm. Affleck.

The motion was seconded and approved.

17. The motion relative to the war recorded in the first Minute was moved by the Rev. P. J. Murdoch, and seconded by the Rev. Angus King. The War

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. Professor Angus :—

That the following words be inserted in the motion between the first and second paragraph :—"The Assembly express its genuine regret at the attitude of those neutral powers, especially the United States and the Curia, who by their conduct have failed to grasp the moral issues at stake in this world conflict."

The amendment was rejected.

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

That the following words be added to (2) of the first paragraph "but this clause shall not be regarded as a declaration in favour of or against conscription."

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Finance
Committee.

18. The Report of the Finance Committee was submitted by Mr. Walter G. Crane, who moved :—

1. That the Assembly receive the Report.

2. Authorise the payment of the expenses of members travelling to the Assembly *pro rata*, as far as funds will permit, on the same basis as formerly named :—That members attending the General Assembly in September, 1914, have the following percentages of their travelling expenses paid by the Church (calculated upon the basis of second-class railway and steamer fares at the reduced rate allowed by the railway and steamship companies) proportion of steamer fares at second-class rates to be paid only where rail transit is not available, 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, the amounts to be paid *pro rata* in each section up to the amount which the funds at credit will allow.

3. Resolve that the honorarium to the Moderator be £50 per annum' and to the Clerk of Assembly £30 per Assembly.

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.

Also authorise the Assessment of £100 extra *pro rata* in the same proportion. This amount with an additional £100 to be made available from the Assembly Expenses Fund for the travelling expenses fund ; and instruct the Committee to bring up a basis for a permanent assessment and report to next Assembly.

5. Authorise the transfer of the sum of £35 16s. 2d. 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 Treasurers, of 2% for collection upon all revenue for all funds, with the exception of monies received for capital, and the income of John Fraser Foreign Mission Endowment Fund Account.

7. That the Assembly again recommend congregations throughout the Church to adopt the Church Hymnary, the abridged Hymnary and also the Australian Presbyterian School Hymnal where practicable.

8. That the payment made by the Finance Committee on behalf of the Year Book for the years 1913, 1914, 1915 and 1916, £96 15s. 5d. be confirmed. The balance of revenue to come to be placed to the credit of the General Expenses Fund.

9. That the Balance Sheet be approved.

The motion was seconded and approved.

19. The Report on Statistics was submitted by the Rev. James Steele, who moved :—

1. Receive the Report.
2. Urge the necessity of greater uniformity and care in compiling the returns.
3. Adopt the schedule of questions as tabulated.
4. Appoint the Rev. James Steele Convener and the Rev. R. W. Macaulay joint Convener.

The motion was seconded and approved

20. The Report on Beneficiary Funds was submitted by the Rev. W. Huey Steele who moved :—

1. That the Assembly receive the Report.
2. Re-appoint the Committee with the following alterations :—
The Executive to consist of the Victorian members and to meet in Melbourne.

3. Regret its inability at present to provide funds for the actuarial assistance which is recognised as necessary, but request the Committee to continue its inquiries so far as it is able to effectively do so without such assistance, and in particular to prepare an outline set of rules for a proposed Australian fund for aged and infirm ministers and the widows and orphans of ministers.

4. Instruct the Committee to communicate with the several Committees controlling beneficiary funds in the several States suggesting the inclusion in their rules of clauses giving authority to unite or cooperate with, merge in, or absorb other funds with a view to reducing the legal difficulties incidental to the establishment of a general Australian beneficiary fund.

5. Call the attention of the Committee to the wording of the overture of 1914, and instruct them to look into the experience of sister Churches in Australia.

6. Commend the work of the Committee to the interest and sympathy of the Church, and ministry in all the States.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Welfare of
Youth.

21. The Report of the Welfare of Youth Committee was submitted by the Rev. W. S. Rolland who moved :—

(1) That the Assembly receive the Report.

(2) Express its gratification with the general adoption of Graded Lessons in our Sabbath Schools, but in view of present circumstances, make no recommendation as to the introduction of any particular Scheme of Lessons to be used in all our Schools.

(3) Regret that Teacher-training has been only partially carried out, and recommend that every effort should be put forth by ministers and competent leaders to secure its general adoption.

(4) Rejoice to know that in many cases, the League of Young Worshipers has done much for the increased attendance of Sabbath-Scholars at public worship and warmly approve of its establishment wherever possible.

(5) Regard the formation of Fellowship Associations and Bible-Classes for Senior Scholars, as of the utmost importance for our young people, and hope that in some way these organisations may be brought together more closely.

(6) Recognise that in many Schools the interest in Foreign Mission work is most deep and practical but would recommend to all our Churches, the devising of some scheme by which this interest may be largely increased.

(7) Ask Ministers and Superintendents and Teachers to strengthen the link between the school and the Church, so that Senior Scholars may be found in larger numbers within the membership of the Church.

(8) Acknowledge gratefully the valuable services rendered to the young people of the Church by Superintendents, Teachers and other Sabbath School Workers, and commend them to the God of all grace

and pray that they may continue "steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord."

The further consideration of the Report was adjourned.

22. The Rev. J. T. Lawton gave notice of his intention when the Board of Missions. Report on the Board of Missions is before the House to move :—

That, in view of the rapid and momentous changes which are now taking place in non-Christian lands, the Board of Missions be instructed :—

1. To gather such information as will guide the Assembly in determining its share of responsibility towards the new situation that is being created.

2. To make full enquiries with regard to the facilities being offered by the educational policy of China to thoroughly qualified teachers of all branches of higher education, and in light of the importance and significance of such service to commend it if offering, to the Christian youth of our Church as a life work of inestimable value to the future both of China and the world.

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

THIRD SEDERUNT.

*At Sydney, and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip St., Wednesday,
the 27th September, 1916, at 7.30 p.m.*

24. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and was duly constituted.

25. The Report of the Business Committee was approved. Authority was granted to the Presbytery of Wagga Wagga to meet on the 4th October, for the induction of the Rev. John D. Walker into the Pastoral Charge of Henty. Presbytery of Wagga Wagga.

Home Mission
work.

26. By arrangement, addresses on various aspects of Home Mission work were delivered by the Revs. J. Davies, D. A. Cameron, W. Huey Steele, John Flynn, W. C. Radcliffe, and T. Morgan.

Nurse
Finlayson.

27. Nurse Finlayson, late deaconess at Oodnadatta, and Alice Springs, was introduced to the Moderator, and the Moderator conveyed to her the Assembly's appreciation of her work.

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

FOURTH SEDERUNT.

*At Sydney and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip St., on Thursday,
the 27th September, 1916, at 10 a.m.*

29. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was duly constituted.

30. The Minutes of the previous day were confirmed.

Curriculum
of Halls.

31. The Rev. W. H. Ash gave notice of his intention, when the Report of the College Committee is before the House, to move :—

(1) That it is desirable to so alter the curriculum of our Theological Halls that students, during their course, may be able to devote more time than now to the study of present-day Church organisations and modern pulpit methods ; (2) that a Committee be appointed to meet with the Theological Hall Committee, and confer as to how this may best be done ; and (3) that the Committee consist of

32. An apology for absence was received from Mr. John Campbell, of the Brisbane Presbytery.

33. The Overture relative to Petitions was submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee, who moved:—that the Overture be sustained; and the words, "A petitioner shall pay to the Finance Committee of the Assembly, through the Business Committee, a minimum fee of ten shillings and such additional sum as shall, in the judgment of the Business Committee, be necessary to defray the cost of printing his petition, such payment to be made prior to presentation of the petition to the Assembly," were added to Standing Order 104.

Petitions
cost of.

The motion was seconded by Mr. J. M. Campbell, and approved.

34. The Report of the Board of Missions was submitted by the Rev. A Stewart.

Board of
Missions.

It was moved by the Rev. F. H. L. Paton, and seconded by the Rev. T. Watt Leggatt:—

1. That the Assembly receive the Report; thank the Board of Missions for its diligence, approve generally of its conduct of the Foreign Missions of the Church, and direct it to convey the assurance of the Assembly's deepening interest in their work to the Foreign Missions Committees of the several States;

2. Regret the frequent changes that have been necessary in the staff at the Aboriginal Mission Stations, recognise cordially the painstaking labours of the Missionaries and their assistants; approve the decision of the Board to send Mr. Robert Hall of Mornington Island for Ordination to the Presbytery of Brisbane on the report of the College Committee, heartily congratulate Mr. Hall on his success in passing the examinations of his prescribed course;

Express satisfaction at the appointment of Mr. James Allan of Brisbane as a Trustee for the Mission Reserves in North Queensland, and in case of future appointments direct the Queensland Executive to submit the nomination to the Board before reporting it to the Government.

3. Acknowledge the courtesy of Captain Hadley in offering the transfer of the Sunday Island Mission to the Board on certain terms, and regret that circumstances are not propitious at present for the acceptance of the transfer.

4. Approve the distribution of the final payment from the Australian Deposit and Mortgage Bank for the relief of the States' Churches as proposed in the Report. Direct the Treasurers of the several Churches

to see that the amounts due under the scheme of assessment at last General Assembly are forwarded to the Board regularly and fully, rescind the deliverance of last Assembly relating to the payment of 2 per cent. of income to Offices of the States' Churches for services rendered, and substitute for it, direction that the Offices which render such services shall be refunded their out-of-pocket expenses. Approve of the Board issuing literature to increase interest in the work. Thank the Secretary, Treasurer, and Auditors of the Board for their faithful and valuable services, and appoint the Rev. T. Watt Leggatt, Convener in lieu of the Rev. A. Stewart, who retires.

5. Record its high appreciation of the able and earnest service of the Rev. Alex Stewart as Convener of the Board of Missions since its inception, he having been associated with the late Dr. T. R. Cairns during the early years.

6. In view of the rapid and momentous changes which are now taking place in non-christian lands, instruct the Board of Missions :—

1. To gather such information as will guide the Assembly in determining its share of responsibility towards the new situation that is being created.

2. To make full enquiries with regard to the facilities being offered by the educational policy of China to thoroughly qualified teachers of all branches of higher education, and in light of the importance and significances of such service to commend it if offering to the Christian youth of our Church as a life work of inestimable value to the future both of China and the world.

The motion was approved.

35. It was moved by the Rev John Walker :—“ That the Assembly record its appreciation of the able and earnest services of Mr. Alex. Stewart as Convener of the Board of Missions since its inception, he having been associated with the late Dr. T. R. Cairns during the early years.

The motion was seconded, approved, and the appreciation conveyed to Mr. Stewart by the Moderator.

The House sat in private.

36. It was moved by the Rev. F. H. L. Paton, and seconded by the Rev. T. Watt Leggatt :— Aurukun,
Weipa.

That the Assembly authorise the Board to terminate the present unsatisfactory situation in which the station at Aurukun is placed by the prolonged absence of its missionary the Rev. Albert Richter, and to terminate the engagement of the Missionary at Weipa, if this course should appear the most advisable in the interests of the Mission.

The motion was approved.

The House sat in open Court.

37. The Report of the Committee on the Federation of Churches Federation
of Churches. was in the unavoidable absence of the Convener, submitted by Rev. George Tait, who moved :—

That the Assembly receive the Report and in view of the fact that the Great War has added fresh urgency to the project of Union, and in view of the fact that the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches of Canada have resolved to unite, and their basis of Union is accessible, resolve—

(1) That the Committee be re-appointed, with Professor Adam as Convener and with the following omissions :—Revs. Jas. Lamont, A. R. Osborn, R. H. Roberts, J. M. R. Dale, W. Beck, J. H. Fordyce, A. S. C. James, Messrs. D. Ewart, Geo. Hall, A. McKellar, J. S. Sword, Geo. Stupart, R. Gilchrist ; and the following additions :—Revs. Dr. Burgess, J. T. Robertson, J. Mackenzie, D. Ross, W. Goyen, W. Borland, J. Gray, J. B. Galloway, Dr. Merrington, Principal Glaister, J. A. Seymour, and Mr. H. B. Thompson.

(2) That the various drafts of a Basis of Union submitted to past Assemblies, and the suggestions received from State Assemblies and Presbyteries there anent, together with the Basis of Union adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada in 1915, be referred to the Committee with instructions, in consultation with the Union Committees of the other negotiating Churches, to prepare a revised Basis of Union.

(3) That the Committee be instructed to arrange, if possible, for joint meetings of the full Committee of the negotiating Churches, or their accredited representatives at some convenient centre for Sessions of two or more days.

(4) That in the event of such a Basis being prepared and being accepted by the Union Committees of the other negotiating Churches, or by either of them, the Committee be authorised to send it to State Assemblies and Presbyteries.

(5) That State Assemblies and Presbyteries be instructed in the event of such a Basis being sent to them to report thereanent to the following Assembly ; and that Presbyteries be instructed to give the numbers approving or disapproving of the Basis.

(6) Further, that this Assembly is of opinion that in the event of a majority of State Assemblies and Presbyteries and next General Assembly approving of a Basis of Union the Basis should be submitted to Sessions and also to the members and adherents of the Church.

The motion was seconded by Mr. A. S. Lang.

It was moved as an amendment by Mr. William Affleck, and seconded by the Rev. Wm. Gray :

That all the words after the word " receive " be omitted with the view of inserting other words.

The amendment was rejected.

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

That all the words of the motion after the word " and " be omitted with view of inserting the words " resolve in view of present anxieties and responsibilities to re-appoint the Committee, but to stay its hand with regard to further negotiations *re* Union."

The amendment was rejected.

The Rev. Professor Angus moved, and the Rev. Wm. Thomson seconded :

That the following words be inserted in the motion after the word Convener, " and instructed to enter into negotiations with the authorities of the Congregational and Methodist Churches or with either of them to secure a basis of Federation which may result in an ultimate Union.

The consideration of the Report was adjourned. 57

38. The Rev. J. T. Robertson gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :— Referendum.

That whereas the sacred obligation lies upon the supreme Court of the Church to give light and guidance to the mind and conscience of our people on questions which touch the moral life of the nation, and our people have the right to expect such light and guidance. It seems good to the Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the Commonwealth, whilst recognising the right of her members to exercise their individual conscience, to make clear pronouncement upon certain moral issues which arise in connection with the present war and the nation's duty therein.

(1) The British Empire has been led into war by no act of its own, but by the immoral act of Germany :

(2) The Empire's engagement in this war is a righteous act, in obedience to Christian principle. She is bound to put forth the full strength of her manhood and resources until her righteous cause triumphs :

(3) Australia has freely ranged herself on the side of the righteous cause, and is in like manner bound to put forth the full strength of her manhood and her resources.

(4) The right of citizenship in a State carries with it corresponding duty—the duty of resisting evil and fighting for the right even unto death is a moral obligation of citizenship.

(5) When, as in a crisis like the present, the number of citizens who answer freely to their moral obligation is insufficient for the occasion, then it is the duty of the Government to take such measures as it thinks necessary.

(6) The Government of the Commonwealth of Australia has declared that the number of men who voluntarily offer themselves for Active Military Service is insufficient for the successful carrying out of its part in this struggle, and is now asking by means of the Referendum the power to call men into compulsory service outside the Commonwealth.

(7) The justification for the power to call for such compulsory service is the necessity of the position.

(8) This Assembly believe that necessity has arisen—that there is a moral necessity for the Government to obtain the authority it seeks ; and, therefore, this Assembly approve of an affirmative answer being given to the question of the referendum.

See minute 85.

39. The Rev. John Gray gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :—

Inasmuch as the Empire, including the Commonwealth of Australia, is now fighting for its existence in a defensive and righteous war, against a highly organised, and unscrupulous Enemy, which manifestly denies the validity of moral sanctions ; inasmuch as the reinforcements urgently required to support our brave defenders at the Front are not forthcoming in numbers required under voluntary enlistment ; inasmuch as the principle of Compulsory Military Service within the Commonwealth has been conceded and is embodied in the law of the land ; and further, inasmuch as the Government in this grave emergency is asking by means of the Referendum for the same compulsory powers over citizens in regard to requiring their military service for the term of the War outside as within the Commonwealth, this Assembly urges upon our people that it is their duty to support the proposal submitted to them in this grave crisis in the history of the nation and humanity.

40. Mr. D. K. Picken gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :—

That this Assembly, whilst desirous of showing the utmost respect and consideration for the view of a minority of its own members—representing, it believes, a comparatively small minority of the Presbyterian Church of Australia—feel called upon to express the opinion of this House to the following effect :—

That, in the judgment of the Assembly, the extension of the provisions of the Military Service Act to service overseas is the only equitable and effective method by which Australia can do her due share in the War and so honour her obligations to her own sons already in the field, to those who have sent forth their men, and to the cause of the British people and their Allies.

The Assembly, therefore, calls upon the members and adherents of the Presbyterian Church to give an affirmative answer to the question submitted to referendum by the Government of the Commonwealth.

41. The Rev. J. T. Robertson gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :—

That the foregoing motions be considered in the first instance in private conference ; and that the Business Committee be instructed to arrange a suitable time.

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

FIFTH SEDERUNT.

At Sydney and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip St., Thursday, the 28th September, 1916, at 7.30 p.m.

43. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was duly constituted.

44. The Report of the Business Committee was approved.

45. According to arrangement addresses by Chaplains returned from the front—Chaplain the Rev. E. N. Merrington, Chaplain the Rev. J. C. McPhee, Chaplain the Rev. J. K. Miller, Chaplain the Rev. D. Macrae Stewart—were delivered. Addresses by
Chaplains.

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

SIXTH SEDERUNT.

At Sydney and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip St., on Friday, 29th September, 1916, at 10 a.m.

47. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was duly constituted.

48. The Minutes of the previous day were confirmed.

49. The Rev. Dr. Brown, President of the Methodist Conference of Australasia, and the Rev. Dr. Carruthers, General Secretary of the Deputation
from
Methodist
Conference.

Methodist Conference of Australasia, were introduced to the Moderator by the Convener of the Business Committee, welcomed by the Moderator on behalf of the Assembly, and addressed the House.

The Moderator conveyed to Dr. Brown and Dr. Carruthers the thanks of the Assembly for their addresses, and asked them to convey to their Church the fraternal greetings of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Selection
Committee.

50. The Report of the Selection Committee was submitted by the Rev. C. A. White.

The Report was received.

Moderator-
General.

51. By leave of the House the Rev. Dr. Burgess moved the motion of which he had given notice in the following form :—

That clause 8, Minute 102, Blue Book, 1914, be rescinded and that the use of the term " Moderator General," as a designation of the Moderator of Assembly be discontinued.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. George Carson.

The motion was rejected.

Dubbo
Petition.

52. The Petition from the Congregation of Dubbo was submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee and read.

Mr. McManammy was heard in support of the Petition.

The consideration of the Petition was postponed.

53. The Board of Missions was granted authority to meet this afternoon.

Intercession.

54. According to arrangement a service of Intercession relative to the War was held from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

Dubbo.

55. The consideration of the Petition from Dubbo was resumed, and Mr. Currie heard in support thereof.

The Rev. A. Stewart moved, and the Rev. J. Gray seconded, that the Petition be sent to the Reception of Ministers' Committee, with instructions to report thereanent as soon as possible.

The motion was approved.

56. The Report on the Reception of Ministers was submitted by the Rev. A. McKinlay. Reception of Ministers.

The Rev. Andrew Goodall was received as an ordained Minister eligible for a call.

The Rev. Wm. Spence was received as an ordained Minister eligible for a call.

The Rev. Duncan Matheson was received as a licentiate.

The Rev. Wm. J. Grant, B.A., was received as an ordained Minister eligible for a call after a year's probation.

The Rev. E. W. Hogben was received as an ordained Minister eligible for a call, provided that he attend the Theological Hall for one year, and pass the Exit Examination in the following subjects:—Systematic Theology, Church History, Apologetic and English Bible.

The Rev. J. Leggatt was received as an ordained Minister eligible for a call after a year's probation.

The prayer of the Petition of Mr. Samuel John Honiball that he be raised to the full status of the Ministry, was granted.

The Rev. Norman L. D. Webster, B.A., was received as an ordained Minister eligible for a call, and his work under the Home Mission Committee of Victoria accepted in lieu of the one year's probation.

The prayer of the Petition of Mr. Charles Attwood that he be raised to the full status of the Ministry was granted.

The prayer of the Petition of Mr. Leo. C. M. Donaldson was granted, and the Presbytery of Melbourne North was instructed to license Mr. Donaldson so that he may be eligible for a call.

The further consideration of the Report was postponed.

57. The Rev. A. J. Wade gave notice of his intention when the consideration of the Report on Federation is resumed to move:— Federation of Churches.

“That the following words be inserted in the motion, after the word Convener—‘And instructed to enter into negotiations with the authorities of the Congregational Church, with a view to secure a Basis of Union with that Church.’”

58. The Rev. T. Watt Leggatt gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move:—

“That the Assembly declare against the introduction of anything of the nature of dual control in the working of its Missions; cordially Board of Missions.

approve of the Rev. N. Hey's method of work and its results at Mapoon requests him to continue as he has been doing, and if he at anytime requires a qualified industrial assistant, authorise the Board to increase the assessment so far as is necessary for this purpose."

59. The Assembly adjourned to meet this evening at 7.30, which having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

SEVENTH SEDERUNT.

*At Sydney and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip St., Friday,
29th September, at 7.30 p.m.*

60. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was duly constituted.

61. The Report of the Business Committee was approved.

Referendum.

62. The Rev. Dr. Burgess gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :—

"The Assembly believes that Australia is quite willing to do its utmost both as regards men and means to hasten the triumph of righteousness in this awful war, regarding which the Assembly has already passed a resolution.

The Assembly regrets that the Federal Government did not assume its full responsibilities, and do what it knew to be necessary, in view of the confidential information it obtained from the Imperial authorities.

The Assembly deplores the action of the Government in submitting the question of conscription for foreign service to a referendum, seeing that conscription for home service was not submitted to the people, and Parliament readily passes many a measure for which it has no "mandate from the people," and does not pass those for which it has a mandate.

The voluntary system has been greatly hampered by the weakness of the Government or Defence Department, in temporising with the drink question and accompanying evils, and with strikes on transports over trivial matters, as well as in giving the impression on more than one occasion that a sufficient number of men had been accepted, in so far as the available training equipment and transports were concerned, the result of such action being that the public doubted whether the Government was in earnest in the prosecution of the war.

This unfortunate inference is strengthened now by the words of the Prime Minister to the effect that the Referendum is a vital part of the Government policy, inasmuch as thereby the referendum is changed from a great national and patriotic question to a party one, and to a vote of confidence or want of confidence in the Government.

Thus the Government's request to the electors to vote "Yes" is an invitation to the country to help the Government to solve the grave difficulty created by the threatened cleavage in the Labour party.

The Assembly acknowledges the difficulties in which the Prime Minister finds himself in dealing with all the matters involved, but it believes in its Master's words, "whosoever would save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life for My sake and the Gospels shall save it."

The Assembly believes that the country would have stood by the Government if it had worthily discharged its responsibilities, instead of transferring them to the people when it could not at the same time pass on the confidential information.

The Assembly would therefore recommend its people to vote "No," as the first step. This is in the quickest way whereby the country can rise to its responsibilities, and honourably bearing its share of the Empire's burden. If the referendum is carried, Parliament has even then to carry a measure making it operative, and delay will certainly arise over that. If the referendum is lost, the Government would resign (unless the Prime Minister's words have been misunderstood). A War or Coalition Ministry could then be formed and immediate action taken under the War Precautions Act.

63. It was resolved to send the following cablegram to Dr. Rentoul :
"This Assembly in sitting conveys its best wishes for your success in forwarding the interests of our men at the front, and asks you to convey to our men the greetings of their Church."

Federation of
Churches.

64. The consideration of the Report on the Federation of Churches was resumed.

It was moved as an amendment on the amendment by the Rev. A. J. Wade—

That all the words after the word "Congregational" be omitted with the view of inserting other words.

The amendment was seconded by Mr. Birtchnell.

The amendment was rejected.

The amendment of Professor Angus was rejected.

It was moved by Mr. Wm. Wood, and seconded, that the following words be added to the motion—

(7) That meantime, and while continuing negotiations on the lines laid down in the foregoing clauses, it be an instruction to the Committee to endeavour to secure, without undue delay, a basis for co-operation and joint action in matters in which it may be found possible to make common cause.

The amendment was approved.

The motion as amended was approved.

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

EIGHTH SEDERUNT.

*At Sydney, and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip St., on Saturday,
the 30th September, 1916, at 10 a.m.*

66. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and was constituted.

67. The Minutes of the previous day were confirmed.

Article III.

68. The Overture from the Presbytery of Melbourne South relative to Article III. was dismissed.

The Returns on the Remit relative to Article III. were received; having been approved by a majority of State Assemblies and Presbyteries.

The Remit was approved and declared to be the law of the Church.

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69. The Returns on the Remit relative to Rule 3 in the Chapter on Discipline were received.

Rule 3:
Discipline.

The Remit was approved and declared to be the law of the Church.

70. The Returns on the Remit relative to amending the Confession of Faith were received.

Confession of
Faith.

The Remit having been approved by a majority of the State Assemblies and by three-fifths of the Presbyteries of the whole Church, was by a unanimous vote of the Assembly approved, and declared to be the law of the Church.

1914 - 11
in Bushin.

71. The Returns on the Remit relative to Home Missionaries administering Baptism were received.

Baptism.

The Remit was approved with the omission of the words "who have received ordination as Elders" and declared to be the Law of the Church.

1914
- 11

72. The Report of the Code Committee, with the Overtures from the State Assembly of New South Wales, and the Overture from the State Assembly of Queensland, were submitted by the Clerk, who moved:—

Code.

"That the Report be received, the Overtures sustained, the action of the Code Committee approved, the thanks of the Assembly given to the New South Wales members of the Committee who prepared the draft of a revised chapter on Discipline, the draft remitted to the Committee for revision with instructions to send it to State Assemblies and Presbyteries for consideration, and for report before the 30th June 1917."

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Dr. Burgess and approved.

Immigration.

73. The Report of the Immigration Committee was submitted by Mr. D. MacMillan, who moved :—

1.—That the Assembly receive the Report.

2.—Re-appoint the Committee, with the addition of the Rev. Hugh Jones, with the Executive in Melbourne. Constituted as follows :—Mr. D. MacMillan, Convener ; Rev. W. Thomson, Corresponding Convener ; Rev. Hugh Jones and Mr. C. McKinnon, Hon Secretaries.

3.—Adopt the suggested scheme for co-operation in immigration work at the ports of call contained in the Report, and enjoin the State Committees of the Church of Australia to carry it out.

4.—Instruct the Executive to prepare and issue a card of welcome, with the names and addresses of the Conveners and Agents at the ports of call, and to forward a supply of such to the Conveners of the Colonial Committees of the Presbyterian Churches of Scotland, England and Ireland, and to arrange that these cards be put on all steamers bringing immigrants to Australia.

5.—Instruct the Executive to correspond with the Churches of the Homeland *re* the appointment of Chaplains on steamers carrying large numbers of immigrants.

6.—Commend the work of the Committee to the interest and sympathy of the Church.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Wm. Thomson and approved.

Dubbo Petition.

74. The Report of the Committee on the Reception of Ministers relative to the Petition from Dubbo was submitted by the Rev. A. McKinlay, who moved :—

“That inasmuch as Mr. McCallum has explicitly stated that he is in accord with the petition of the Congregation at Dubbo, the prayer of the petition be granted, and the Presbytery of Orange be instructed to license him. The Assembly further declares that Mr. McCallum shall not be eligible for a call to any other charge than Dubbo for a period of five years after the date of his induction unless with the consent of the State Assembly.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. W. H. Ash.

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. D. F. Brandt, and seconded :—

That all the words after the word “that” be omitted with the view of inserting other words :

The amendment was approved.

It was moved by the Rev. A. Stewart, and seconded by the Rev. D. F. Brandt : that the following words be inserted in the motion :—

“ The Assembly is deeply gratified with the testimony borne to the efficiency of Mr. McCallum’s ministry in Dubbo, assures the people there of its sympathy in their desire to secure him as their Minister, and regrets that the conditions under which special ordination is sometimes granted do not appear to be present in this case, and therefore the Assembly refer the continuance of Mr. McCallum’s ministry in Dubbo to the favorable consideration of the Church of N.S.W. and recommend that Church to afford him special opportunities for his education for the Ministry ; and authorise Mr. McCallum to sit for the Entrance to the Theological Hall in Scripture, Moral Philosophy, English, and take a one year’s course and pass the Exit Examination, except in languages.

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. J. T. Robertson that all the words in the amendment after the word Assembly be omitted with the view of inserting other words.

The amendment was rejected.

The motion as amended was approved.

75. The Rev. D. F. Brandt gave notice of his intention, when the report on Public Questions is before the Assembly, to move :— Public Questions.

In view of the grave danger caused by the prevalence and alarming increase of Venereal diseases in the Commonwealth, by which a menace to the whole moral life of the people is created, and by which the sanctity and sacredness of home and individual life are threatened, urge the Public Questions Committee to take the matter into consideration, and take all possible steps to warn and educate our people and also call upon our Churches to do everything within their power to wipe out this deadly evil.

76. The Rev. J. Gray gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :—

“ That the Assembly appoint a Committee on the State of Religion with instructions to report to next Assembly, especially with reference to the issuing of a Family Altar Card for the Presbyterian Church of Australia.”

77. The Assembly adjourned to meet this evening at 7.30, which having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

NINTH SEDERUNT.

*At Sydney, and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip St., on Saturday,
30th September, 1916, at 10 a.m.*

78. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and was duly constituted.

Welfare of
Youth.

79. According to arrangement, addresses by the Rev. Principal Richard Glaister, B.D., on "Religion in the Home," by the Rev. John Mackenzie, M.A. on "How to teach the Bible," and by the Rev. John Walker on "Our Youth—the Hope of the Church," were delivered.

80. The Assembly adjourned to meet on Monday, the 2nd October, at 11 a.m., which having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

TENTH SEDERUNT.

*At Sydney, and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip St., on Monday,
the 2nd October, 1916, at 11 a.m.*

81. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was duly constituted.

Home Missions.

82. The Report on Home Missions and on the Australian Inland Mission was submitted by the Rev. A. J. Wade, who moved:—

(1) That the Assembly receive the Report.

(2) Express thankfulness at the continued progress of the work in the various States, notwithstanding the special difficulties arising out of war conditions.

(3) Rejoice at the success of the work in Tasmania, as the result of the assistance given by Victoria.

(4) Approve the arrangement made by Victoria to assist the West Australian Church.

(5) Place on record sincere appreciation of the valuable services rendered to the cause of Home Missions in Australia, by the late Revs. Dr. Meiklejohn and Robert Steel.

(6) Record satisfaction at the further development of the Australian Inland Mission and commend its claims afresh to our people.

(7) Re-appoint the Rev. John Flynn, as General Superintendent, for a further term of four years.

(8) Confirm the transfer of territory on the Hergott-Birdsville track from the Smith of Dunesk Mission to the Australian Inland Mission; the transfer to take place when the Board is able to secure and maintain an Agent.

(9) Authorise the Committee to negotiate with the Congregational Union of Western Australia; and if satisfactory arrangements can be made, take over the work and property at Carnarvon.

(10) Appoint the following as members of the Inland Councils, in their respective States, with power to add to their number:—

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Revs. W. G. Forsyth (Chairman), G. A. Gordon, Angus King, I. H. G. Auld, A. J. Wade, J. R. Perkins, G. Cranston, A. Clark, K. D. Macdonald, Captain Craig, Dr. Campbell, Hon. J. Brown, Mr. W. Gillanders, Mr. W. Wood, Mr. W. S. Park.

VICTORIA.

Revs. F. W. Rolland, M.A. (Chairman), Professor Adam, D.D., John Walker, D. A. Cameron, M.A., J. Barnaby, M.A., B.D., G. S. Brodie, J. Mackenzie, F. H. L. Paton, M.A., B.D., E. E. Baldwin, M.A., D. Macrae Stewart, Tulloch Yuille, M.A., B.D., Messrs. T. H. Steele, George Aitken, W. Shaw, D. MacMillan, H. H. Kemp, J. M. Carroll, D. R. Mackie, W. Gray, M. A. B.Sc., D. Steel.

QUEENSLAND.

Revs. F. W. Gresham (Chairman), G. Ewan, James Gibson, J. G. Scarfe, Messrs. A. S. Barr, J. B. Codnave, F. R. Lloyd.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Revs. J. C. McPhee, R. Mitchell, W. Gray (Chairman), Drs. Davidson, Seymour, Messrs. T. W. Fleming, J. G. Balfour, J. Drennan.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Revs. Alex. Crow (Chairman), G. Nisbet Does, M.A., F. E. Oxer, M.A., B. D., W. Huey Steele, M.A., Daniel Ross, Messrs. F. A. Moseley, Henry Scott, J. Marshall.

TASMANIA.

Revs. W. J. Holt, M.A., B.D. (Chairman), J. B. Rentoul, A. D. Leckie, Dr. Gibson, Mr. J. Wright.

(11) Express warm appreciation of the self-denying labours of the Staffs of Home, Inland and Smith of Dunesk Missions, and commend them to the prayerful thought of our people at this specially trying time.

(12) Urge State Assemblies and Presbyteries to take into consideration the necessity for Home Mission work among the masses who are wont to congregate in Public Parks on Sunday afternoons.

(13) Approve of the book on the Practical Work of our agents about to be published by the Rev. J. B. Galloway, and heartily recommend its use to Missionaries and Students.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Western
Australia.

83. The communication from the State Assembly of Victoria relative to Queensland and Western Australia was received.

Referendum.

84. The motion of which the Rev. J. T. Robertson gave notice, relative to sitting in private to consider the motion relative to the Referendum was not seconded.

85. The Rev. J. T. Robertson moved the motion of which he had given notice relative to the Referendum, and which is recorded in the Minute of the Fourth Sederunt.

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. J. Gray, and seconded by Dr. Merrington :

“ That all the words after the word ‘ that ’ be omitted with the view of inserting the words of which he had given notice, and which are recorded in the Minute of the Fourth Sederunt.”

The amendment was rejected.

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. Dr. Burgess and seconded by W. A. L. McEwen :—

That all the words of the motion after the word “ whereas ” be omitted, with a view of inserting the words of which he had given notice, and which are recorded in the Minute of the Seventh Sederunt.

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved.

86. The Rev. P. J. Murdoch gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :—

“ That this resolution, together with the loyal resolution carried at an earlier Sederunt, be sent to all the Ministers of the Church, with recommendation that they be read in all pulpits.”

87. The Rev. J. Caldwell gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :—

“ That this Assembly is of the opinion that in any proposed regulations in regard to Conscription no exemption for ministers of religion as combatants should be provided.”

88. Mr. William Wood gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :—

“ That it be an instruction to the Assembly Committee on the Reception of Ministers, and others whose cases may be referred to them, that in every case the proposed finding be in print for the information of members at least one Sederunt before the petition is brought forward for discussion.”

That applications from Ministers petitioning to be received must be notified to all Presbyteries by circular letter sixty clear days before the

Assembly meets. The petitioner bears the cost of such notification, and of the printing of his petition.

Post War
Problems.

89. The Rev. C. A. White gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :—

The Assembly recognising that the War is creating a situation of unparalleled difficulty and seriousness for our own and other nations, appoints a Committee to review the whole position in relation to the Church's preparedness to meet the new conditions, with instructions to direct its inquiries specially along the following lines :—

- (1) The Returned Soldier.
- (2) Immigrants.
- (3) The Non-Church-goer.
- (4) The Children.
- (5) Social and Public Life and Thought.
- (6) The Non-Christian World.
- (7) The Supply and Training of Ministers, Teachers and other Christian workers.

The Assembly instructs the Committee generally to thoroughly examine the life and work of the Church and to consider what alterations in methods and machinery (if any) are necessary to meet the new situation.

The Assembly recommend the Committee to appoint State Sectional Committees for the prosecution of its enquiries ; and in doing so it may enlist the co-operation of existing State Committees or any persons who may be able to assist it.

The Assembly instruct the Committee to prepare an interim report within 12 months and to submit it with recommendations to State Assemblies, which shall take such action thereon as they may think fit, and forward their decisions thereon to the Committee in time to enable it to present its complete report to the next meeting of the General Assembly.

Referendum.

90. The Rev. W. H. Cooper gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :—

“ That Members of Assembly declare their willingness to come under all provisions involved in an affirmative answer to the Referendum.”

91. The Assembly adjourned to meet this evening at 7.30 which having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

ELEVENTH SEDERUNT.

*At Sydney, and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip St., on Monday,
the 2nd October, 1916, at 7.30 p.m.*

92. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and was constituted.

93. The Report of the Business Committee was approved.

94. Mr. A. S. Lang gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt Referendum.
to move:—

“ That the Assembly understanding some of its Home Missionaries to be exercised in their minds regarding their position in the Church and the question of Conscription, this Assembly declares them to be engaged in the Ministry of our Church. At the same time, and although finding it ever more difficult to provide supply in many important fields, the Assembly recognises that with regard to the “ Empire Call ” each Home Missionary ought to do as their individual conscience may direct in the matter.”

95. According to arrangement addresses on various aspects of Foreign Foreign
Mission Work.
Mission Work were delivered by the Rev. A. Stewart, the Rev. James Walker, the Rev. T. Watt Leggatt, the Rev. W. F. Turton, the Rev. F. H. L. Paton and Mr. W. Gillanders.

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

TWELFTH SEDERUNT.

*At Sydney, and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip St., on Tuesday,
the 3rd October, 1916.*

97. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and was constituted.

98. The Minutes of the Sederunt of Saturday were confirmed.

Naval and
Military.

99. The Report of the Committee on Naval and Military Affairs was submitted by the Rev. W. Borland who moved :—

That the Assembly receive the Report, thank the Committee, the Convener, and the Vice-Convener, express appreciation of the service rendered to the Church in connection with Naval and Military matters by the Chaplain-General, and commend him to the blessing of Almighty God in his present work abroad.

Approve the action of the Senior Chaplains and State Committees in providing effective chaplaincy oversight of soldiers in the Military camps within Australia, with institutes for the work of the chaplains and the convenience and recreation of the men in the various training centres ; express grateful appreciation of the faithful services voluntarily rendered by many members of the Church in this work, and of the liberal financial support given to it in the various States ; and recommend that these efforts should be strenuously maintained while the need continues to exist.

Acknowledge the helpful co-operation of the Young Men's Christian Association especially in most places where Church Institutes have not been practicable.

Record the Church's high appreciation of the services so admirably rendered by all the Chaplains in camps, troopships, hospitals and at the war fronts ; express sympathy with those of them who have suffered in health while discharging this duty, and deep sorrow at the great loss the Church and the troops have sustained in the death of Chaplain Andrew Gillison, M.A.

After the words " Andrew Gillison, M.A.," Express the cordial thanks of the General Assembly to the Rev. George Mackie, D.D., Chaplain of the Church of Scotland at Alexandria and Mrs. Mackie, and to the Rev. James Gillan, Chaplain of the same Church at Cairo and Mrs. Gillan for the gracious services rendered to our Australian Soldiers while stationed

in Egypt, and communicate this to them through the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Recommend the General Assemblies of the Several States to secure that chaplains nominated by this Church for permanent service in the Navy be ordained or inducted to their office by the Metropolitan Presbytery of the State to which they belong, and be placed upon its roll in due form.

Re-appoint the Committee as follows:—The Naval and Military Committees in the various States, with Prof. Rentoul as Convener, and as such Chaplain-General, the correspondence of the Committee to be conducted through a Secretary, the Vice-Convener to act meanwhile in the dual capacity.

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

100. The following telegram from the Governor-General was read by the Moderator and received by the Assembly:—

Governor-General.

"I much regret being prevented from fulfilling my engagement to be present at the General Assembly. It is over forty years since I first attended General Assemblies in Edinburgh, I had looked forward with deep interest to meeting the representatives of the Presbyterian Church in Australia in General Assembly. I trust that all success may attend your deliberations and that the Blessing of God may rest upon your labours.

"RONALD MUNRO-FERGUSON."

The following reply was sent by the Moderator to His Excellency:—

"Governor-General,
"Melbourne.

"General Assembly much regret it cannot have honour and pleasure of your attendance, but understand pressing nature of State Business. The Assembly conveys its respect to your Excellencies.

"RONALD G. MACINTYRE,
"Moderator-General."

101. On the suggestion of the Moderator the following motion was unanimously approved:—

Home Churches.

That the Moderator be requested to write a letter of brotherly greetings to the Presbyterian Churches in the United Kingdom, expressing on behalf of this Church our Christian sympathy with them in the

trials through which they are passing, our admiration for the sacrifices made, and our prayer that the Father of all comfort and God of all consolation may minister of His comfort to the many homes bereaved through the war, and that the Churches may be strengthened and sustained in continuing and ending their services so nobly begun. Also that the Moderator convey through the Churches the warmest appreciation of this Assembly and of the people of our Church, for the work of Chaplains of the Home Churches among our Australian soldiers, and of the gracious kindness shown by people in the Home Country to our wounded and convalescent soldiers.

Board of
Missions.

102. The Rev. T. Watt Leggatt moved and the Rev. A. Stewart seconded :—

That the Assembly declare against the introduction of anything of the nature of dual control in the working of its Missions ; cordially approve of the Rev. N. Hey's method of work and its results at Mapoon ; requests him to continue as he has been doing, and if he at any time requires a qualified industrial assistant, authorise the Board to increase the assessment so far as is necessary for this purpose.

That the Assembly approves of the institution of a local Council of the Missionaries, and their Assistants on the North Queensland field for advisory purposes in the administration of the Stations and prosecution of their work.

The motion was approved.

South Australia.

103. The Overture from the State Assembly of South Australia anent the needs of the State was submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee, and the Rev. Dr. Davidson and the Rev. J. C. McPhee were heard in support of it.

It was moved by Mr. A. H. Campbell and seconded by Mr. W. Wood :—

That the Overture be sustained and referred to the Home Mission Committee with instructions to report to a future Sederunt.

The motion was approved.

Ballot.

104. The Report of the Scrutineers was submitted and approved.

105. The following were appointed Assessors : Revs. D. A. Cameron, J. Barnaby, J. Ferguson, and T. Morgan.

106. The Report of the College Committee was submitted by the Rev J. Mathew who moved :— College
Committee.

That the General Assembly receive the report, and thank the Committee, and especially the Convener and Secretary; approve the following alterations in the rules regulating the training of Home Missionaries as printed in the 1916 Year Book, pp. 58, 59 :—

Par. 1, p. 58 :—Add to paragraph the words—“ In the case of applicants who are under the age of 25 years, the College Committee shall satisfy itself that for them a University course is impracticable.”

Par. 2, p. 58 :—Delete “ within four years of date of their acceptance by the State General Assembly ”; also delete “ within the same period and add to paragraph the words “ Passes in Junior, or Senior Public Examinations of a recognised University will be accepted by the College Committee as equivalent to parts of this course.”

Par. 3, p. 58 :—Put “ and ” after “ History ” and add “ Greek ” to the last sentence.

Par. 4, pp. 58 and 59 :—Delete (a) and (b) and all matter following (b); and also all matter within [].

Par. 6, p. 59 :—Delete “ or the Extra Mural Course.”

Approve of the Committee's action in the case of Mr. N. M. Jaboor, B.A., and of its recommendation in the case of Mr. J. A. Souter; confirm the admission of Messrs. Laurie and Ferguson to the Home Mission Course; express thanks to the Examiners and approve of new appointments, instruct the Committee to revise the subjects of the Entrance and Exit Examinations, and refer back to the Committee the instruction of last Assembly, viz., to keep in view the affording of facilities for specialisation 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; clothe the Committee with Assembly powers in respect of its own special work. Express deep sorrow for the loss sustained by the Committee in its work through the death of the beloved and greatly esteemed co-convener Dr. Meiklejohn and also through the deaths of the other gifted, willing, and highly-valued co-workers Revs. Robert Steel, M.A., J. V. McNair and A. Gillison, M.A.

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. W. H. Ash and seconded by the Rev. W. Gray that the following words be inserted in the motion after the word “ Assembly ” :—

Instruct the Committee to consider the advisability of revising the Curriculum of the Theological Hall so as to include a fuller study of present day Church organisations and modern pulpit methods.

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved.

Reception of
Ministers.

107. The consideration of the Report on the Reception of Ministers was resumed. The Petition of the Rev. A. H. Ballinger was submitted. It was moved by the Rev. A. McKinlay and seconded by the Rev. J. Barnaby :—

That Mr. Ballinger be received as a Probationer of the Church provided he pass the Exit Examination except in Hebrew and that his services under the Home Mission Committee be taken in lieu of one year's probation.

It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Burgess and seconded :—

That all the words of the motion after the word "That" be omitted with a view to inserting the words "the Prayer of the Petition be not granted."

The amendment was approved and the proposed words inserted.

The motion as amended was approved.

The Petitions of the Rev. Sydney Burrows, the Rev. Duncan McDiarmid, and the Rev. W. G. Clark-Duff were submitted by the Convener of the Committee, when it was found that the Petitioners had not complied with the Regulations relative to the Reception of Members.

It was moved by the Rev. John Ferguson and seconded by the Rev. John Walker :—

That the irregularities of the Petitioners be condoned, and the Assembly proceed to the consideration of them.

The motion was approved.

From this decision the Revs. W. Tassie and J. C. McDonald and Mr. W. Wood dissented.

It was moved by the Rev. A. McKinlay and seconded :—

That the Rev. Sydney Burrows be received as an ordained Minister eligible for a call after a year's probation, under the Home Mission Committee of the Victorian Assembly, provided that at the end of a period of three months the Reception of Ministers Committee shall issue a certificate to the effect that it is satisfied with the credentials of Mr. Burrows.

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. J. T. Robertson and seconded by the Rev. W. Gray :—

That the words "Ordained Minister" be omitted with the view of inserting the word "probationer."

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved.

From this decision the Rev. J. T. Robertson dissented.

The Petition of the Rev. D. McDiarmid was submitted.

It was moved by the Rev. A. McKinlay and seconded :

That Mr. McDiarmid be received as a minister subject to two years' training under the College Committee, and serve the Church of South Australia for a period of five years, provided that at the end of a period of three months the Reception of Ministers Committee issue a certificate to the Presbytery of Adelaide intimating that the Committee is satisfied with Mr. McDiarmid's credentials.

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. Kemp Bruce and seconded :—

That the word " Minister " be omitted with the view of inserting the word " probationer."

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved.

From this decision the Rev. Kemp Bruce and J. T. Robertson dissented.

The further consideration of the Report was postponed.

108. The Petitions of Messrs J. B. Clarke, L. M. Fairey and H. Robertson were referred for Report to the College Committee. Petitions of Students.

109. The Rev. Thomas Morgan gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :— Returned Students.

That special arrangements should be made by the College Committee, for our Theological and Home Mission Students, on their return from Active Service.

110. The Rev. A. J. Wade gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move :— Recommendations to State Assemblies.

It shall be a recommendation to the State Assemblies :—

(1) That Ministers and Home Missionaries working under the Home Mission Committee shall, for the purpose of fellowship and discipline, be attached to the Metropolitan, or other convenient Presbytery of the State within, or nearest to, that district in which their field of labour is situated.

(2) That if it be possible to arrange in States which possess Beneficiary Funds, Exit Students proceeding to work under the Australian Inland Missions, should be granted the privilege of joining the Fund

of their original State, the Mission paying such equivalent as may be required in lieu of a congregation's annual collection.

(3) Further it shall be a recommendation to the State Assembly of New South Wales that the General Superintendent be attached to the Presbytery of Sydney.

111. The Assembly adjourned to meet this evening at 7.30, which having been publicly intimated, the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

THIRTEENTH SEDERUNT.

*At Sydney, and within St. Stephen's, Church, Phillip St., on Tuesday
the 3rd October, 1916 at 7.30 p.m.*

112. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and was constituted.

113. The Report of the Business Committee was approved.

Men of the
Church.

114. According to arrangement addresses on the work of men in the Church were delivered by the Rev. Donald A. Cameron on "The Church, the Men, and the War," by the Rev. John Mackenzie on "The obligation of Citizenship in Post War Problems," and by the Hon. John Garland on "The Responsibility of Universal Service."

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

FOURTEENTH SEDERUNT.

*At Sydney, and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip St., on Wednesday,
4th October, 1916.*

116. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and was constituted.

117. The Minutes of the Sederunts of Monday and Tuesday were confirmed.

118. The consideration of the Report on the Welfare of Youth was resumed. Welfare of Youth.

The Rev. W. S. Rolland moved and the Rev. R. J. H. McGowan seconded :—

- (1) That the Assembly receive the Report.
- (2) Express its gratification with the general adoption of Graded Lessons in our Sabbath Schools, but in view of present circumstances, make no recommendation as to the introduction of any particular Scheme of Lessons to be used in all our Schools.
- (3) Regret that Teacher-training has been only partially carried out, and recommend that every effort should be put forth by Ministers and competent leaders to secure its general adoption.
- (4) Rejoice to know that in many cases, the League of Young Worshipers has done much for the increased attendance of Sabbath-Scholars at public worship and warmly approve of its establishment wherever possible.
- (5) Regard the formation of Fellowship Associations and Bible-Classes for Senior Scholars as of the utmost importance for our young people, and hope that in some way these organisations may be brought together more closely.
- (6) Recognise that in many Schools the interest in Foreign Mission work is most deep and practical, but would recommend to all our Churches the devising of some scheme by which this interest may be largely increased.
- (7) Ask Ministers and Superintendents and Teachers to strengthen the link between the School and the Church, so that Senior Scholars may be found in larger numbers within the membership of the Church.
- (8) Acknowledge gratefully the valuable services rendered to the young people of the Church by Superintendents, Teachers and other Sabbath School Workers, and commend them to the God of all grace, and pray that they may continue "steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord."
- (9) Appoint the Committee as follows :—Revs. G. R. S. Reid, C. H. Talbot, D. McK. Barnet, J. A. R. Perkins, R. J. H. McGowan, A. J. Wade, J. F. Lawton, A. R. Osborn, W. S. Rolland, W. Goyen, J. Walker, D. A. McDougal, J. Sinclair, J. G. Miller, J. Mackenzie, J. Barnaby, J. B. Galloway, James Gibson (Queensland), W. H. Waters, W. Gray, W. F. Shannon, J. R. Fiddian, F. E. Oxe, W. F. Turton and Messrs.

W. Gillanders, J. L. Forsyth, T. W. Wilson, H. B. Thompson, W. Gray (Melbourne), Dr. Smyth; Rev. J. Mackenzie, Convener.

"Record."

119. The Report on the "Record" was submitted by the Rev. W. S. Rolland, who moved :—

- (1) That the Assembly receive the Report.
- (2) Recommend again the acceptance by all our Schools in Australia of the "Record" as their missionary paper.
- (3) Express gratification with the generous response made by the readers of the "Record," to the appeal for the relief of Belgian little children.

(4) Request again the Conveners of Foreign Mission Committees in each State to secure, if possible, from the respective missionaries under their charge, suitable material for the "Record," so as to deepen the interest of its readers in Mission work and widen their outlook.

(5) Appoint the Conveners of the Welfare of Youth Committees in each State, as the "Record" Committee, Rev. W. S. Rolland, Convener.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. G. S. R. Reid and approved.

Book of
Common
Order.

120. The Report on a Book of Common Order was submitted by the Rev. R. Scott-West, who moved :—

That the Assembly receive the report; appoint the following Committee to report to next General Assembly :—Revs. J. Kemp Bruce, A. McKinlay, Thomas Tait, R. Scott-West (Convener), W. C. Lahore, W. Borland, J. Mathew, D. Millar (Armadale), J. Gibson, J. B. Galloway, Dr. Davidson, W. H. Steele.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Official Organ.

121. The Report on an Official Organ was submitted by the Rev. J. R. Fiddian, who moved :—

That the Assembly receive the report; reappoint the Committee to go further into the matter as follows :—Revs. J. H. Terras, J. Calder, Prof. McIntyre, Mr. W. Wood, Mr. John Waugh, Revs. J. MacKenzie, W. W. Watts, W. H. Ash, H. Kelly, W. Goyen, J. T. Lawton, Messrs. W. A. Sanderson, D. MacMillan, Revs. Jas. Gibson (Queensland), J. Walker (Queensland), W. C. Radcliffe, Messrs. A. L. Lang, W. A. Morrow, Revs. J. R. Fiddian, J. A. Seymour, W. Gray, Messrs. W. J. Angus, T. W. Fleming, Revs. D. Ross (W.A.), A. Crow, W. F. Turton, W. H. Steele, Messrs. F. A. McMullen, T. J. Christie; the Rev. J. R. Fiddian, Convener.

The motion was seconded and approved.

122. The Report on the Year Book and the Communications from Year Book. the State Assemblies of Victoria and South Australia were submitted.

It was moved by the Rev. Jas. Steele and seconded by Mr. W. H. Ash :—

(1) That the Assembly receive the Report.

(2) Thank the editor and those who assisted in compiling the Year Book.

(3) Instruct the Committee to continue to issue the Year Book in as large and complete a form as possible.

(4) Approve the action of the Committee in arranging for the payment of the book.

(5) Instruct all Ministers and Home Missionaries to promote the circulation of the book among the Congregations as a statement and evidence of the comprehensive work that the Church is doing.

(6) Appoint Rev. J. R. Fiddian, Convener.

The motion was approved.

123. According to arrangement a Conference on the State of Conference. Religion was held.

Addresses on "The War and a Religious Awakening by the Rev. J. Mackenzie ;" on "The Quickening of the Spiritual Life in our Homes and Congregations" by the Rev. G. R. S. Reid ; on "To-day's Appeal to those outside the Church" by the Rev. John Gray ; "On Supplementing Six o'clock Closing" by Mr. W. Gillanders, were delivered.

The addresses were followed by a discussion in which many members took part.

124. The Reference relative to the Liquor Control from the State As- Liquor Control sembly of Victoria was remitted to the Committee on Public Questions.

125. The consideration of the Report of the Committee on the Reception Reception of of Ministers was resumed. Ministers.

The Report recommended that the Committee be empowered to receive the Rev. W. G. Clark Duff, formerly a student in New South Wales, as a Minister eligible for a call, if on further enquiry and report of the Presbytery everything is satisfactory.

The recommendation was approved.

The Report recommended that the petition of Mr. Ernest Pocknall be remitted to the Home Mission Committee of New South Wales to be dealt with by them.

The recommendation was approved.

**Applications
from Ministers.**

126. In the absence of Mr. W. Wood, the Rev. Dr. Burgess moved :

That application from Ministers and others petitioning to be received must be notified to all Presbyteries by circular letter sixty clear days before the Assembly meets. The petitioner to bear the cost of such notification, and of the printing of his petition.

The motion was seconded and approved.

**Petitions of
Students.**

127. The Report of the College Committee on Petitions remitted to it was received.

The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of Mr. J. B. Clarke, in view of the work already done by Mr. Clarke in the Theological Hall, St. Andrew's College, and the present condition of his health, be granted.

The recommendation was approved.

The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of Mr. L. M. Fairey be granted, and that Hebrew be a subject of examination.

The recommendation was approved.

The Report recommended that Mr. Hubert Robertson take the Entrance Examination in Scripture, Moral Philosophy and English, attend the Theological Hall Emmanuel College for one year, pass the Exit Examination in all subjects except Greek and Hebrew, and serve in Queensland for five years.

The recommendation was approved.

Hymnal.

128. The Report on the Hymnal was submitted by the Rev. W. H. Ash, who moved :—

(1) That the Assembly receive the Report.

(2) Again commend the Hymnal to our Churches, and ask them to use it, where possible, in their Sabbath Schools, and in their services for adults, where the Hymnary is not now being used.

(3) Authorise the Committee to have printed about a dozen Kindergarten Hymns, for use in conjunction with the Hymnal, and also authorise it to collect the funds necessary for the purpose.

(4) Authorise the Committee to reprint this Report and Deliverance, and send a copy to each of the Presbyteries in Australia.

(5) Re-appoint the Committee, as follows:—Rev. Jas. Steele, C. Crane, C. H. Talbot, K. M. Fergus, J. Heyer, W. S. Rolland, J. R. Fiddian, W. C. Radcliffe, John Walker, F. E. Oxe, John Matthew, W. H. Ash (Convener), W. Goyen, J. T. Robertson, and Messrs. L. Fraser, D. McPhee, and P. D. McCormick.

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

129. The Report of the Committee on the Townsville Overture was submitted by the Rev. Professor Skene, who moved:—

Townsville
Overture.

That the Assembly receive the Report; express sympathy with our Church in North Queensland and our Ministers in their difficult work; regret that, because of the demands on the Churches of the States, especially in view of the conditions created by the War, so little help can be given to the Church in North Queensland; and express appreciation of the energy with which the Rev. George Tulloch carried out his commission to the Churches in the Homeland, and congratulate him on the large amount of help in men and money which he received; and discharge the Committee.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. J. Barnaby, and approved.

130. The Report of the Committee on Public Questions was submitted by Dr. Davidson, who moved:—

Public Questions

That the Assembly receive the report and affirm the policy of "no license" as the attitude of the Church, on the Drink question;

Express gratification at the permanent closing of Liquor bars after 6 o'clock in South Australia, and at the temporary closing at 6 o'clock in those States in which this has been secured and express the hope that further reformation may be secured.

In view of the grave danger caused by the prevalence and alarming increase of Venereal diseases in the Commonwealth, by which a menace to the whole moral life of the people is created, and by which the sanctity and sacredness of home and individual life are threatened, urge the Public Questions Committee to take the matter into consideration, and take all possible steps to warn and educate our people, and also call upon our Churches to do everything within their power to wipe out this deadly evil.

A letter from Dr. Richard Arthur was received.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. J. Steele and approved.

South Australia.

131. The Report of the Home Mission Committee on the Overture from South Australia was submitted by the Rev. A. J. Wade, who moved:

I. That the State Assemblies be recommended—

- (1) To establish Building Funds, where such do not exist, for Church Extension work.
- (2) To make special provision for supplementing stipends of Ministers appointed to strategic places, and
- (3) To make persistent efforts to secure suitable candidates for the Ministry.

II. That the Assembly appoint a Committee to arrange, in conjunction with State Home Mission Committees, for Home Mission deputations, and generally to assist in devising measures for the freer interchange of Ministers between the several States.

III. That the following be the Committee:—Revs. A. McCarlie (Convener), J. Barnaby, D. A. Cameron, E. E. Baldwin, J. Sinclair, G. S. Brodie, W. H. Cooper, and Messrs. D. MacMillan and H. H. Kemp, with the following as corresponding members:—

Rev. A. J. WADE, New South Wales.

Rev. E. N. MERRINGTON, Queensland.

Rev. J. C. MCPHEE, South Australia.

Rev. A. CROW, West Australia.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Memorial
Minutes.

132. The Rev. John Ferguson moved:—

That it is desirable to have in our official records suitable memorial minutes respecting Dr. Meiklejohn, Dr. T. E. Clouston, and the Rev. Peter Robertson, ex Moderators of this Assembly, the Rev. P. J. Murdoch, Convener, D. Ross, W. C. Ratchiffe, and Dr. Merrington be appointed to draw up such minutes and forward the same to the Clerk of Assembly to be incorporated in the Records of this present Session of the Assembly.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The following are the Minutes:—

Rev. John
Meiklejohn, D.D.

The General Assembly resolve to record their deep sense of loss caused by the death of the Rev. John Meiklejohn, D.D., their first Moderator, and one of the most capable and faithful servants of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Dr. Meiklejohn was already an experienced Minister of the Gospel when he came to Australia in 1888. He was called to Dorcas St. Church in Melbourne, and speedily won the affectionate reverence and confidence of his Congregation. His trained ability, his transparent sincerity, and his warm geniality made an easy way for him to a prominent and influential position in the Church life of his State. Ere long he became the leader of the movement for the union of Australian Presbyterianism. He was privileged to see the consummation of this enterprise ; and when the first General Assembly of Australia met, it was inevitable that he should be called to the Moderator's chair.

But keen as his interest was in construction, it was no less so in instruction. A teacher before he became a preacher, and always a student he had the teacher's skill and the scholar's ardour. The traditions of his native land and of his Church, his own love of and attainment in learning and his conviction of the advantages to the Church of instructed men in the ministry of the World, led and qualified him to do excellent service in connection with the training of our students. As joint convener of the College Committee, and as first Principal of Emmanuel College, Brisbane, he had his share as a maker and builder of men. All this and more he was to the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Dr. Meiklejohn was a man greatly beloved with a certain detachment of manner, he yet attached men to him ; reserved and reticent, he won the confidences of many ; a solitary man, he had great social gifts, and was a delightful companion. He had a perfect genius for friendship, and he was careful to keep his friendships in repair. Men who needed help of any kind were sure to get it from him. His hopefulness, his kindliness, his sympathy, his unflinching courtesy, his self-denying devotion—these made him a true priest of the tenderness of Jesus Christ.

The General Assembly while feeling deeply the loss of a beloved friend and counsellor, give God thanks that he was spared to accomplish so large a service and that he leaves behind him so fragrant a memory.

The Rev. Thomas E. Clouston, B.A., D.D., was a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, and attended the Divinity Hall in Belfast from 1872 to 1875, being licensed in the latter year. In the same year he was ordained to Portaferry Charge, Co. Down. For health reasons, he migrated to New South Wales after five years ministry in Portaferry. He was inducted to Penrith, and later settled at Glebe, Sydney. In both spheres he rendered excellent service to the Church by his strenuous and able ministrations. His work for the Theological Hall of St. Andrew's College was assiduous and important. He was appointed the Lecturer in Church

Rev. T. E.
Clouston, D.D.

History, and, after a long term of service to the students in that capacity, was elected by the New South Wales Assembly in 1909 to be the first Professor of Exegetical Theology of the New Testament and Historical Theology, which position he occupied until his death on August 26, 1913. He was elected a Councillor of St. Andrew's College, and in 1890 he was called to the Moderatorial chair of the New South Wales Assembly. In 1900 the Presbyterian Theological Faculty of Ireland conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. In 1906 he was invited to be the Moderator of the General Assembly of Australia, and he accepted the honour and duties of the high office with the same humility and devotion to His Master's cause as he exhibited in the many activities of his life as a pastor, a teacher, and a leader of the Church.

The main spheres in which he rendered special service, outside his pastoral and teaching duties, were Home Missions, the negotiations for Union, and Temperance. In all these directions he was ever active and helpful. His name should always be associated with the proposals regarding the Union of the Churches, for he furthered the movement greatly by a motion submitted to the courts of the Church, and also by the unflagging zeal which he bestowed upon the cause so dear to his heart. His name is held in lasting remembrance by many ministers who were led to study for the holy office under his inspiring influence, and were aided in the prosecution of their studies by his ever ready and practical advice. Few ministers in the Australian Church have possessed so practical gifts associated with deep piety and brotherliness; and for the spirit which he ever showed in his self-sacrificing labours for the cause of Christ and the Church, his name is worthy of the offerings of grateful memory and thanks to the Lord of all.

**Rev. Peter
Robertson.**

The Rev. Peter Robertson was a native of Biggar, and early devoted himself to religious work in Scotland labouring in the temperance and evangelistic fields and afterwards as a missionary to the blind. His thoughts having been turned to Australia, he was sent by the Free Church to Queensland, and, after completing his training, he was licensed in 1875 and ordained to the office of the ministry at Dalby whence he was translated to Ipswich in 1876, where he continued in the full work of the ministry until 1911 and as senior minister until his death on 21st July, 1916. As a pastor and preacher he was soon noted for his devotion and faithfulness, and was instrumental in building up at Ipswich a congregation which was influential in the community and in the Church. His brotherliness and helpfulness gave him a high place in the estimation of his brethren, and he was called to the Moderatorship of the Queensland

Assembly in 1886, and the General Assembly recognised his sterling worth and work by electing him to be Moderator at Adelaide in 1907. A man of simple faith, genuine piety, and kindly nature, he was also wise in council, and skilful in administration, and was called to take a large part in the work of the Church in Queensland. Church property interests, Temperance, Home Missions, and, above all, Missions to the Aborigines benefitted by his counsel and advocacy. He early became impressed by the needs of the aboriginal race, and before any Church had proposed to establish missions among them, he was the originator of a work for the amelioration of the conditions of aboriginal life in his own district whose continued success is largely due to the watchful care and unflagging interest which, to the last days of his life, he continued to bestow upon it. In all things a true servant of the Master, one who sought nothing for himself but delighted to serve, he rests from his labours and his works do follow him.

133. The Rev. J. Caldwell moved the motion of which he had given notice, and which is recorded in the Minute of the Tenth Sederunt. ^{Referendum.}

The motion was seconded by the Rev. J. T. Robertson.

The motion was rejected.

134. In the absence of the Rev. W. H. Cooper the motion of which he had given notice, and which is recorded in the Minute of the Tenth Sederunt was moved by Mr. J. R. Crowther.

The motion was not seconded.

135. In the absence of the Rev. P. J. Murdoch, the Rev. J. T. Robertson moved the motion of which Mr. Murdoch had given notice, and which is recorded in the Minute of the Tenth Sederunt.

The motion was seconded by Mr. J. Birtchwell.

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

That the words "and proposed amendments" be inserted in the motion after the words "resolution".

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was rejected.

136. The motion of which Mr. A. S. Lang gave notice was withdrawn.

Post War
Problems.

137. The Rev. A. C. White moved the motion of which he had given notice, and which is recorded in the Minute of the tenth Sederunt.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. James Steele.

The motion was rejected.

Recommendations
to State
Assemblies.

138. The Rev. A. J. Wade moved the motion of which he had given notice, and which is recorded in the Minute of the Twelfth Sederunt.

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

Returned
Students.

139. The Rev. T. Morgan moved the motion of which he had given notice, and which is recorded in the Minute of the twelfth Sederunt.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. John Ferguson, and approved.

Religion in
the Home.

140. The Rev. J. Gray moved the motion of which he had given notice in the following form :—

That a Committee on Religion in the Home be appointed to co-operate with corresponding Committees in the State Assemblies, with power to issue a Family Altar Card, and take necessary steps to foster religion in the homes of our people.

The motion was seconded, approved, and the following Committee appointed :—The Right Rev. the Moderator, Convener, Revs. J. Sinclair, Vice-Convener, G. R. S. Reid, J. Gray, Mr. G. S. Mackay, Mr. J. Birchwell,

Thanks.

141. It was agreed that the cordial thanks of the Assembly be given to the Minister and Office-bearers of St. Stephen's Church ; to the Hospitality Committee of the Church in New South Wales ; to the members of the Women's Missionary Association ; and to all others who have generously exercised hospitality towards members of the Assembly.

Next Assembly.

142. It was agreed that the next General Assembly meet within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, Melbourne, on the fourth Thursday of September, 1918 at 10 a.m. ;

That the Committees meet on the preceding Tuesday and Wednesday and hand in their proposed deliverances to the Clerk not later than Wednesday night.

143. The Board of Missions was clothed with Assembly power within its sphere. Board of Missions.

144. The following were appointed a Committee to arrange for Business preceding the meeting of next Assembly :—The Clerk, Revs. P. J. Murdoch (Convener), J. MacKenzie, A Stewart, and Mr. J. M. Campbell. Business Committee.

145. The business of the General Assembly now being concluded, the Moderator delivered a brief address.

146. The Assembly joined in singing the last three verses of the 122 Psalm, after which the Moderator having intimated that in pursuance of the General Assembly's appointment the next General Assembly will be holden at Melbourne, in the Assembly Hall, Collins St., on the fourth Thursday of September, 1918, at 10 a.m., the Session was closed with the Benediction. Close.

RONALD G. MACINTYRE, Moderator.
GEORGE TAIT, Clerk.

APPENDIX.

COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

STANDING COMMITTEES.

I. JUDICIAL COMMISSION.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. John Burgess, D.D.	Hon. T. Brown, M.L.A.
J. Kemp Bruce	Mr. E. J. Loxton
J. C. McDonald, M.A.	John Kirkland
Professor Macintyre, B.D.	J. H. Beatson

VICTORIA.

Rev. Professor Rentoul, M.A., D.D.	Rev. George Tait, M.A.
Professor S. Kene, M.A.	Mr. J. M. Campbell, LL.M.
A. Stewart, M.A.	G. S. Mackay
P. J. Murdoch, M.A.	H. H. Kemp

QUEENSLAND.

Rev. Principal Glaister, M.A., B.D.	Rev. James Walker, M.A., B.D.
E. N. Merrington, M.A., Ph.D.	James Gibson, M.A.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

TASMANIA.

Rev. W. J. Harris	Mr. F. Burbury
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WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. Principal Harper, M.A., D.D.	Rev. C. A. White, B.A.
John Walker	Mr. P. R. Henry
J. B. Galloway	T. W. Fleming
W. Gray	W. G. Geikie
W. Borland, M.A., B.D.	A. S. Lang, F.A.I.Q.
J. Heyer, M.A.	Dr. J. H. MacFarland
Chairman	Rev. R. G. Macintyre, B.D.

Assessors :—Revs. D. A. Cameron, J. Barnaby, J. Ferguson and T. Morgan.

II.—BOARD OF MISSIONS.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. C. A. White, B.A.	Mr. W. Gillanders, B.A.
J. Kemp Bruce	W. S. Park

VICTORIA.

Rev. D. Ross, M.A.	Rev. T. W. Leggatt
F. H. L. Paton, M.A., B.D.	Mr. J. Birtchnell
A. Stewart, M.A.	R. K. Gillespie

QUEENSLAND.

Rev. James Gibson, M.A.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. J. R. Fiddian.

TASMANIA.

Rev. J. Heyer

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Rev. W. F. Turton

ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. W. S. Rolland	Mr. W. Wood
J. T. Lawton, M.A.	D. K. Picken, M.A.
J. A. Crockett	Jas Allan
W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.	

Convener Rev. T. Watt Leggatt.

III.—THE CODE.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. John Burgess, D.D.	Hon. J. Garland
Professor Macintyre, B.D.	Mr. W. Wood

VICTORIA.

Rev. P. J. Murdoch, M.A.	Mr. J. M. Campbell, LL.M.
George Tait, M.A.	G. S. Mackay

QUEENSLAND.

Rev. Richard Kerr	Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.
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SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Mr. T. W. Fleming.

TASMANIA.

Rev. J. Heyer, M.A.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Mr. Henry Scott

ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. W. Gray	Mr. A. G. Proudfoot
F. A. Hagenauer, M.A.	E. J. Loxton.
C. A. White, B.A.	W. A. Sanderson, LL.M.

Mr. S. J. Carruthers.
Joint Conveners : The Clerk and Mr. J. M. Campbell.

IV.—COLLEGE.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. J. Ferguson	Rev. J. Kemp Bruce
A. J. Wade	Thos. Tait, M.A., B.D.

VICTORIA.

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

QUEENSLAND.

Rev. J. B. Galloway	Rev. Richard Kerr
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SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. J. A. Seymour

TASMANIA.

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

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

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

ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. M. Feigus, M.A.	Rev. W. Borland, B.D.
P. J. Murdoch, M.A.	J. Mackenzie
J. B. Rentoul	Professor Rennie
F. Milne, M.A., B.D.	

Conveners : Rev. J. Mathew, B.D.

V.—HOME MISSIONS.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. J. A. R. Petkins, B.A.	Rev. J. A. Barber, B.A.
A. J. Wade	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. J. C. McPhee

TASMANIA.

Rev. P. Hope, B.A.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Rev. A. Crow

ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. W. G. Forysth
Professor Angus
F. W. Rolland
W. F. Gresham

Mr. J. H. Beatson
W. S. Park
D. MacMillan

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. Gillespie
A. L. Pryde

QUEENSLAND.

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

Mr. Alex. S. Lang, F.I.A.Q.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Mr. T. W. Fleming

TASMANIA.

Mr. P. R. Henry

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Mr. E. A. Black

TASMANIA.

Rev. J. Heyer, M.A.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Mr. Henry Scott

ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. W. Gray	Mr. A. G. Proudfoot
F. A. Hagenauer, M.A.	E. J. Loxton.
C. A. White, B.A.	W. A. Sanderson, LL.M.

Mr. S. J. Carruthers.
Joint Conveners : The Clerk and Mr. J. M. Campbell.

IV.—COLLEGE.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. J. Ferguson	Rev. J. Kemp Bruce
A. J. Wade	Thos. Tait, M.A., B.D.

VICTORIA.

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

QUEENSLAND.

Rev. J. B. Galloway	Rev. Richard Kerr
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SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. J. A. Seymour

TASMANIA.

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

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

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

ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. M. Fergus, M.A.	Rev. W. Borland, B.D.
P. J. Murdoch, M.A.	J. Mackenzie
J. B. Rentoul	Professor Rennie

Convener : Rev. J. Mathew, B.D.

V.—HOME MISSIONS.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. J. A. R. Perkins, B.A.	Rev. J. A. Barber, B.A.
A. J. Wade	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. J. C. McPhee

TASMANIA.

Rev. P. Hope, B.A.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Rev. A. Crow

ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. W. G. Forysth
Professor Angus
F. W. Rolland
W. F. Gresham

Mr. J. H. Beatson
W. S. Park
D. MacMillan

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. Gillespie
A. L. Pryde

QUEENSLAND.

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

Mr. Alex. S. Lang, F.I.A.Q.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Mr. T. W. Fleming

TASMANIA.

Mr. P. R. Henry

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Mr. E. A. Black

ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Hon. J. T. Walker	Mr. W. G. Crane
Capt. Craig	W. G. Geikie
Mr. W. F. Greenwood	J. K. Stewart
Dr. J. P. Wilson	

Convener: Mr. W. G. Crane

VII.—RECEPTION OF MINISTERS.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. A. McKinlay	Rev. Professor Angus, Ph.D.
Professor Macintyre, M.A., B.D.	C. A. White, B.A.

VICTORIA.

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

QUEENSLAND.

Rev. George Ewan	Rev. W. H. Waters, B.A.
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SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Dr. Davidson

TASMANIA.

Rev. W. Mabin

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Rev. W. Huey Steele, M.A.

ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. C. H. Talbot	Rev. D. A. Cameron, M.A.
A. J. Wade	T. Morgan
Jas. Cosh, B.D.	Mr. W. Wood
John Walker	

VIII.—STATISTICS.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. F. A. Darling	Rev. D. M. Barnet, B.A.
Jas. Steele	Mr. S. J. Carruthers

VICTORIA.

Rev. J. C. Coutie, B.A.	Mr. L. K. McNab
R. W. Macaulay, B.A.	J. Birtchnell

QUEENSLAND.

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

Mr. A. S. Lang, F.I.A.Q.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.

TASMANIA.

Rev. R. M. Fraser.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. D. F. Brandt

Mr. W. Wood

J. B. Rentoul

Jas. Allan

W. F. Turton

J. H. Beatson

Mr. A. L. Pryde

Joint Conveners : Rev. J. Steele and Rev. R. W. Macaulay

IX.—YEAR BOOK.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. F. A. Darling

Rev. D. M. Barnet, B.A.

Jas. Steele

Mr. S. J. Carruthers

VICTORIA.

Rev. R. A. Green, B.A.

Mr. L. K. McNab

J. A. Lee

J. Birtchnell

QUEENSLAND.

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

Mr. Alex. S. Lang, F.I.A.Q.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.

TASMANIA.

Rev. A. D. Leckie

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Rev. D. Ross

ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. D. F. Brandt

Mr. W. Wood

J. B. Rentoul

Jas. Allan

W. Huey Steele, M.A.

J. H. Beatson

Mr. A. L. Pryde

Joint Conveners : Rev. J. R. Fiddian and J. B. Rentoul.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

I.—FEDERATION OF PROTESTANT CHURCHES.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>Rev. J. Kemp Bruce
 Angus King
 John Edwards, M.A.
 Dr. Harper
 Dr. Burgess
 John Paterson
 G. A. Gordon
 John Walker
 R. H. Waugh, M.A.
 R. Scott West
 C. A. White, B.A.
 Mr. William Affleck
 John Kirkland
 W. G. Crane
 Dr. Robertson
 Mr. W. Wood
 J. H. Beatson
 Rev. Professor Adam, D.D.
 W. Fraser, B.A.
 W. G. Maconochie, M.A.
 J. Mathew, M.A., D.B.
 J. T. Robertson
 P. J. Murdoch, M.A.
 J. McKenzie
 H. Robertson, B.A.
 A. Stewart, M.A.
 D. Ross
 W. Goyen
 W. Borland
 J. Gray
 Mr. W. F. Greenwood
 Rev. Dr. Hay</p> | <p>Rev. D. McLennan
 S. Martin, M.A., B.D.
 Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.
 J. B. Galloway
 Dr. Merrington
 Rev. Principal Glaister
 Mr. Jas Allen
 A. S. Lang
 Rev. G. Davidson, M.A., D.D.
 G. C. Love, M. A., B.D.
 T. Shanks, M.A., B.D.
 A. J. Wade
 J. A. Seymour
 Mr. A. H. Bryson
 T. W. Fleming
 H. B. Thompson
 Professor Rennie
 Mr. T. W. Tassie
 Rev. J. D. Brown
 F. F. Oxer, M.A., B.D.
 J. G. Millar
 Mr. F. Burbury
 D. McKinnon
 Hon. J. Murdoch
 Mr. J. K. Reid
 F. Williams
 J. Wright
 Rev. A. Crow
 A. McCarlie
 Dr. S. Macaulay
 Mr. R. Bracks
 F. A. Mosely</p> |
|--|---|

The Moderator, Clerk, and Law Officers, members *ex officio*.

Rev. PROFESSOR ADAM, 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> |
|--|--|

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.

Right Rev. the Moderator
 Dr. Rentoul
 Wm. Borland, M.A., B.D.
 P. J. Murdoch, M.A.
 J. Sinclair, B.A.
 W. S. Rolland
 Macaulay Caldwell
 John Ferguson
 John Walker
 A. J. Wade

Mr. Wm. Affleck
 Mr W. Wood
 J. H. Balfour
 H. J. T. Walker
 A. L. Pryde
 D. MacMillan
 J. M. Campbell
 Dr. MacFarland
 Hon. Thos. Brown

RIGHT REV. THE MODERATOR, Convener.

IV.—HYMNAL.

Rev. W. H. Ash
 C. Crane
 R. M. Fergus, M.A.
 J. Heyer, M.A.
 C. H. Talbot
 Jas. Steele
 J. Mathew, M.A., B.D.
 J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.
 W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.

Rev. J. T. Robertson
 F. E. Oxer, M.A., B.D.
 W. S. Rolland
 John Walker
 W. Goyen
 Jas. Steele
 Mr. L. Fraser
 D. McPhee
 P. D. McCormick

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. W. G. Forsyth (Chairman.)
 G. A. Gordon
 Angus King
 I. H. G. Auld
 A. J. Wade
 J. R. Perkins
 G. Cranston
 A. Clark

Rev. K. D. Macdonald
 Captain Craig
 Dr. Campbell
 Hon. J. Brown
 Mr. W. Gillanders
 W. Wood
 W. S. Park

VICTORIA.

Rev. F. W. Rolland, M.A. (Chairman)	Rev. Tulloch Yuille, M.A., B.D.
Professor Adam, D.D.	Mr. T. H. Steel
John Walker	George Aitken
D. A. Cameron, M.A.	W. Shaw
J. Barnaby, M.A., B.D.	D. MacMillan
G. S. Brodie	H. H. Kemp
J. MacKenzie	J. M. Carroll
F. H. L. Paton, M.A., B.D.	D. R. Mackie
E. E. Baldwin, M.A.	W. Gray, M.A. B.Sc.
D. Macrae Stewart	D. Steel.

QUEENSLAND.

Rev. F. W. Gresham (Chairman)	Mr. A. S. Barr
G. Ewan	J. B. Codnave
James Gibson	F. R. Lloyd
J. G. Scarfe	

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. J. C. McPhee	Dr. Seymour
R. Mitchell	Mr. T. W. Fleming
W. Gray, (Chairman)	J. G. Balfour
Dr. Davidson	J. Drennan

WEST AUSTRALIA.

Rev. Alex. Crow, (Chairman)	Rev. Daniel Ross
G. Nisbet Dods, M.A.	Mr. F. A. Moseley
F. E. Ozer, M.A., B.D.	Henry Scott
W. Huey Steele, M.A.	J. Marshall

TASMANIA.

Rev. W. J. Holt, M.A., B.D. (Chairman)	Dr. Gibson
J. B. Rentoul	Mr. J. Wright
A. D. Leckie	

VII.—BOOK OF COMMON ORDER.

Rev. James Gibson, M.A.	Rev. J. Mathew, M.A., B.D.
J. B. Galloway	Dr. Davidson
W. Borland	T. Tait, M.A., B.D.
A. McKinlay	W. H. Steele
J. Kemp Bruce	D. Millar
Professor Skene	R. Scott-West
W. C. Lahore	

The Rev. R. SCOTT-WEST, Convener.

VIII.—BUSINESS COMMITTEE.

The Clerk	Rev. J. Mackenzie
The Law Agent	A Stewart
Rev. P. J. Murdoch	

THE REV. P. J. MURDOCH, Convener.

IX.—BENEFICIARY FUNDS.

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.

The Executive : The Victorian Members

X.—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.
D. A. McDougal

Rev. W. Gray
R. J. H. McGowan
A. J. Wade
G. R. S. Reid
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
W. Gray

The Rev J. MACKENZIE, Convener.

XI.—OFFICIAL ORGAN.

Rev. J. Gibson, M.A.
J. Walker
W. C. Radcliffe
J. Mackenzie
H. Kelly, M.A.
W. Coyen
J. T. Lawton
J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.
W. Gray
J. A. Scymour
D. Ross
A. Crow
W. F. Turton

Rev. W. H. Steele.
W. W. Watts
W. H. Ash
Right Rev. the Moderator
Mr. A. S. Lang
W. A. Morrow
W. A. Sanderson
D. MacMillan
W. J. Angus
T. W. Fleming
F. A. McMullen
T. J. Christie
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.

XIV.—HOME MISSION DEPUTATIONS.

Rev. A. McCarlie
 J. Barnaby
 D. A. Cameron
 E. E. Baldwin
 J. Sinclair

Rev. G. S. Brodie
 W. H. Cooper
 Mr. D. MacMillan
 H. H. Kemp

With Revs. A. J. Wade, Dr. Merrington, J. C. McPhee and A. Crow as corresponding members.

REV. A. MCCARLIE, Convener.

XV.—RELIGION IN THE HOME.

Right Rev. the Moderator (Convener).
 Rev. J. Sinclair (Vice-Convener)
 G. R. S. Reid

Rev. J. Gray
 Mr. G. S. Mackay
 J. Birtchnell

XVI.—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
 H. Jones.

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.

Executive:—Mr. D. MacMillan, convener, Rev. W. Thomson, Corresponding Convener, Rev. H. Jones and Mr. C. McKinnon, Hon. Secretaries.



REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

AND OTHER PAPERS

PRESENTED TO THE

General Assembly of Australia.



SYDNEY, SEPTEMBER, 1916.

I.

COMMUNICATIONS.

(1) GENERAL PRESBYTERIAN ALLIANCE, EASTERN SECTION.

122 GEORGE STREET,
EDINBURGH, 11th APRIL, 1916.

To the Clerk of the

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA.

DEAR SIR,

I am instructed to inform you that the Eastern Section has concurred in a suggestion made by the Western Section that, owing to the situation created by the War in Europe, the date of the Eleventh Council, appointed to be held in Pittsburgh, U.S.A. in September, 1917, should be postponed till the year 1918.

Kindly notify this change to the Supreme Court of your Church.

I am, Yours faithfully,

R. DYKES SHAW.

RESOLUTIONS.

(1) RESOLUTION ANENT YEAR BOOK FROM THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

At Adelaide, the second day of June, 1916. Which day the South Australian State Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia being met and constituted.

Inter alia : Rev. F. O. Charlton moved, Rev. Dr. Davidson seconded, and it was agreed : " That in view of the possibility of a recommendation being made to the General Assembly that the Year Book be discontinued, this State Assembly places on record its high appreciation of the value and likewise the absolute need of some such publication, urges the continuance of the Year Book in some form, which will conserve its present usefulness, and directs the Clerk to forward this resolution to the Clerk of the General Assembly.

Extracted from the Records of the South Australian State Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, this 14th day of June, 1916, by me,

J. HALL ANGUS,

Clerk of Assembly.

(2) RESOLUTION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VICTORIA RE YEAR BOOK.

At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins St., the 18th day of May, 1916.

The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was duly constituted.

Inter alia : By leave of the House, the motion of which the Rev. R. W. Macaulay had given notice relative to the Year Book was, in his absence, moved by the Rev. J. K. Robertson in the following form :—

That the State Assembly of Victoria, understanding that there is some possibility of the Year Book being discontinued, or much reduced, after this year, place on record

its high appreciation of the value of the Year Book to the whole Church, and express the earnest hope that the General Assembly will continue the publication thereof and place it on a permanent basis, separating the financial management of the publication from the editorial, and request the Clerk to forward this resolution to the Clerk of the General Assembly.

The motion was duly seconded and approved.

Extracted from the Minutes on this 17th day of August, 1916, by

GEORGE TAIT,

Clerk.

(3) RESOLUTIONS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VICTORIA RE WESTERN AUSTRALIA AND NORTH QUEENSLAND.

At Melbourne and within the Assembly Hall, Collins St., the 18th day of May, 1916.
The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment at 10 a.m., and was duly constituted.

Inter alia :

WEST AUSTRALIA.

The Report of the West Australia Commission was submitted by the Rev. J. Barnaby who moved :—

1.
2. That the General Assembly of Australia be informed that with the ending of the war conditions the Victorian Assembly is prepared (a) to grant £300 for New Home Mission extension work in Western Australia; and (b) to assist with Home Missionaries and Licentrates.

3. That in the administration of Funds so provided and in the appointment and removal of Victorian Missionaries and Licentrates there shall be mutual conference between the Home Mission Committees of the Western Australian Assembly and of the Victorian Assembly.

4.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. A. McCarlie and approved.

NORTH QUEENSLAND.

The reference from the General Assembly of Australia relative to Ministers and Home Missionaries was submitted by the Rev. J. Barnaby, who moved :—

That the General Assembly of Australia be informed that this Assembly regret that it cannot see its way, in view of the present claims on its resources and the promise to help Western Australia, to tender direct assistance to North Queensland.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Professor Adam and approved.

Extracted from the Minutes on this 16th day of August, 1916, by

GEORGE TAIT,

Clerk.

II.

(1) REFERENCE FROM GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VICTORIA RE LIQUOR CONTROL.

At Melbourne and within the Assembly Hall, Collins St., May 9th, 1916.
The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment at 7.30 p.m., and was duly constituted.

Inter alia : The Report on Temperance was submitted by the Rev. C. Neville, who moved :—

(4) That the question of Control of Liquor Legislation by the Commonwealth Parliament be a reference from this Assembly to the General Assembly of Australia, which meets in Sydney next September. The motion was seconded by Rev. W. J. Harris.

The motion was approved.

Extracted from the Minutes this 17th day of August, 1916, by

GEORGE TAIT,

Clerk.

At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins St., the 10th day of May, 1916.

The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment at 7.30 p.m., and was duly constituted.

Inter alia : The Moderator and Mr. H. H. Kemp were appointed to state the Reference relative to the Control of the Liquor Traffic to the General Assembly of Australia.

Extracted from the Minutes this 17th day of August, 1916, by

GEORGE TAIT,

Clerk.

III.

(1) OVERTURE ANENT APPEALS TO JUDICIAL COMMISSION.

Transmitted by New South Wales General Assembly, 12th May, 1915.

Whereas there is reasonable doubt as to the interpretation of the sections on discipline in the Code as to whether the appeal referred to in § 15 and the reference in § 27.6 are to be carried from a Presbytery direct to the Judicial Commission of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, as appears to be clearly provided, or must be taken in the first instance to the State General Assembly, as appears to be implied in V. 1 of the Articles of Agreement.

It is hereby humbly overtured by the Presbytery of the Hastings to the General Assembly of New South Wales to refer the question of interpretation for decision to the General Assembly of Australia, with a request to revise the wording of the Chapter on Discipline in this particular, in order to make the course of procedure clear, and consistent with itself throughout the Chapter.

JOHN BURGESS,

Clerk of N.S.W. Assembly.

(2) OVERTURE ANENT PROCEDURE IN DISCIPLINE.

Transmitted by New South Wales General Assembly, 17th May, 1916.

Whereas the Chapter in the Code of Rules entitled "Procedure in Regard to Discipline" has been found defective in several respects, it is hereby humbly overtured by the General Assembly of New South Wales to the General Assembly of Australia to make a complete revision of the Chapter on Discipline.

JOHN BURGESS,

Clerk of N.S.W. Assembly.

(3) OVERTURE ANENT PROCEDURE IN DISCIPLINE FROM
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF QUEENSLAND.

At Brisbane and within Ann Street Church, the 12th day of May, 1916, which day the General Assembly being duly constituted.

Inter alia : Pursuant to notice, Rev. A. M. MacKillop moved that the following Overture be adopted and ordered to be transmitted to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Whereas the Chapter in the Code of Rules entitled " Procedure in Regard to Discipline " has been found defective in several respects.

It is hereby humbly Overtured by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Queensland to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to take the foregoing into consideration and Order that a complete Revision of the Chapter on Discipline be made.

Or to deal otherwise with the matter as in its wisdom it may seem fit.

The motion was duly seconded and approved, and the Overture adopted and ordered to be transmitted in accordance therewith.

Closed with prayer.

Extracted from the records of the General Assembly by me,

RICHARD KERR,

Clerk.

(4) OVERTURE FROM THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SOUTH
AUSTRALIA ANENT THE NEEDS OF THAT CHURCH.

At Adelaide, the second day of June, 1916.

Which day the South Australian State Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia being met and constituted.

Inter alia : The following Overture was agreed, and ordered to be transmitted to the General Assembly :—

" Whereas the Church in South Australia, taking into consideration its comparatively weak condition numerically and financially, and its consequent inability to carry out efficiently the duties that lie to its hand, and in particular that it has (1) a number of vacant charges for which no settlement seems to be forthcoming; (2) a wide field for Home Mission enterprise without agents to undertake the work; and (3) no one at its disposal who is free to exercise general superintendence, to organise its affairs, and to stimulate all its members and adherents to greater interest and liberality in Home and Foreign Missions: Humbly Overtures—the venerable the General Assembly, indicted to meet in Sydney on September 26th, 1916, that it will consider these premises, and devise means whereby the work of the Church in South Australia, consistent with its autonomy, may be more efficiently undertaken, or to deal otherwise with these premises, as it in its wisdom may see fit.

Extracted from the Records of the South Australian State Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, this 14th day of June, 1916, by me

J. HALL ANGUS,

Clerk of Assembly.

(5) OVERTURE ON ART. 8 OF THE ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT
FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF MELBOURNE SOUTH.

Assembly Hall, Melbourne, 14th August, 1916 : which day the Presbytery of Melbourne South met and was constituted with prayer, Sederunt Revs. J. R. Anderson, etc.

Inter alia : It was resolved to adopt the following Overture to the General Assembly :
It is hereby humbly overtured to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church

III

of Australia, by the Presbytery of Melbourne South, to enact Article 3 of the Articles of Agreement in the Deed of Union, in the following amended form :—

3. 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 sixteenth of the number of ministers on its Roll, and an equal number of elders from its Roll or eligible to be on its Roll and if there be a remainder of more than 8 after dividing the total number of ministers by 16, one additional minister and elder shall be added to the number. 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 fifth of the number of ministers on its Roll, and an equal number of elders from the Roll of the State Assembly or eligible to be on its Roll, and if there be a remainder of more than two after dividing the total number of ministers by five one additional minister and elder shall be added to the number. 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 Assembly, 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.

Certified by,

P. J. MURDOCH,

Clerk of Presbytery.

(6) OVERTURE FROM THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE ANENT EXPENSE OF PRINTING PETITIONS.

Whereas petitioners who approach the Assembly should bear the cost of having their plea presented to the Assembly.

It is hereby humbly overtured to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, by the Business Committee of the Assembly to add the following words to Standing Order 104 :—

“A petitioner shall pay to the Finance Committee of the Assembly, through the Business Committee, a minimum fee of ten shillings and such additional sum as shall, in the judgment of the Business Committee, be necessary to defray the cost of printing his petition, such payment to be made prior to presentation of the petition to the Assembly.”

Transmitted by the Business Committee of the Assembly.

RONALD G. MACINTYRE,

Convener.

September, 1916.

IV.

PETITIONS.

(1) PETITION OF HUBERT ROBERTSON FOR ORDINATION.

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

The Petition of the undersigned Hubert Robertson, Evangelist of the Presbyterian Church in the State of Queensland, respectfully sheweth :—

1. That your Petitioner was born of Scottish parents in London, England on May 19th, 1878 ; is married and has two children ; is, and has been for twelve years, a member of the Presbyterian Church, accepts its doctrines and adheres to its form of government.

2. That your Petitioner received his education at a Public School at Rockliffe, near Carlisle, England; served a seven years' apprenticeship as a compositor in the office of the "Carlisle Journal;" was subsequently promoted to the clerical staff; and in addition to work thereon, did a fair amount of reporting.

3. That your Petitioner experienced the saving Grace of God when almost 17 years of age, and within a few years was in considerable demand as week-end supply in the South of Scotland and North of England.

4. That your Petitioner entered the Bible Training Institute, Glasgow, in September, 1901, and put in the two years course there with officially-acknowledged distinction.

5. That your Petitioner was selected from a list of four candidates to be Missionary Assistant to the Rev. Joseph Hibbs, M.A., Princes Street United Free Church, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, and laboured there for nine months—July, 1903 to March, 1904.

6. That your Petitioner resigned the above appointment to accept a twice-offered place on the staff of the London Evangelisation Society (Scottish Branch), and for nine years was engaged in evangelistic work in many parts of Scotland and England.

7. That in 1913, being urged thereto by Mr. Hugh Paton, your Petitioner resigned, though his services were in such demand that he was unable to respond to all the calls, in order to proceed to Queensland to work in connection with the Presbyterian Church.

8. That at the State Assembly following his arrival in Queensland, your Petitioner was appointed Assembly's Evangelist; that he still holds that position; that he has not been able to undertake much evangelistic work on account of having been engaged continuously since October, 1913 (three months after his arrival) in supplying vacant charges or acting as locum tenens at Enoggera Terrace (now Ithaca), Ann Street and St. Paul's, Brisbane; St. Andrew's, Charters Towers, and Townsville.

9. That, though in receipt of rather tempting offers of work elsewhere, your Petitioner desires to continue to serve the Church in Queensland, and that his experience of the conditions of religious work in that State has proved to him that such service can, for the present at least, be more effectively rendered in a settled sphere than as an itinerating evangelist.

Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays that the Venerable Assembly will take into consideration his work and experience, as indicated in the foregoing premises and in the relative papers attached, as an equivalent of the prescribed course of study, and in face of the great need for men in the North will admit him to the Ministry without further test or training.

And your Petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

HUBERT ROBERTSON

B—EXTRACT MINUTE QUEENSLAND STATE ASSEMBLY.

At Brisbane, and within Ann Street Church, the 12th day of May, 1916, which day the General Assembly being duly constituted.

Inter alia: The Assembly proceeded to consider a Petition from Mr. Hubert Robertson.

The Petition is addressed to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. Its prayer is that the Venerable Assembly will admit him to the ministry without further test or training.

The Petition had been transmitted by the Presbytery of Brisbane, with a recommendation that the prayer of it be granted.

It was also accompanied by a certificate from the Home Mission Committee, expressing approval; and also a number of testimonials as to work and character.

After discussion and an amendment had been disapproved, it was finally resolved:—

"That the petition of Mr. Hubert Robertson be transmitted to the General Assembly of Australia, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted, provided that the petitioner attend the Theological Hall for one year and passes the Exit Examination at the end of the year in such subjects as may be prescribed by the General Assembly."

Closed with prayer.

Extracted from the records of the General Assembly by me,

RICHARD KERR,
Clerk of Queensland State Assembly.

PAPERS ACCOMPANYING PETITION OF MR. HUBERT ROBERTSON.

Extract minute State Assembly of Queensland.

Extract minute Presbytery of Brisbane and two letters forwarding documents.

Certificate of Home Mission Committee in Queensland.

Copies of Testimonials as to life and work, from

1. Rev. R. M. Legate
2. Rev. Hugh Paton
3. Mr. N. J. Macleod (original)
4. Rev. Geo. Tulloch
5. Rev. J. Cosh
6. Mr. Jas Aitken, Session Clerk Ithaca, Brisbane
7. M. T. Price Jones, Session Clerk, St. Andrew's, Charters Towers
8. Printed circular of Evangelistic Committee, Queensland, containing copies of a number of Testimonials from England and Scotland
9. Lieut. Thomas Macleod
10. Townsville Session
11. Copy of Diploma from B.T.I.

(2) PETITION OF L. M. FAIREY FOR ADMISSION TO THE THEOLOGICAL HALL.

Warren, July 12th, 1916.

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

The petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth :—

1. That your Petitioner is the son of the Rev. F. E. B. Fairey, who has been working for the Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales for the past five years, that he is married, and has one child.

2. That your petitioner was born in Tasmania in the year 1887, that at the age of 15 years he entered upon a business career and remained at such for (7) seven years ; that at the age of (23) twenty-three he felt called to enter the Christian Ministry, undertaking work for the Congregational denomination of Tasmania.

3. That your petitioner remained (4) four years with the last-named body, working in several Churches throughout Tasmania and Queensland, and only resigned, on account of lack of opportunity through the scarcity of Churches in the latter State.

4. That your petitioner applied for admission to the Presbyterian Home Mission staff, and was accepted, that since that acceptance your petitioner has worked in various Home Mission Charges for the past eighteen months in the State of New South Wales, and has been successful in such work.

5. That your petitioner received his primary education in the State Schools of South Australia, where he remained for nine years ; that he also undertook a course of private study for 12 months under the direction of the late Rev. Dr. Bufton, Ph.D., F.L.S., F.R.S., that upon entering upon work for the Congregational body in Queensland he was admitted to the Brisbane Congregational Theological College and prosecuted a course that was laid down, for three years.

6. That your petitioner took as subjects of that course Greek, English and English Literature, Old and New Testament, Exegesis, Apologetics, Church History, Logic, Theology, Lower Criticism, Ethics, with lessons on Elocution and Sermon-making. That he only gave up study at the completion of his third year's course.

7. That your petitioner desires recognition of the three years' course completed and prays your Venerable Court to grant permission for him to sit for the Entrance Examination of the Theological Hall of New South Wales, and your petitioner will ever pray.

LESLIE M. FAIREY.

COURSE TAKEN IN CONGREGATIONAL COLLEGE, BRISBANE.

First Year.—Theology (Stevens), Theology of the New Testament ; Comparative Religion ; Lectures ; English Literature—Macbeth, Meiklejohn's Grammar, or English language; Greek.—Burnett's Part 1 with Translation ; Old Testament Exegesis on Jeremiah ; —“ In Jewish Church—Robertson Smith ; Christian Evidences—Stewart ; New Test Exegesis of Romans—Century Bible ; Lower Criticism ; Church History ; Logic—Jevons, 1st Part.

Second Year.—Theology—Clarke's Part 1 ; Greek—Burnett's up to Verb, with Translation ; English Literature—Hamlet ; Old Testament—Exegesis, Minor Prophets, Century Bible ; New Testament—Exegesis ; Apologetics—Bruce's ; Logic—Jevons, Part 2.

Third Year.—N. T. Theology—Part 2, Clarke's ; Lectures on Preaching, with Elocution ; Sermon Class ; Greek—Translation Green's N.T. Greek, Burnett's ; English Literature—Henry 5th ; Ethics—MacKenzie's, with Lectures ; New Test Exegesis—Romans, Century Bible.

The Manse,

Temora, 31st December, 1915.

This is to Certify that Mr. Leslie M. Fairey was in Wyalong supplying as Home Mission Agent for a year, and during that time showed great diligence in all his duties, and did much to consolidate matters in that trying charge. As he wished to go on to study for the ministry, his withdrawal from the field was necessary. I have pleasure in saying this and wish him all success in the future.

W. ANSON SMITH,

Interim-Moderator of Wyalong.

The Manse,

Boorowa, March 6th, 1915.

Mr. Leslie M. Fairey has been acting as Home Mission Agent for some time at Wyalong within the bounds of the Presbytery of Young. From all that I have heard of him I have much pleasure in the name of the Presbytery, in recommending that he be received as a student for the Entrance Examination of the Theological Hall.

JAMES GOUDIE,

Presbytery Clerk.

At Dubbo, and within St. Andrew's Church, on Friday the Eighteenth day of August 1916, the Presbytery of Orange met, and was constituted with the reading of Scripture and prayer.

Inter alia : The Presbytery resumed consideration of Mr. Leslie M. Fairey's Petition to the College Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Australia for transmission to the General Assembly, desiring " recognition of the three years' course completed in the Brisbane Congregational Theological College, and praying that permission may be granted him to sit for the Entrance Examination of the Theological Hall of New South Wales."

On the motion of the Rev. W. F. Craigie, seconded by the Rev. T. D. Evans, the Presbytery resolved to transmit the Petition with relative documents simpliciter to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Sederunt was closed with prayer.

Extracted from the Records of the Presbytery of Orange this 19th day of August, 1916, by me,

JOHN CALDER,

Presbytery Clerk Orange Presbytery.

(3) PETITION FROM THE CONGREGATION OF DUBBO FOR THE ORDINATION OF MR. ANDREW MCCALLUM.

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

The petition of the undersigned being :—

The Kirk Session of the Presbyterian Church at Dubbo, in the State of New South Wales. The Committee of Management of the said Church. The Vacancy Committee of the said Church. The Congregation of the said Church, including representatives of the Congregation of the outlying Preaching Stations connected with the said Church.

Respectfully sheweth :—

1. That the office of Minister in the aforesaid Parish Church has been vacant since the translation of the Rev. W. H. Ash to the Charge of Werribee Presbyterian Church in the State of Victoria, in the month of October, 1914, a period of nearly two years.

2. That upon such vacancy occurring the Congregation at Dubbo, under the interim Moderatorship, of the Rev. H. R. Grassick of Wellington, appointed the said Vacancy Committee to take such steps as would enable the Congregation to call a Minister to fill the vacancy. At various times since such vacancy occurred Ministers of the Presbyterian Church of Australia have preached and spent some time in the Parish, but the Congregation has not desired to call any of the said Ministers, nor has the Congregation been moved to call any other Minister.

3. That the said Church at Dubbo has for some considerable time prior to the Charge becoming vacant maintained an Assistant to the Minister of the Charge, and that in November, 1915 it employed Mr. Andrew McCallum, then of Minmi, and formerly of St. John's United Free Church of Scotland, Glasgow, who is a Home Mission Agent of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales as Assistant for a period of six months.

4. That the Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales has since been asked to permit the period of his employment as Assistant to be extended an additional twelve months and has consented.

5. That Mr McCallum is a married man with a wife and one child, and is of the age of forty-one years. He was born at Alva near Stirling, Scotland, and came to Australia in June, 1911.

6. That Mr. McCallum's services have been so acceptable to the said Church that his original remuneration of three pounds per week has been raised to five pounds per week, with the right of using the Manse as a dwelling, so long as the Charge is without a Minister.

7. That his preaching has been so acceptable to the Congregation, and to the town and district generally, that the parish church has proved quite inadequate to hold the worshippers attending, and the Committee of Management have had to move the Diets of Sabbath Worship into the Sabbath School which has double the accommodation of the church, and which is now at both morning and evening diets comfortably filled.

8. That it is due solely to the acceptance with which the people hear Mr. Callum's ministry that the finances of the Church are in a more satisfactory condition than at any time within the history of the Church. Further indications of the favour in which he is held are shown by the offertories at the Diets of Worships, being, generally speaking, about double what they were ordinarily, the choir being doubled in numbers, the service of praise greatly heartened, and the work of the Charge consolidated and invigorated.

9. That as a consequence of the Congregation's constant indication of the favour in which Mr. McCallum's ministry is held, the aforesaid Vacancy Committee, consisting of twenty-six of the most devoted members of the Church, moved the Kirk Session to petition for the ordination of Mr. McCallum to the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, which the Kirk Session are now by these presents doing.

10. That by the permission and at the request of the Kirk Session, the Committee of the aforesaid Church and the Vacancy Committee are also joining by these presents in such petition.

11. That at a meeting of the members and adherents of the said Church held on the second day of August instant, under the Moderatorship of the said Rev. H. R. Grassick, it was decided unanimously to join in this petition for the ordination of Mr. McCallum as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

12. That in support of this petition the Church at Dubbo communicated with members of the Presbyterian Home Mission Charge at Minmi in the State of New South Wales, where Mr. McCallum had previously laboured for four and a half years, and received replies thereto, copies of which are annexed to this petition, and marked 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and the originals are with the Clerk of the Session, Dubbo.

13. That, in further support thereof, copies of the following documents are attached hereto, the originals of which are in the hands of the Clerk of the Session of the Dubbo Church :—

1. Annual Report for the year 1910 of St. John's Church, Glasgow, Scotland, pp. 9 and 10.

2. 17th February, 1911. Testimonial. Rev. John S. Carroll, D.D., Minister St. John's U.F. Church, Glasgow.

3. 6th February, 1908. Certificate, Rev. J. Dykes Lang, Superintendent and Secretary City Mission, Glasgow.

4. 14th July, 1909 Certificate, Rev. W. Chalmers Smith, B.D., Calton Parish, Glasgow.

5. 28th September, 1908. Testimonial. Rev. Gordon B. Watt, Minister of St. Paul's, Glasgow.

6. 20th April, 1905. Testimonial, Rev. W. Somerville Reid, Minister of Reid United F. Church, Hurlford by Kilmarnock.

14. That the annexures referred to prove that Mr. McCallum has been in active work for various Churches as a Missionary, and for part of the time as an Elder, for a period of over twenty years; that immediately prior to coming to the State of New South Wales he was in charge of a Mission Church in Glasgow for over two years, which had a membership of 270, with the usual services and meetings of a regular Congregation, and that his work for 5 years in New South Wales, both at Mimmi and Dubbo, has been marked with signal approval of those among whom he has ministered.

15. That it is known to your petitioners that in addition to the work more specially attached to the Church, such as preaching, visiting, organising, working in the Sabbath School, in all which Mr. McCallum has approved himself, he has served with conspicuous ability the civic life of this town in such spheres as the Recruiting Association, the War Service Committee, the Caledonian Society, and in many public meetings where his utterances have been a cause of pride to us and a service to the whole community. The annexures hereto marked 10 and 11, being communications received from E. Dash, Esq., B.A., Headmaster of the Dubbo High School and District Schools, and from Captains Wallace and Ley, the senior officers of the Local Military Camp, in which are from 750 to 1,200 soldiers, tell of Mr. McCallum's work in those spheres and need no further mention by your petitioners.

16. That Mr. McCallum's work has not been confined to the town is evidenced by the annexures marked which are copies of statements made by the representatives of the Congregation of the outlying preaching stations connected with the Dubbo Church, who are joined in this petition.

Your petitioners would respectfully point out that though Mr. McCallum has been the Assistant in the Charge, he has carried out to the fullest of his fine ability the preaching and pastoral work of both the Minister and the Assistant, and that, too, during a time when the work of the Charge has been increased to a great degree by the presence of a Military Camp.

17. That there exist at this present time special conditions in the circumstances of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales, inasmuch as there are more vacant Charges than there are Ministers available to fill the vacancies, and there are still Ministers needed for service abroad as Chaplains with the Soldiers.

18. That Mr. McCallum's length of service in Church work, his Home, Scottish and Australian services, being combined, amounts to 20 years, a time sufficient to test his ability and suitability when considered together with the many striking testimonials to his worth and work which your petitioners, by these presents, respectfully lay before you; that his age and condition of life and long experience in work would preclude the hope that a further course of formal study would add any really valuable element to his equipment for ordination; and that the fervent prayer of your petitioners for his ordination is based upon a full confidence that he is competent to serve the Presbyterian Church of Australia at Dubbo faithfully and successfully as an ordained Minister.

Your petitioners accordingly pray that your Venerable Court may take all these premises into consideration and may ordain the said Andrew McCallum to the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Signed by 5 Elders, 15 Members of the Committee of Management and 182 members and adherents.

At Dubbo, and within St. Andrew's Church, on Friday, 18th August, 1916, the Presbytery of Orange met and was constituted with the reading of Scripture and prayer.

Inter alia : A petition was received from the Kirk Session, the Committee of Management, the Vacancy Committee, and the Congregation of Dubbo, along with relative documents, to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, to ordain Mr. Andrew McCallum to the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Rev. T. D. Evans moved, and the Rev. A. D. Robertson seconded, "That the petition be transmitted to the General Assembly of Australia *simpliciter*."

The Rev. W. F. Craigie moved, and the Rev. A. M. Ferrie seconded, "That the word '*simpliciter*' be omitted, and that the words 'and that the prayer thereof be granted' be inserted."

The amendment, on being put, was lost.

The original motion, on being put, was carried.

The Sederunt was closed with prayer.

Extracted from the Records of the Presbytery of Orange, this 19th day of August, 1916, by me,

JOHN CALDER,

Presbytery Clerk, Orange Presbytery.

(4) PETITION OF JAMES B. CLARK ANENT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

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

The petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth :—

1. That your petitioner is 47 years of age.
2. That he is married and has a family.
3. That he has worked with uniform success as a Home Missionary of the Church of New South Wales for eight years.
4. That he has passed all the examinations of the Home Mission Course, and has done so while working a large country parish, and not merely a Home Missions Station. He has thus worked under very great difficulties and completed the Home Mission Course.
5. That he entered the Theological Hall in Sydney in 1916, intending to sit for the entrance examination, but health reasons prevented him sitting for the examination. He, however, continued his attendance at classes till his health gave way to such an extent that he had to ask the Faculty for dispensation before the end of the Session, which was granted.
6. That he is now so far restored in health, the loss of which was mainly due to sleeplessness, that he feels fit to go on with his Theological course and undertake the Exit examination in due course.
7. But he cannot face the work of the Theological Hall if he is at the same time to undertake the Entrance examination. He would respectfully point out that the subjects embraced in the Entrance examination have already been passed by him in the Home Mission Course, and he would submit that in the special circumstances these examinations should be allowed to stand for the Entrance examination.

Your petitioner therefore prays that your Venerable Court will relieve him from the necessity of passing the Entrance examination and validate his first Session in the Theological Hall.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JAMES B. CLARK.

V.

RETURNS TO REMITS.

- (1) ANENT ARTICLE III. (BLUE BOOK, 1914, MINUTE 108).

Approve :—State Assemblies of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria.

Presbyteries of Ballarat, Bathurst, Beechworth, Bolalia, Brisbane, Flinders, Fremantle, Geelong, Gippsland, Goldfields, Goulburn, Goulburn Valley, Hamilton, Hastings

Illawarra, Macedon, Maryborough (Q.) Maryborough (Vic.), Melbourne North, Melbourne South, Monaro, Mortlake, New England, North Sydney, Onkaparinga, Orange, Penola, Perth, Rockhampton, Seymour, Southern, Toowoomba, Wimmera, Young, Bendigo.

Disapprove :—State Assembly of Tasmania.

Presbyteries of Hobart, Launceston.

(2) ANENT AMENDING RULE 3 ON DISCIPLINE (BLUE BOOK, 1914, MINUTE 116).

Approve :—State Assemblies of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania.

Presbyteries of Ballarat, Bathurst, Beechworth, Belalie, Brisbane, Fremantle, Goldfields, Goulburn, Goulburn Valley, Hamilton, Hastings, Hobart, Illawarra, Launceston, Macedon, Maryborough (Q.), Melbourne North, Melbourne South, Monaro, Mortlake, New England, North Sydney, Onkaparinga, Orange, Penola, Perth, Rockhampton, Seymour, Southern, Toowoomba, Wimmera, Young, Bendigo.

Disapprove :—State Assembly of Victoria.

Presbyteries of Geelong, Gippsland.

(3) ANENT HOME MISSIONARIES ADMINISTERING BAPTISM (BLUE BOOK, 1914, MINUTE 61).

Approve :—State Assemblies of Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania (by 6 votes to 5; 5 dissented; Rev. P. Hope dissented from clause requiring Home Missionaries to be ordained as elders), Victoria.

Presbyteries of Ballarat, Bathurst, Beechworth, Belalie, Brisbane, Flinders, Geelong, Goldfields, Goulburn Valley, Hamilton (one dissentient), Illawarra, Macedon, Maryborough (Q.), Maryborough (Vic.), Melbourne North, Monaro, Mortlake, Onkaparinga, Perth, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, Wimmera, Young, Bendigo.

Approve :—With omission of the words, " who have received ordination as elders " :—State Assembly of New South Wales.

Presbyteries of Fremantle, Gippsland (also recommends consecration service instead of ordination, and the consent of Moderator), Goulburn, Hastings, Melbourne South (also recommends to transfer last clause of (2) to (1) North Sydney, Southern.

Presbytery of Penola approves " on the clear understanding that the measure proposed be regarded as a temporary administrative arrangement."

Disapprove :—Presbyteries of Hobart, Launceston, New England, Orange, Seymour.

(4) ANENT AMENDING CONFESSION OF FAITH (BLUE BOOK, 1914, MINUTE 61).

Approve :—State Assemblies of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria.

Presbyteries of Ballarat, Beechworth, Belalie, Brisbane, Flinders, Fremantle, Geelong, Gippsland, Goldfields, Goulburn, Goulburn Valley, Hamilton, Hastings, Illawarra, Macedon, Maryborough (Q.), Maryborough (Vic.), Melbourne North, Melbourne South, Monaro, Mortlake, North Sydney, Onkaparinga, Penola, Perth, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, Wimmera, Young.

Disapprove :—Presbyteries of Bathurst (recommends Declaratory Act), Hobart, Launceston, New England, Orange.

VI. REPORTS.

REPORT OF WELFARE OF YOUTH COMMITTEE.

At the last Assembly held in Brisbane in 1914, the following words formed part of the deliverance of your Committee, which was approved by that Assembly.

Recommend the adoption by the Sabbath Schools of our Church, of the Graded Lesson principle, and authorise the Committee to confer with the Welfare of Youth Committees in the various States, with a view to completing the preparation of a scheme of Graded Lessons.

In order to implement this recommendation, your Executive met in Melbourne and drew up a list of four questions to be sent to our Welfare of Youth Committees in Australia.

The questions were these:—

1. Are your Committee in favour of the adoption by the Sabbath Schools of your State of an Australian Scheme of Lessons?
2. The Assembly having approved of Graded Lessons in our Schools, what principles do you consider should be followed as to the grading of the lessons, ages for scholars in the various departments, etc?
3. In regard to the selection of the lessons, what would you suggest as to the proper lines to be laid down?
4. Are there any other matters in connection with the whole question which you would wish to lay before the Committee for its consideration?

Briefly, the answers received from each State Committee are as follows:—

Question 1.

From all the States the answer is practically in the affirmative.

Question 2.

QUEENSLAND.—Four Departments—Primary, 5-8; Junior, 8-11; Intermediate, 11-14; Senior, 14-17.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Five Departments—Beginners, 4-5; Primary, 6-8; Junior, 9-12; Intermediate, 13-16; Senior, 17-20 (open to further consideration).

VICTORIA.—Four Departments—Primary, up to 8; Junior, 8-11; Intermediate, 11-14; Senior, 14-17; Bible classes to follow (material and presentation to be graded).

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Same as Victoria.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—Four Departments—Primary, Junior, Intermediate and Senior (to cover ages from 6-16).

Question 3

QUEENSLAND.—A proves generally of Victorian Scheme.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Considers Westminster Scheme most suitable if adapted to Australian needs.

VICTORIA.—Thinks historic method should be carefully followed in the general outlines of the lessons, and is trying to discover in a practical way what scheme and methods are most suitable to Australian Scholars.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—Desires the lessons to be on the lines of the Westminster's books, with such modifications as may be deemed necessary for Australia.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—In favour of Victorian Scheme.

Summarising then, the answers to these three questions your Committee find that one Church, Western Australia, is trying to bring all its schools into line on the basis of the Westminster Scheme; that another—New South Wales, is pursuing a similar course; that a third—Victoria has elaborated a scheme of its own, which it considers suitable, and which has so commended itself to sister Churches that some of them have adopted it, viz:—Queensland and South Australia. The South Australian Sunday School Union, and the Victorian and Tasmanian Methodist Church are using it also, or are about to do so, and New Zealand is considering it favourably.

It will be manifest that some advance has been made. The Graded Lesson System has been already approved of by the Assembly. The desirability of one scheme for Australia has been affirmed by the Committee of all our State Churches, the matter of the apportionment of ages to departments should admit of easy adjustment.

There are, however, differences as to the selection of lessons, and your Committee are of opinion that the time has not yet arrived for a final decision on the matter.

“To hasten slowly at the present hour may mean quicker progress in the end, and a more permanent settlement.” says the British International Lessons Committee, in view of similar differences of opinion. But it should be kept in mind that one Scheme for Australia would probably result in a great reduction in the cost of the literature. It would also mean that scholars passing from one State to another could carry on their Sabbath School Education continuously, and it would, doubtless, tend to break down provincialism, and develop a wider, an Australian outlook for the young people growing up among us.

“It was recommended by the General Assembly of Australia in 1912, 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 in the Victorian Church by the appointment of Rev. W. Goyen as Director of its Sabbath Schools, and the Assembly of New South Wales has resolved to make a similar appointment whenever means permit. In the other States, the matter has not been dealt with.

Owing to the very imperfect statistics supplied to your Committee, we regret that it is impossible to place before the Assembly any proper statement.

1. TEACHER TRAINING.

There seems to be a general feeling that Teacher-training is not being carried on very successfully, though much is being attempted in some of our Churches. Most competent men have held classes in large centres, but the attendances of teachers have not been very encouraging.

In these war-times, it may be that the burdens placed upon our men and women just now, largely accounts for this.

2. LEAGUE OF WORSHIPPERS.

In some of our Churches, the League of Worshippers has done much to connect the Sabbath School with the Church, and it is believed that if properly worked, much more might be effected in this direction.

3. BIBLE CLASSES.

With regard to Bible classes a travelling agent has been appointed in New South Wales, to promote and encourage their formation, with good results, we understand.

4. MISSIONARY INTEREST.

As to the cultivation of the Missionary spirit in our Sabbath Schools, and the evoking of the generosity of the scholars, much has been done, but more needs to be done.

The Convener of the Foreign Mission Committee of New South Wales recently wrote:—"The Sabbath Schools present our greatest opportunity and our greatest failure. . . . Many of the schools contribute something to our funds, but praiseworthy as this is—something more is needed. There should be some well wrought scheme by which our children should be instructed in the facts of our own and other fields, and the principles and methods of maintaining them.

5. CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

This is worthy of the consideration of the Assembly.

The passing of our Sabbath Scholars into the membership of the Church is a very important matter, but without an accurate statement as to the number of scholars who have become communicants, your Committee cannot say how far we are making progress or the reverse.

Many of our best teachers have felt it to be their duty to enlist as soldiers of the King, and this has tended to the disorganisations of our schools.

But there are many devoted men and women who are doing their utmost to fill the gaps that have been created, and carry on the work efficiently, and they deserve and should receive from the Assembly every encouragement and warmest thanks.

W. S. ROLLAND, Convener.

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE "RECORD."

Your Committee beg to report that the circulation of the Magazine has decreased by 981 copies.

This may be accounted for partly by the pressure of war-times, and the numerous appeals for various beneficent Funds connected with the war, and partly by the publication in some of the States of Graded Lessons' literature—the Sabbath Scholars finding it impossible to pay both for the Graded Lesson Books, and the "Record."

The following table will make clearly the increases and decreases in the number of copies taken by the various States and New Zealand.

The latter has its own Magazine now, a decrease there may well be expected, of course.

It is only recently that Fiji has come on our list of subscribers.

	1914	1916	Increase	Decrease
Queensland	624	586	—	38
New South Wales	1049	966	—	83
Victoria	7514	6849	—	665
Tasmania	206	217	11	—
South Australia	530	578	48	—
Western Australia	575	294	—	281
New Zealand	111	88	—	23
Fiji	—	50	50	—
	<u>10,609</u>	<u>9,628</u>	109	1,090

Letters have been received from readers of the Magazine which indicate that the "Record" where it has been given up has been given up reluctantly, under necessity and not because it has ceased to interest.

Royalties in proportion to the number of copies circulating in each State, have been paid over by the Publishers to the various State Committees at the rate of £4 a thousand copies.

The agreement with the Publishers for a period of five years, ended at the beginning of 1916, and a new one is being arranged for.

The Editor reports that in response to an appeal for the supply of tinned milk to the Belgian children, the generous gift of £115 8s. 11d., mostly in small sums, has been received from readers of the "Record."

All the Conveners of the Foreign Mission Committees in the various States were requested in our last Report to secure, if possible, from the missionaries in their service, letters of missionary interest for the readers of the "Record," but from some of our mission fields, the result has been small.

If our young people care to grow up with the missionary spirit and generosity towards developed in them, it will be as they know what our missionaries are doing, and nothing can quite compensate for the lack of this knowledge. A Missionary Magazine for all our Schools should therefore contain information from all our workers in the Mission field.

W. S. ROLLAND, Convener.

REPORT OF HYMNAL COMMITTEE.

Your Committee has to report that the Hymnal is being used by a larger number of congregations every year. Wherever it has been adopted it has, we believe, given satisfaction.

Primarily intended for Sunday Schools, it supplies a good collection of children's hymns, for infants and for those who are beyond the stage of infancy. As the hymns are classified, pieces for each of the grades in the school can easily be found. Every hymn in the book is, it is hoped, suitable for its purpose. There are no useless numbers in it, and it is therefore economical in size and cost. Care has been taken to see that the range of the music is not too great for children's voices. A careful selection has been made of the best standard hymns, which, experience shows, the children very early appreciate, and a number of psalms are also included. The book, therefore, not only serves the immediate purpose of the Sunday School, but is also an introduction to and preparation for church worship. This your Committee believes to be an important feature.

In some books prepared for children's use the style of the words and music is so different from that of the hymns and psalms we sing in church, that children using them feel the musical atmosphere of the church service unfamiliar. Much of the newer hymnody and music written for children's use is bright and taking, but it is not the sort of thing that roots deeply. In the Church's own Hymnal it is hoped that the two elements of brightness and abiding worth will be found combined.

For services in country centres, where the Hymnary is hardly suitable, the Hymnal has been found to serve admirably. In many such centres, the distinctive elements of our Presbyterian praise are lost. Sankey's and Alexander's books have their merits, but our people, young and old, are much better to have their own hymnbooks, whenever they meet for worship.

In many country places Sunday School precedes the service, and it is a great advantage to have the one hymnbook serving both the children's and the adults' meetings.

Not only do our own interests call for the general use of the Hymnal, it is to be remembered that the publisher in England, who, at the Assembly's request, undertook the publication of the Hymnal, has a claim upon us. The matter is one of business with him, and since he entered upon the publication of the book, by the Assembly's desire, he naturally looks to the Church to secure as large a circulation of the Hymnal as possible.

For the Committee.

W. H. ASH, Convener.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE RECEPTION OF MINISTERS.

On account of the petition of the Rev. W. Rowlands not having been forwarded in time to be dealt with by the last General Assembly, and that through no fault of the petitioner, the Committee was instructed by the Assembly to receive Mr. Rowlands as a minister if his papers were found to be in order. Everything being satisfactory Mr. Rowlands was received.

Rev. Andrew Goodall.—This case was remitted by last General Assembly to the Committee for further enquiry, and instructions given that if the reports were thoroughly satisfactory the Committee was empowered to deal finally with the petition. That enquiry was made, and not being quite satisfactory, the Committee reports the case to the General Assembly.

Received under Section A of the Regulations :—Revs. Richard Gleister, M.A. B.D.; W. Parton Shinton, Arthur Edmunds, Mervyn Henderson, M.A., J. Garnon Owen.

The following petitions have been received :—

(1) REV. WM. SPENCE.

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, the petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth :—

1. That he was born in Pomona Orkney Islands in 1868, and received his early education in the Free Church and public schools of his native parish.

2. That in 1887 he emigrated to New Zealand, where he was for seven years engaged in commercial life, during which he took part in Christian work.

3. That in 1894, feeling called and encouraged to devote himself to the work of the ministry, he entered the University of Otago, and after passing successfully through the full course of Arts prescribed by the New Zealand Church, he entered the Theological Hall, and completed his course in 1901.

4. That he was licensed in 1902 and ordained in the same year at Cust, by the Presbytery of Christchurch, was translated to Lincoln in November, 1905 and to West Taieri in August, 1909, which pastorate he still occupies.

5. That while physically strong—never having been laid aside by illness and having secured first-class passes when medically examined for life insurance and beneficiary funds, yet he finds that the cold wet winters and low situation of the Taieri plains are tending to impair his health, and being assured that a drier and warmer climate would enable him to do better work, he desires to fulfil a hope cherished for several years, viz. : to labour in the Gospel in Australia.

6. That to this end he respectfully approaches your Venerable Court praying for admission into the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, and to be declared eligible for a call at once.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

WILLIAM SPENCE.

Documents accompanying petition :—Certificate from Presbytery of Dunedin, commendatory letters from Rev. Prof. Watt, D.D., Rev. John Kilpatrick, Rev. Prof. Hewitson, Rev. Prof. Dickie, Rev. Prof. Dunlop, Rev. R. E. Davies, Rev. J. H. MacKenzie, Rev. Alex. Whyte.

This is to Certify in the name and by the authority of the Presbytery of Sydney that on the 13th June, 1916, the Presbytery resolved that the petition of the Rev. William Spence to be received as a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia be transmitted to the General Assembly of Australia, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted.

Certified this 12th day of July, 1916, by me,

JOHN EDWARDS,

Clerk of the Presbytery of Sydney.

Clifton, Queensland, 3rd July, 1916.

(2) REV. DUNCAN MATHESON.

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

The petition of Mr. Duncan Matheson, preacher of the Gospel, licentiate of United Free Church of Scotland, humbly sheweth—

That he was born in Lewis, Scotland in 1866, and is now 49 years of age.

That he took his Arts course in the University of Glasgow, taking the M.A. degree in Latin, Logic and Moral Philosophy.

That he completed his studies in Theology in the U.F. Church College, Aberdeen Session, 1897-8.

That he was licensed on the 2nd September, 1902, by the U.F. Presbytery of Lewis; that he worked in the congregations of Stornoway, Carloway and Lochs under the Lewis Presbytery, but was laid aside repeatedly by attacks of illness due largely to climatic conditions: that having come to Australia, partly for his health, and on a visit, he seeks admission to the Presbyterian Church of Australia as a licentiate of said Church: and that your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

DUNCAN MATHESON.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA.

State of Queensland, Presbytery of Toowoomba.

At Warwick, and within the Presbyterian Church there, the nineteenth day of July, 1916, the Presbytery of Toowoomba being duly met and constituted with prayer.

Inter alia: The petition from Mr. Duncan Matheson, a licentiate of the United Free Church of Scotland, for admission as a licentiate of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, was considered. The Clerk read the petition and all the certificates accompanying it. Mr. Matheson was present, and an opportunity was given to the Presbytery to examine him on any matter relating to his petition. Mr. Matheson then withdrew. It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed to that:

“The Presbytery, having heard Mr. Matheson's petition and the following certificates in support of the statements contained therein—(Class Certificates from Professors of the University of Glasgow; Departmental Certificates of Graduation in Arts in the University of Glasgow; Entrance, Exit and General College Certificates U.F. Church; Extract minute of License and Certificate of present status from the United Free Church Presbytery of Lewis, Scotland; Letter of introduction from the Highland Committee of the United Free Church and a Testimonial from the Rev. Allan MacDonal MacKillop, Warwick, formerly a fellow-student, resolved cordially to transmit the petition and all relative documents to the Convener of the Committee on Reception of Ministers, with a strong recommendation that the prayer of the petition be granted.”

Extracted from the Records of the Presbytery of Toowoomba by me,

ALLAN MACDONALD MACKILLOP,

Presbytery Clerk.

(Copy only)

United Free Church Manse, Garrabost, Stornoway,
April 3rd, 1916.

At Garrabost and within the United Free Church Manse, there, on Monday, the 3rd day of April, One thousand Nine hundred and sixteen years, the which day and place the United Free Church Presbytery of Lewis met and was duly constituted.

Inter alia: It was intimated to the Presbytery that the Rev. Duncan Matheson, probationer, is about to leave this country on a visit to Australia; and it was suggested that it might be useful to him during his stay in that country, if his Presbytery supplied him with an abstract-minute showing their appreciation of the Services rendered by him to Congregations within their bounds. This suggestion was agreed to.

Mr. Matheson was licensed by this Presbytery and has continued since, except for some time spent by him in Canada, under its supervision.

He laboured with ability, piety, and acceptance in the Congregations of Stornoway, Lochs, and Cerolway.

And, in the hope that he may be able to render useful services to the Brethren in Australia, the U.F. Presbytery of Lewis desire to introduce and commend him to their Presbyterian Brethren in that Country.

Extracted from the record by,

GEORGE McLEOD,
Presbytery Clerk,

THE UNITED FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND,
Offices 121 George Street,
Edinburgh, February 26th, 1916.

The Rev. Duncan Matheson, a licentiate of the United Free Church of Scotland, who is on the eve of leaving for Australia, has been well known to me from his student days.

Mr. Matheson was a very diligent and successful student, taking his Art Classes at the University of Glasgow, and completing his studies in Theology in our College at Aberdeen.

Mr. Matheson is a good Gaelic scholar, and preaches regularly in Gaelic. He has done service in different parts of the country in connection with the Highlands and Islands Committee of the United Free Church of Scotland, and won the confidence of the people among whom he served, as a devoted, earnest, Christian man. His character, in every respect, is above reproach.

He has unfortunately been handicapped by the state of his health which did not benefit, as was expected, by his visit to Canada, but it is believed that a change to Australia would be very beneficial to his health, and I earnestly trust that an opening may offer in which he can exercise his gifts both as an English and Gaelic speaking minister.

Mr. Matheson was much respected by his fellow-students, and he is followed to the land of his adoption, with the warm good wishes of many friends.

Cordially certified by

ALEXANDER LEE, Secretary.

(3) REV. WM. J. GRANT, B.A.

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

The petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth :—

1. That he is 37 years of age, was born in Sydney, N.S.W., and is a British subject.
2. That he passed through the regular course at Camden Theological College, Sydney, under the Rev. Dr. Fraser, M.A., D.D., entering the College in March, 1900, and leaving in December, 1903, to be ordained to the ministry of the Gospel.
3. That he is a graduate of Sydney University, from which he received the degree of B.A. with Philosophy honours in May, 1903.
4. That he has held three pastorates in Australia, viz., 1½ years at Parramatta, N.S.W.; 3½ years at Rockhampton, Queensland, from which charge he was elected Chairman of the Congregational Union of Queensland, though he was unable, on account of eyelid trouble necessitating removal from the heat, to fulfil that office; and seven years at Katoomba, N.S.W., which position he resigned despite strong entreaties to remain.
5. That he is now master of Greek and Latin at the Fort Street Boys' High School under the New South Wales Education Department.
6. That he has resigned his position as a minister of the Congregational Church not through any trouble of any kind whatsoever with that body, and against the earnest wish of that Church.

7. That he has for some considerable time been drawn toward the Presbyterian Church by many things, not least by the kindly and congenial intellectual and spiritual fellowship of the Presbyterian ministers and people personally known to him; that it is his wish to spend his life and powers in preaching the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ; and that he now desires to be received as a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

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.

WM. J. GRANT.

Ordination Certificate.—Mr. William J. Grant, B.A., of Camden College and Sydney University, was publicly ordained to the work of the Christian Ministry in the Congregational Church, Parramatta, New South Wales, on the evening of the 3rd of December, 1903.

GEORGE CAMPBELL, President Camden College.

N. J. COCKS, Secretary

Commendatory letters from Rev. Dr. Hay, Rev. Prof. Angus, Mr. Alex. Allan, F.R.C.S., etc., late assistant to Professor of Biology, St. Mary's College, Glasgow; Mr. A. Kemp, Katoomba; Prof. Anderson.

This is to certify in the name and by the authority of the Presbytery of Sydney, that on the 13th June, 1916, the Presbytery resolved that the petition of the Rev. W. J. Grant to be received into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, be transmitted to the General Assembly of Australia, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted.

Certified this 12th day of July, 1916, by me

JOHN EDWARDS,

Clerk of the Presbytery of Sydney.

(4) REV. E. W. HOGGEN.

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

The petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth:—

That your petitioner was born at Redfern, N.S.W., is 35 years of age; is married, and has two children.

That after an ordinary State school and college education, he studied Latin and Greek under the Rev. F. V. Pratt, M.A.—present Principal of the Queensland Congregational College—with a view to entering the ministry of the Congregational Church. In 1906 he was accepted to the Extra Mural course of Camden College Sydney and passed all the examinations with credit. These examinations included: Bible Knowledge O.T. and N.T., Exegesis, Apologetics, Theology, Church History, History of Doctrine, Moral Philosophy, English History, etc. Some of the text books used were: Clarke's outline of Christian Theology, Bruce's Apologetics, Fisher's History of the Christian Church (the whole book), Hasting's Dictionary of the Bible, Ramsay's St. Paul the Traveller, MacKenzie's manual of Ethics, Green's Short History.

Your petitioner was ordained on November 26th, 1909. He has had charge of the Churches at Orange, Canterbury, Sutherland and Cessnock.

At Orange your petitioner only accepted the charge of the Church for six months, but at the end of that time at the request of the Union he decided to remain for a further period of one year and six months. During his ministry here the Church was strengthened numerically and financially. At the request of the Union your petitioner resigned the charge to take up work at Canterbury which was in a dying state. During his ministry at Canterbury, the manse—which had been let for some years was renovated at a cost of £60 and made available for the minister, and the stipend raised £52 per annum. An amalgamation was effected between this Church and that of Fern Hill, and a new Church was built in a central position free of debt. This Church is now known as the Hurlstone Park Church. Such an amalgamation having taken place your petitioner deemed it advisable to withdraw and allow a new man to take charge, and having received a call from the Churches in the Sutherland district, he accepted.

At Sutherland good progress was made and a manse was built at a cost of £350.

Owing to an accident which had left a member of his family in a weak condition, your petitioner resigned his charge, and went to the mountains. After twelve months, the member of his family having recovered, your petitioner accepted a call to the Church at Cessnock. During his ministry at Cessnock, a brick manse was erected at a cost of £600. Your petitioner resigned the charge of Cessnock in order to make application to be received into the Presbyterian Church. For some time he has felt that in Congregationalism there is a lack of unity and Church Government, and that he is more in sympathy and accord with Presbyterian Church polity. He also feels that in that Church he can find more scope and a wider field for his activities.

Your petitioner having resigned from the Congregational Union prays your Venerable Court to admit him into the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

ERNEST WILLIAM HOGBEN.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF NEW SOUTH WALES,

Union Office, 264 Pitt Street,

Sydney, 10th April, 1916.

Rev. E. W. Hogben entered on first year of Extra Mural course of Study, November, 1906. Admitted fully, April, 1907. Reported passed examination, November, 1907. Reported passed second year examination with credit, October, 1908. Reported passed third year (trial) examination with credit, giving satisfaction to the examiners on every subject, October, 1909. Ordained with approval of Union Committee at Canterbury, November, 1909.

Has held charges at Canterbury, Sutherland and Cessnock.

Mr. Hogben is leaving the Congregational Union of his own accord as a Minister in good standing, and he has the best wishes of his brethren for his future.

(Signed) J. HERWOOD LOUIS,

Ministerial Secretary.

Letters of commendations from Rev. Principal F. V. Pratt, M.A., Rev. M. L. Johnson.

This is to Certify in the name and by the authority of the Presbytery of Sydney that on the 13th June, 1916, the Presbytery resolved that the petition of the Rev. E. W. Hogben, to be received into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, be transmitted to the General Assembly of Australia, with the recommendation that Mr. Hogben be received as a Minister, provided that he first take one year's course in the Theological Hall, and pass the examinations corresponding thereto, the course to be determined by the Theological Faculty.

Certified this 12th day of July, 1916, by me,

JOHN EDWARDS,

Clerk of the Presbytery of Sydney.

(5) REV. J. LEGGATT.

15th April, 1916.

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

The petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth that he was born in Glasgow in 1871; is married but has no family.

He received his religious Training in a Presbyterian home and in the Free Church of Scotland, until seventeen years of age.

Having become a member of the Baptist Church, he studied for the Baptist Ministry. He had two years private tuition, then entered Dunoon College, Scotland, and took a four years' course. Subjects—English, Greek, Hebrew, Biblical Introduction, Exegesis, Homelitics, Church History, Systematic Theology, Apologetics, Philosophy, Elocution, Sidwick's History of Ethics.

Was ordained in 1900 to the work of the ministry at Wolvey, Warwickshire, England, remaining there seven years. During that period many were brought into the Church. He also conducted a special mission in connection with the Free Church Council with good results. He took a further course of 3 years' study for full recognition to be on the accredited list of Ministers, of Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland. Subjects—Orr's Christian View of God and the World, Kirkpatrick, Psalms one to forty-one, McClymont New Testament and its Writers, Clark's Outline of Theology, Life of St. Paul, The Canon of the Old Testament, Peak's Epistle to the Hebrews, Denny's Studies in Theology and Homiletics. Passed both Examinations, was placed on the accredited list

Subsequently he laboured in Stantonbury, Buckinghamshire, for six years. During that time he held the honoured position of President of the Free Church Council of Wolverton and District, also President of the North Bucks Christian Endeavour Union. At the end of that period he decided to resign his Pastorate and come to Australia. He arrived here in 1913, and was called to the Baptist Tabernacle, Ashfield. During his Pastorate the work prospered, the congregations increased. The Building Debt was reduced from £1,000 to £220. A new Pipe Organ was installed costing nearly £600. The petitioner has voluntarily resigned from the Baptist Church and there is no charge or complaint against him. He is fully persuaded that Presbyterianism is more in accord with the Principles of the New Testament and more efficient for the extension of Christ's kingdom. In regard to the greater question of Baptism, he now accepts the teaching of the confession of Faith and the shorter Catechism as more in harmony with the spirit of Christ.

If permitted to enter the Church of his early life he will endeavour to preach the Gospel and become a good minister of Jesus Christ.

Your petitioner prays your Venerable Court to admit him into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

J. LEGGATT.

Documents accompanying the petition:—Letters of ministerial recognition (3) Rev. J. H. Shakespeare: College certificate from Principal Duncan MacGregor and Rev. D. Currie: Letters of commendation from Secretary of Ashfield Baptist Tabernacle: Rev. R. J. H. McGowan, Rev. John Ferguson, Rev. T. J. Williams and Mr. W. Urquhart the last 3 received since petition was forwarded.

BAPTIST UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

Baptist Church House,
Southampton Row, London, W.C.,
15th January, 1913.

I have much pleasure in stating that the Rev. J. Leggatt, at present Pastor of the Church at Stantonbury, Buckinghamshire, is a minister of good standing, and that his name is on the accredited list of Ministers of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland; also commending him to any Baptist friends he may meet in Australia.

(Signed) J. H. SHAKESPEARE, Secretary.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF BAPTIST CHURCHES.

Earls Barton,
January 27th, 1913.

That the General Committee of the above very cordially recommend the Rev. James Leggatt to the Baptist Churches, Australia, desiring that he may be welcomed by them, and may find a suitable sphere of labour. Mr. Leggatt has done good work at Stantonbury, and has always been ready to take his part in the work of our Association.

(Signed) on behalf of the Committee,

R. A. SELBY, Secretary.

Done at Committee Meeting held on January 22nd, 1913.

THE BAPTIST COLONIAL SOCIETY,

Baptist Church House,
Southampton Row, London, W.C.,
18th February, 1913.

To Baptist Brethren in Australia.

This is to accredit the Rev. J. Leggatt until now the pastor of the Stantonbury Baptist Church, Bucks, to the Baptist Churches of Australia. He is a man who has done good service in this country and is much esteemed by his brother ministers. Mr. Leggatt is a minister in full standing on the official list of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland. I have much pleasure in commending him to our Colonial Brethren and I believe he will render excellent service in Australia in any sphere to which he may be divinely led.

H. LENTON STAINES.

This is to Certify in the name and by the authority of the Presbytery of Sydney, that on the 13th June, 1916, the Presbytery resolved that the petition of the Rev. James Leggatt to be received into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, be transmitted to the General Assembly of Australia, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be not granted.

Certified this 12th day of July, 1916, by me.

JOHN EDWARDS,

Clerk of the Presbytery of Sydney

(6) SAMUEL JOHN HONIBALL.

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.
The petition of the undersigned sheweth :—

1. That your petitioner was born in Melbourne, Victoria; is 54 years of age; married and has two children, now both grown up.
2. Is an Elder of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.
3. In the year 1888 while connected with the Church at Coburg, Vic. as Superintendent and Lay Preacher of the branch Church at Moreland, he offered himself for the Ministry and began to study for entrance under the direction of the late Rev. S. G. McLaren, M.A. and the late Rev. A. McVean, but fell into bad health and could not go on with the course of study mapped out by them.
4. In the year 1889 your petitioner went to Launceston, Tasmania, and for a time continued his studies under the supervision of the late Rev. D. S. Brunton and was frequently asked to conduct Services at Scotsdale and elsewhere.
5. In the year 1891 your petitioner, owing to continued ill health was obliged to give up studying for the Ministry and entered into business pursuits at Zeehan, Tasmania where, shortly after his arrival, he sought, with the help of the Hobart Presbytery, to establish a Church. This enterprise prospered but, unfortunately, before the Congregation was prepared to proceed with a Call, the failure of the Bank of Van Diemen Land affected the Community so severely that many Presbyterian families left the town.
6. For six months your petitioner conducted the regular Services after Ministerial supply ceased.
7. In the year 1899 your petitioner was pressed by the late Rev. J. Scott, D.D. of Hobart—as Convener of the Home Missions Committee, to engage in the work of Home Missionary at Sorell, Tasmania the Church there having been closed for lack of some one to conduct the Services. Upon your petitioner complying with the wishes of the Home Mission Committee, he entered upon his work with the status of a first year Theological Student under the teaching of the late Rev. J. Scott, D.D., and the late Professor Herman Ritz, M.A., and passed in Greek, Latin, Logic, Philosophy, Scripture, thereby completing his first year according to the Tasmanian curriculum.
8. In the year 1902, your petitioner applied to the Home Mission Committee of Victoria and was appointed by them as special Missioner to the Navy Camps at the Warranga Basin Irrigation Works, where he ministered for two and a half years to the spiritual needs of some nine thousand (9,000) men, women and children who passed through the various Camps during that time. That work—for which your petitioner received high commendation from the Home Mission Committee of the Victorian Church

—involved a vigorous campaign against Sly Grog selling, Gambling and all the other evils associated with big Camps.

Your petitioner, consequently, was absolutely unable to continue his studies as a Theological Student and on the completion of the work and the disbandment of the Camps he was transferred as Assistant to the Rev. G. M. Baird, M.A., of Numurkah and afterwards to Home Mission Stations in the Wimmera, Ballarat, Hamilton and Flinders Presbyteries and, at present, is in charge of Carisbrook—a decadent Ministerial Charge of the Presbytery of Maryborough, Vic.

Your petitioner attaches letters bearing on his work and character, and respectfully prays your Venerable Court to take these premises into consideration and to admit him as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, believing that his sole desire, so far as he knows his own heart, is for the glory of God, and the advancement of His Kingdom.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

SAMUEL JOHN HONIBALL.

Letters of commendation from Rev. James Weir, B.A., Rev. H. A. Erskine, Rev. James Jackson, Rev. R. Robertson, Rev. G. M. Baird, Rev. Wm. Tait.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA.

Assembly Hall,
156 Collins Street,
Melbourne, 27th June, 1916.

Mr. Samuel John Honiball has been in the continuous employment of the Home Mission Committee for the past 13½ years. While his record of service in each ordinary station under his care has been satisfactory, he rendered out-standing services to the Church by his zeal, ability and wise handling of varied problems in connection with a navvies' camp at Waranga.

In the name of the Committee,

JOHN BARNABY, Convener.

DONALD A. CAMERON, Director.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA.

Presbytery of Maryborough,
The Manse, Maryborough,
27th July, 1916.

At the Manse, Maryborough, on 18th July, 1916, at 2 p.m., the Presbytery of Maryborough met and was duly constituted.

Inter alia: Mr. S. Honiball, missionary of Carisbrook, put in a petition to the General Assembly of Australia for ordination, with accompanying documents. After a full discussion the following motion was carried unanimously.

That the Presbytery being quite satisfied with his work and the sincerity of his motives, send the petition forward with a strong recommendation.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Extracted from the Minutes of Presbytery by

H. A. ERSKINE, Clerk.

January 27th, 1915.

(7) REV. NORMAN L. D. WEBSTER, B.A.

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.
The petition of the undersigned, Norman Leslie Douglas Webster, respectfully sheweth:—

That your petitioner was born at Bendigo on April 13th, 1888, and is unmarried.
He received his early education at St. Andrew's College, Bendigo, where he won the Waverley Essay Prize, open to the whole school, in his first year; and in his final year

was Second Dux. In the same year he matriculated at the Melbourne University in eight subjects, obtaining honours in one.

Then for one year he was engaged in clerical work ; apart from this your petitioner has known no other vocation but that of student.

In 1906 he passed the entrance examination to the Methodist Theological Hall at Queen's College, Melbourne University, being placed second out of twenty-eight candidates.

At Queen's College he did the three years' course of study prescribed by the Methodist Church, and in his Third Year won the Stewart Scholarship in Theology, valued at £50, which enabled him to undergo a fourth year's advanced Theological training. He was also the Well's Prizeman in Greek Testament.

He then did the prescribed Probationary Course of Examinations for ministers of the Methodist Church, obtaining honours in each year. His appointments while doing this course were at Ballarat (Lydiard St.), and Elsternwick. He was ordained at Wesley Church, Melbourne, in March, 1914.

He is also a Bachelor of Arts of the University of Melbourne, the degree being conferred on December 23rd, 1914.

Your petitioner's reasons for seeking a change of denomination are based upon his dislike for the Methodist system of itinerancy, and an admiration for the polity of the Presbyterian Church.

He therefore prays your Venerable Court to receive him into the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

And your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

NORMAN L. D. WEBSTER.

Documents accompanying petition—Sessional certificate, Theological Hall, Ormond ; certificate of Theological course and ordination from Rev. John Thomas, B.A. ; letters of commendation from Rev. John Walker, Rev. J. Crookston.

Queen's College,

University of Melbourne

January, 23rd, 1915.

I beg to certify that the Rev. Norman Webster, B.A. was a Theological student in Queen's College for four years, and held during his last year the Stewart scholarship of £50 for Theological work. His conduct and work were both most satisfactory.

E. H. SUGDEN,

Theological Tutor.

Castlemaine,

February 10th, 1915.

The 9th Feb., 1910, at St. Andrew's Church, Bendigo, at which time and place the Presbytery of Bendigo met and was duly constituted.

Inter alia : A petition was received from Rev. Norman Leslie Douglas Webster, B.A., a minister of the Methodist Church, asking for the recommendation of the Presbytery to the reception of Ministers Committee. The Presbytery unanimously resolved to heartily recommend the petition, being of the firm conviction that the Rev. N. Webster would be able to do fine work for the Lord Jesus Christ in the Presbyterian Church.

Extracted from minutes of Bendigo Presbytery by

F. A. HAGENAUER, Clerk.

(8) CHARLES ATTWOOD.

Berringa,

June 23rd, 1916.

To the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.
The petition of Charles Attwood, Home Missionary of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, humbly sheweth :—

1. That your petitioner is 58 years of age, married, with wife, but no family. That he now most respectfully and humbly, ask for, and request that he may be raised to the status of a Minister in full standing.

1916
23
1916

2. That the Home Mission Charge of Berringa and Illabarook has requested the Presbytery of Western Plains to accept and forward petition to your Venerable Court.

That the references of the Home Mission Committee, Presbytery of Sale and Moderators are attached to petition.

4. That your petitioner humbly prayeth that these premises be taken into consideration, and that the prayer of the petitioner be granted.

And your petitioner in duty bound will ever pray.

CHARLES ATTWOOD.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VICTORIA.

Assembly Hall,
156 Collins Street,
Melbourne, 2nd May, 1916.

Mr. Charles Attwood has been in the employment of the Home Mission Committee for a period of about 31 years. He has rendered consistently good service throughout the whole time, in almost continuous work.

JOHN BARNABY, Convener.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA.

State of Victoria.

Presbytery of the Western Plains,
The Manse, Lismore, 5th July, 1916.

At Streatham and within the Manse, Streatham, on the 4th day of July, 1916, the Presbytery of Western Plains met and was constituted with prayer.

Inter alia: The petition of Mr. Charles Attwood to the General Assembly of Australia, to be ordained as a minister, was received.

The Rev. C. E. O. Keays moved that the petition be transmitted with the hearty recommendation of the Presbytery that the prayer of the petition be granted.

This motion was seconded by the Rev. E. A. Forbes and was unanimously approved. Closed with the Benediction.

Extracted from the Minutes of the Presbytery of the Western Plains.

E. A. FORBES,

Clerk of Presbytery.

The petition was accompanied by the following documents:

1. Petition in support of Mr. Charles Attwood's petition, signed by 101 members and adherents of the congregations at Berringa and Illabarook.
2. Certificate H.M. Committee, State of Victoria.
3. Certificate Presbytery of Gippsland.
4. Letters of commendation from the Revs. James Weir, B.A., John Garde, H. E. Hunt, J. Kirkwood, J. G. Wilson, and Mr. J. R. Mathers.
5. Statement of 29 years' service in Victoria.

E. A. FORBES,

Clerk of Presbytery.

(9) LEO. C. M. DONALDSON FOR ORDINATION.

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

The petition of the undersigned Leo. C. M. Donaldson, Presbyterian Missionary of Erskine Church, Carlton, Melbourne.

Humbly sheweth:—

1. That petitioner was born of Scotch and Presbyterian parents at Taree, N.S.W., in 1878, that he became a communicant at the age of sixteen while a member of Randwick Church. He took up, voluntarily, rescue work in Lower Randwick, and prosecuted his studies at nights, under the direction of the Principal of Brighton College, Randwick.

2. That he and his voluntary co-workers erected a small Church there, which is still in vigorous activity.

3. Leaving business and removing to Tasmania in 1899, he was received by the Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Tasmania, and was appointed to the Home Mission Charge in Queenstown, Tasmania, and was ordained as elder by the late James Scott, D.D., 10th Dec., 1899.

4. That in Queenstown he studied the subjects prescribed by the Home Mission Committee, which included:—Theology (Hodge), Shorter Catechism (Prof. Salmond), Logic (Jevons), Ethics (Seth), etc., and succeeded in organising a strong Presbyterian centre, in erecting a Church, and in establishing six outlying new centres of Presbyterian service and Church organisation with several Sunday Schools. Despite the difficulties characteristic of all such mining populations, the Queenstown Charge is still in vigorous life.

5. That in 1901 the Home Mission Committee appointed him to the Bothwell-Kempton Charge, which, during the illness of the late Rev. Alexander Doctor, was becoming disorganised, and there he performed the ministerial work of the Parish, and opened and established a preaching Station at Apsley.

6. Thereafter he left Sydney under the influence of Dr. A. R. Torrey, with a view of studying in the U.S.A. for the ministry, but the oculist expert (Dr. Pope), declared that his old trouble of the eyes debarred him, at that time from such continuous eye strain.

7. That thereafter for a few months he was associated with the Rev. Lockhart Morton, of Adelaide, in evangelistic work in South Australia, and was then invited by the Session of Chalmers Church, Launceston, to the position of assistant to take up extension work in the suburbs of that city. Prior to embarking upon the scheme of extension work he occupied Chalmers' pulpit, in the temporary absence of the minister, during the months of August, September and October, 1903.

8. That for about five years he continued carrying on the extension work connected with Chalmers Church, during which time two Churches were built. He preached twice each Sunday, conducted Bible Classes, and superintended one Sabbath School; and throughout the week in addition to conducting two week-night services, carried out pastoral work, with its varied demands.

9. That during the five years in Launceston he studied under the direction of the Home Mission Committee, attended all lectures, but was precluded from obtaining his objectives in the examinations owing to the collapse of his eyes—and that in consideration of his studies and work done—the Assembly of Tasmania granted him one year in his course.

10. That in 1908 he was appointed by the Presbytery of Launceston to work the West Tamar Charge, and there he succeeded in erecting a new Church.

11. That in 1909 he was invited to take up assistant Ministerial Work connected with St. John's, Warrnambool, and left the district in June, 1911, to take up the Young People's Evangelistic Work, under the Evangelistic Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, and in April, 1912, was appointed to the Mission Charge of Erskine Church, Carlton, under the Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

12. That in 1913 he resumed his studies under the direction of the Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, but failed to equip himself for the examinations, owing to the recurrence of the eye trouble, and nervous collapse.

13. That during his years of work at Erskine Church the building debt of £1,140 has been reduced to £292 10s., the membership of the Church has been increased by 49 communicants upon profession of faith, and 21 have been received from other communions; that a week-night service was re-established, having at the present time an average attendance of 66 or a general average of 45; that open air services have been vigorously maintained since January, 1913; that a Deaconess has been appointed, and is entirely supported by Erskine Church; and that a delicensed hotel has been taken over in order to provide accommodation for the extension work being done by the Deaconess and her Committee.

14. That in addition to studies above-mentioned, the following have been prosecuted—Biblical, Genesis (Dods); Deuteronomy, Job (Davidson), Minor Prophets (G. A. Smith, etc.) Romans (Sandy & Hedlan), plus twelve other authors; First two years of the life of Christ (fourteen authors), etc. Educational—Psychology (Prof. James McDougal, Morgan, Warner, Jastrow). Froebel's Educational Laws, Theory of practice (Thring), etc.

Trusting your Venerable Court may deem your petitioner worthy to be raised to the full status of the Ministry.

Your petitioner will ever pray.

L. C. M. DONALDSON.

Assembly Hall,
156 Collins Street,
Melbourne, March 10th, 1916.

Mr. L. C. M. Donaldson, formerly of Tasmania, has been for about 5 years in the employment of the Home Mission Committee. Four years ago he was appointed to Erskine Church, Carlton; the Congregation was very much reduced, the outlook was discouraging, but under the leadership of Mr. Donaldson the whole position was changed, as other documents will show, and the progress is being maintained.

During the above period he had leave of absence for 12 months, to pay a visit to the Homeland.

The Committee rejoice at the present opportunity of bearing testimony to the worthy Christian Character of Mr. Donaldson, and his uniform success during all the time he has been employed by the Committee.

JOHN BARNABY, Convener.

Richmond, Victoria, 6th April, 1916.

Rev. A. McKinlay, Convener, Reception of Ministers Committee.

Dear Sir, I forward herewith Mr. L. C. M. Donaldson's petition for Ordination, together with letter from Mr. William Allen, and copies of letters from Drs. Rundall and Hogg, Rev. J. R. Anderson, Rev. John Gray, and Rev. John Barnaby.

The Presbytery of Melbourne North, at a duly constituted meeting held on 4th April, decided that the petition be forwarded "simpliciter."

Yours faithfully,

E. E. BALDWIN,

Clerk of Presbytery.

(10) REV. A. H. BALLINGER.

The Rev. the Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia and Victoria.

I beg through the Presbytery of Launceston, Tasmania, to be received as a candidate for the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, in Victoria.

I have just completed the required Theological course of training in the Methodist Church, preparatory to ordination.

For all necessary information *vs* myself as a Probationer of the Methodist Church I refer you to the enclosed documents as evidence.

Believe me,

Your obedient servant,

ARTHUR HENRY BALLINGER.

Documents accompanying:—Statement giving details of career, probationer examination results, Minute of conference, letters of commendation from Rev. A. V. Bollard, Rev. L. I. Fielding, Rev. J. A. Jeffreys, Mr. L. C. Solomon, Rev. Frank W. Rankin.

PRESBYTERY OF LAUNCESTON.

Extract Minute:—

Resolved:—"That the application of Mr. A. H. Ballinger for admission to the Presbyterian Church of Australia be forwarded to the Convener of the Home Mission Committee, Victoria, together with all documents and a copy of finding of the Methodist Conference in regard to Mr. Ballinger, with the recommendation that Mr. Ballinger be received as a first year's Theological student."

Extracted from the Minutes of the Presbytery of Launceston this 27th day of April, 1915, by me,

WILLIAM MABILL, Clerk.

(11) REV. W. E. CRAWFORD.

The Clerk of the Presbytery of New England has forwarded what purports to be a petition from the Rev. W. E. Crawford (Baptist), with a recommendation that the prayer of the petition be not granted. But the Committee could make no recommendation regarding it, as the document which has no signature to it is not in proper form.

Yendon, Victoria,
11th Sept., 1916.

(12) REV. SYDNEY BURROWS,

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.
The petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth :—

That he is 34 years of age, married, with wife and two children.

That he is at present residing at Yendon, Victoria, being in charge of your Home Mission work in the Scotsburn district, under a twelve months' engagement, entered into after a trial of three months.

That he is a graduate of the Congregational College of Victoria, and was up to the time of joining the staff of the London Missionary Society, a ministerial member of the Congregational Union of Victoria.

That having been forced in August, 1915, owing to the ill-health of wife and child, to retire from the position of Educational Missionary at Port Moresby, Papua, he has since been on the staff of the Ballarat Agricultural High School, teaching commercial subjects chiefly.

That he is a Registered Secondary Teacher in Victoria, and has passed the course for the Diploma of Education, and the 3rd year of the Arts course of the Melbourne University.

That he has come to prefer the Presbyterian polity, and, therefore, humbly prays that he may be received into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church, and, if received, be declared eligible for a call if the results of the year's work in the Scotsburn Mission prove satisfactory.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

SYDNEY BURROWS.

DOCUMENTS :

Letter from Congregational College Union of Victoria.

Extract of letter from L.M.S.

Letters from Rev. J. Gillan, Rev. H. S. Joyce, Rev. David W. Smith, Rev. T. H. Brown, Rev. W. D. McLaren.

Matriculation certificate, Melbourne University.

Certificate of having completed the 3rd year of the Course for B.A.

Certificate of Registration as a Teacher.

Letters from Principal of the University Practising School, Carlton ; and Principal of Ballarat Ag. High School.

Scot's Manse, Ballarat,
Sept. 14th, 1916.

The Convener, Committee on Reception of Ministers.

Dear Sir,—The Presbytery of Ballarat cordially recommends the application of the Rev. Sydney Burrows to be received as a Minister of our Church, and, after twelve months' service, to be eligible for a call.

Sincerely yours,
A. H. MOORE, Clerk.

(13) REV. DUNCAN MCDIARMID.

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

The petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth :—

(1) That the petitioner was born at Edinburgh in 1878 ; that he is married and has two children ; that after passing through the Public Schools to the highest standards,

he was apprenticed and qualified as a designer and draughtsman, attending meanwhile the Glasgow Art School.

(2) That after the beginning of a definite religious experience in 1894, he joined the membership of Finneston Free Church (of which the Rev. Andrew Bonar, D.D., was pastor); that he began to take interest in Mission work, helping at first with secretarial duties and work among children; that, while still at business, he became more and more interested in the work of preaching; he attended classes at the Bible Training Institute for two years, and was employed as an auxiliary evangelist of the London Evangelisation Society, and finally determined to devote himself entirely to the work of the Ministry; that he was not able at the time to go on with the regular studies prescribed by the Presbyterian Church; that he was for four years in charge of the Mathieson Street Mission Church, Glasgow, under the care of the Caledonia Road U.P. Session.

(3) That in 1905 he was invited to go to South Africa to work under the Church Extension Committee, having charge of Middleburg, Transvaal, for eighteen months, and being also Presbyterian Chaplain to the troops; that he studied for ordination under the College Committee of the Presbyterian Church of South Africa, being prescribed a course to cover eighteen months in elementary Greek, English Literature, New Testament Exegesis, Theology, and Church History, but after several months study an attack of malaria disturbed this work and he had to return to Scotland.

(4) That for eighteen months he acted as assistant to the Rev. J. A. Korr Bain, D.D. having superintendance of the Livingston Station and Seafield causes, and for one year (during the Doctor's illness) he filled the pulpit of Livingston U.F. Church, Linlithgowshire, and acted as supply for other Ministers of the Bathgate Presbytery, who visited Livingston Church during that term; that in 1909 he was invited to take charge of Causewayside United Free Mission, Edinburgh, under a joint Committee of the Chalmers Memorial U.F. Church (Rev. Wm. Ewing, M.A., D.D.), and Newington South U.F. Church (Rev. Joseph Muir, B.D.), during that period of three years he frequently occupied the pulpits of the aforementioned Churches.

(5) That in November, 1911, he received an unexpected and unsought-for invitation to come to Australia and take charge of the Blumberg Baptist Church, S.A.; that he was glad to accept, partly on the ground of health; that after passing the examination in Church History and Theology set by the College Committee of the South Australian Baptist Union, he received full status as a Minister of the Union and served the Church at Blumberg for three and a half years; that at the time of making this application he is acting as *locum tenens* for the Rev. Donald McNicol at the Unley Park Baptist Church.

(6) That while he has been very happy in the work of the Ministry amongst the Baptists, in two churches which had open communion, his great desire is to work in the Church of his fathers, the doctrine and polity of which commend themselves to him.

Your petitioner, therefore, asks to be received into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, under such conditions as the Assembly may prescribe.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Adelaide, 12th Sept., 1916.

DUNCAN McDIARMID.

At a meeting of the Presbytery of Adelaide, on 12th Sept., 1916 the following resolution was adopted:—

"That the petition be received and transmitted, with the Documents attached, to the General Assembly, with the approval of this Presbytery that the Rev. Duncan McDiarmid be admitted to the Ministry, and recommend him to the Home Mission Committee in this State for employment.

J. HALL ANGUS,
Clerk of Assembly and Presbytery of Adelaide.

DOCUMENTS :

Letter of Baptist Union Secretary.
 Testimonial from Rev. Hugh Morris.
 Letter from Rev. Joseph Muir, Newington South W.P. Church.
 Letter from Mr. D. H. Hollidge, Glenchy, S.A.

(14) REV. W. G. CLARK-DUFF.

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

I, the Rev. William George Clark-Duff, Bachelor of Divinity, of Amagansett, Long Island, New York, U.S.A., do hereby petition the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia for reception as a Minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the said country, and to labour under the above-named Church. In support of such a petition I do present the following data :—

I am a graduate of Yale University, U.S.A., having received my B.D. degree at the close of a three year course in the School of Religion of the above-named University.

I am a Minister, in regular standing, of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, and am at present pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Amagansett, L.I., N.Y., in the Presbytery of Long Island.

I have the honour to be,

Yours fraternally in the Master's Service,

W. G. CLARK-DUFF.

Presbyterian Church of Australia,
 Presbytery of Sydney,

Rose Bay,

26th September, 1916.

Dear Mr. White,

Herewith I enclose the Rev. W. G. Clark-Duff's petition to the General Assembly, and his letter to Mr. Wood, which was forwarded at the same time.

I enclose also a copy of my letter to Mr. Duff asking for "any certificates, diplomas, or other written or printed evidence" with reference to his "educational attainments and Presbyterian status."

So far as I can see, the documents which Mr. Duff has sent give a full statement of his theological course, but are quite silent about his educational attainments, previous to that course.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN EDWARDS,

Presbytery Clerk.

DOCUMENTS :

Certificates of License and Ordination.
 Class certificates Divinity School Yale University.
 List of candidates for Degrees.

In the name and on behalf of the Committee,

ALEX. MCKINLAY, Convenor.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS.

Your Committee has the honour to report that since last Assembly the work of the Home Mission Department has been carried on in the various States with quiet persistency, notwithstanding the exceptional difficulties created by war conditions. In spite of the continuous calls upon their liberality, our people have not lessened their assistance to this work so far as money is concerned. The shortage of men is ever with us, and is now more acute than ever.

Notably has the task of caring for our soldiers in the camps been loyally met, not only where States have provided tents and buildings and upkeep, but in many cases by individual Congregations whose efforts have been beyond all praise.

GENERAL WORK.

The arrangement by which Tasmania came under the wing of the Victorian Church for a term of years appears to be working well, and to the great advantage of the Church in the Island State. Your Committee is interested to learn that as the result of a similar proposal re West Australia, the Victorian Church has declared its willingness to subsidise the work there to the extent of £3.0 per annum, after the War. The South Australian Church, we understand, is approaching the General Assembly in a like direction.

The Reports of the Conveners of the various State Home Mission Committees are appended, and tell more fully of the work done. From these and the subjoined tables we learn that:—

31 new stations have been opened up, and 6 abandoned.

74 have become self-sustaining.

19 have been raised to sanctioned Charges and 10 reduced from full status.

The present number is 281.

There are 279 agents at present employed and 85 are studying under the Home Mission Training Scheme.

The Board is glad to note that there has been an increase in some States in the remuneration paid to Home Missionaries and in exceptional cases, as on the gold fields of W.A., a special allowance of £10 extra is made; while in S.A. they receive a fortnight's furlough.

It was not found possible to keep up to date the elaborate Roll of all Home Missionaries in the service of the Church, which was presented to last Assembly, and it is suggested now that a much simpler record will be sufficient.

The business of the A.I.M. is presented in a separate report, but it may be noted that during the past four years, negotiations have proceeded between the A.I.M. and the State Committees of Queensland, S. Australia and W. Australia and the Smith of Duness Committee, with the result that fairly definite boundary lines have been arrived at, defining the actual area of the work covered by that mission.

In conclusion the Board desires to express its deep regret at the death of two of its members, the Revs. Dr. Meiklejohn and Robert Steel. In Dr. Meiklejohn, the work of our Home Missions had ever a warm supporter and wise counsellor, while Mr. Steel, as the first secretary to the A.I.M., and acting Convener at last Assembly, brought to his duties a marvellous capacity for detail, combined with great enthusiasm for the advancement of his Master's kingdom. It is matter for thankfulness that in its earlier development the A.I.M. had the advantage of his unique gifts.

THE AUSTRALIAN INLAND MISSION.

The work of the A.I.M., specially committed to your Board has been carried on with ever growing interest and much help has been received from the various sectional committees, as the financial returns will show.

The Rev. John Flynn, the General Superintendent, has been most assiduous in the performance of his duties, having visited four States and covered a great deal of ground in his journeying. In addition to preaching and lecturing in the interest of the Mission, he has organised working office teams in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane, who have

attended to all local routine business week by week. To these our hearty thanks are due.

Since last Assembly the Executive has confined itself entirely to the work outlined then. Nothing exceptional has been attempted in view of the complicated situation created by the War.

The programme included four phases of the work not actually begun :—

(a) The settlement of a nurse at Alice Springs, in the very centre of the Continent.

The experiment has been made—Nurse Finlayson has given a year's service, and has furnished your Board with an interesting report, in which she states that owing to the unique conditions obtaining in Central Australia, a Nurse cannot accomplish unaided the work which requires to be done. That can only be, when it is possible to set apart a doctor as well as a nurse. Though impossible at present, it is hoped that one day this necessary development may take place.

(b) The report of the Hospital at Port Hedland is most cheering. After great initial difficulties, one of which made it necessary for the Executive to send Nurse Haines to Adelaide for special training in obstetrics, work was actually begun in Feb., 1915. The enthusiasm of the people led by the Rev. W. J. Stevens, and supported by the local Secretary, Mr. Jones, was most gratifying. For the 12 months ending June 10th, 1916, local revenue in fees, donations, etc., amounted to £236 4s. In addition there was a Government grant and Road Board subsidy of £97 10s. The expenses of course are heavy, but owing to the local liberality, the Board only required to contribute £147. The outlook for the future is most hopeful, so much so that the Port Hedland folk desire to erect a permanent building if the funds were available. This would give greater efficiency and freedom from the present heavy rental.

(c) The work in Cloncurry district is still in the initial stage. Mr. Heriot has so far been engaged in consolidating the work at headquarters. In time he will proceed further afield, but this will require an assistant and a motor, which we are not at present able to afford.

(d) Work in the western end of the East-west Railway has been begun, in conjunction with the Methodist and Baptist Churches, and is being prosecuted with success by Mr. G. W. Cleavelly, as agent.

THE OLDER MISSIONS.

At Broome, the Rev. F. G. H. Brady is entering upon his fourth year, at the close of which he will retire from this station. Aided by his gifted wife, he has been able to accomplish a splendid work. Their home has been open-house in the best sense of the word, and there are many testimonies to the good done. Though the pearling industry has been practically destroyed by the War, for the time being, and we have consequently had to increase the subsidy, the congregation raised £120 in July, which, with Mrs. Sutherland's contribution, increased by £50, enabled them to pay off the debt on the Manse.

Mr. Brady has deferred his furlough till the end of his term, when he will spend part of it in visiting the Kimberley district in our interests.

At Port Hedland, the Rev. J. Shaw has been settled in succession to the Rev. W. J. Stevens, who went to the Front. He soon became familiar with his extensive parish and works with great energy, but the loss of time involved in travelling with camels has compelled your Executive to dispense with them and provide him with a motor cycle instead.

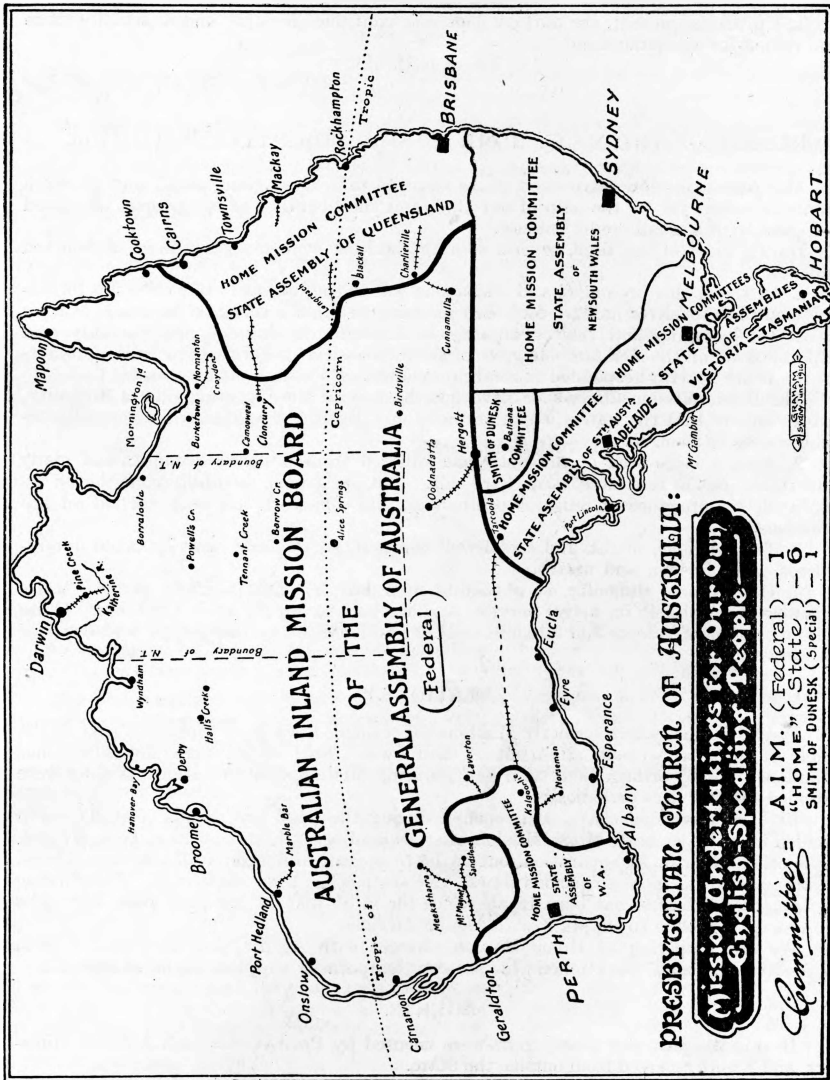
The work on the Eastern section of the East-west Railway—entered on in conjunction with the Methodist, Congregational and Baptist Churches—has been faithfully carried forward. The Rev. Mr. Webb has retired and been succeeded by the Rev. F. J. H. Steward, B.A. In the Northern Territory, the Rev. J. C. Gibson has covered the whole of his enormous parish once, and part of it twice, and has laid a foundation on which we may build in the future. He is leaving shortly, and application has been made to the Victorian Church for an exit student as his successor.

In the Oodnadatta sphere, Mr. R. B. Plowman is continually journeying far afield. He goes North beyond Alice Springs, as far as Tennant Creek. Both the Secretary and Treasurer at Oodnadatta have enlisted, and it is difficult

to get a strong central committee, but our agent is doing well, and though the financial returns from this district in the aggregate are small, that is not the only result we look for, and individual contributions declare the deep gratitude of men and women so faraway, for the service our Church is rendering them.

The Hostel at Oodnadatta still continues its beneficent aid to the afflicted, bringing hope and success to many sore stricken, and in Miss Lousada, who followed Miss Finlayson, we have a worthy representative in the triple department of nursing, teaching and conducting Sunday evening worship for people in the township.

ARTHUR J. WADE, Convener.



QUEENSLAND HOME MISSION.

Rev. J. A. R. Perkins,
 Secretary, Home Mission Board,
 Box 100 G.P.O., Sydney.

Dear Sir,

Herewith please find your Schedule filled up as accurately as possible, with the information you desire for your report. It is not my intention to add anything to it, except in reference to matters on which you have asked for information.

1. Home Missionaries and their Studies—A Minister has been appointed as director of the studies of Home Missionaries, and he has obtained the assistance of several others, with the result that a course of tuition in each subject is carried on by correspondence.

2. We rely mainly upon the supply of men from the Old Country, where Mr. Andrew Stewart, of Edinburgh, has rendered invaluable services to our Church for many years.

3. Up till the present, the outlook generally continues hopeful, and financially there is no reason for discouragement.

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE EWAN, Convener.

REPORT OF THE N.S.W. HOME MISSION COMMITTEE FOR 1914-15.

The past two years have been years of more difficulties than usual, and of much strenuous work; yet by the help of our God, and the liberality of our people, we closed each year with a small credit balance.

During most of the time, several sombre shadows were overspreading our beloved land.

1. Of these, this prolonged and disastrous war is the darkest. But even this forbidding cloud has its silver lining. Men are learning to think seriously; the bands of their hearts are loosening and their sympathy is kindled. In consequence liberality and helpfulness are on the increase. In spite of the increased cost of living, the calls of numerous funds are heartily responded to, and no benevolent fire dies out for want of fuel.

The Home Mission Committee have felt the flow of the incoming tide of liberality, and we believe that the waters which are now only up to the ankles, will eventually become waters to swim in.

2. Also, a large area of the State has suffered from a severe drought, and many industrious sons of toil have been hard hit. Yet our people faithfully contributed towards the maintenance of religious ordinances, and our work has been carried on undiminished.

3. The religious, moral, and social well-being of our soldiers heavily taxed our resources, both in men and means.

4. Our chronic difficulty in obtaining men has become painfully acute. Many Ministers were absent on active service, and we had to supply their Churches. Quite a number of our Students and Missionaries have enlisted, which has greatly added to our embarrassment.

STATIONS.

Four Stations, where formerly Missionaries resided, have been through a part or the whole of the year without an Agent of their own. Still these were not altogether abandoned, for by arrangement with neighbouring Missionaries and Ministers they were supplied with services periodically.

Eight new stations have been opened during the past two years. One has been divided into two separate Home Mission Charges, and several parishes have been divided, while others are ripe for separation, but owing to present difficulties and shortage of men, all are waiting for more auspicious times. No station has been abandoned. One, owing to drought conditions, has been in abeyance for most part of the past year, but steps are now being taken to supply it with regular services.

We are supplying 33 Home Mission Charges with Agents, and 25 Parishes with 27 Assistants, also 67 Sanctioned Charges were temporarily supplied during the period.

AGENTS.

During the past two years, there were licensed by Presbyteries in N.S.W. 16 ministers, and 7 were received from outside the State.

In the Home Mission reorganisation scheme, sanctioned by the General Assembly in May, 1916, provision is made to bring all the Home Mission Students to Sydney for an annual course of training. Negotiations are now being carried on with the Theological Hall Professors to that end. Several ministers have declared their willingness to take up the work of our Home Missionaries while they are absent from their Charges. The Rev. W. Grant Forsyth has been directing our Home Mission Students in their studies for some time past, by means of correspondence.

Efforts are being made to secure Home Missionaries by appealing to the members of our Fellowship Association. Some have been already secured from this source. A Committee has been appointed, with the Rev. D. F. Brandt as Convener, to visit Public and High Schools and Colleges, with the object of persuading our young men to devote themselves to the Christian Ministry.

MILITARY.

Most effective work has been done amongst our soldiers at the Liverpool Camp. The Rev. H. Paton is the right man for the post.

Our large tent has been well patronised by the soldiers, and much good has been done. A cottage has been erected for Mr. Paton's use with a room for Prayer and Fellowship meeting. Our smaller tent was removed to the Holdsworthy Camp, with a student in charge. A new commodious tent was procured for Casula Camp, and rendered valuable service until the Camp was abandoned.

Plans for a Soldier's Institute, to replace our worn-out tent at Liverpool Camp have been approved by the Military authorities. Tenders have been received and building operations will be commenced forthwith.

Twenty-seven Ministers, Students and Home Missionaries have served with the colours during the past two years. Several others are awaiting for their marching orders. One of our Home Missionaries, Mr. G. T. Hughes was killed in action at Gallipoli. He had served us with much faithfulness for several years at Balranald. One of our Theological Hall Students, Mr. C. G. Page, passed scathless from the landing to the withdrawal, and is now serving in France.

THOMAS MORGAN,

Convener H.M. Committee.

HOME MISSION WORK.

South Australia.

The work in this State has gone on steadily. Our agents are doing very good work. We are hampered by the smallness of our resources. There are many places in the State where Presbyterian services could be started, if they had the means and the men.

The following are our Home Mission Charges:—Golden Grove, Koolunga-Hart, Pinnaroo, Spalding, Iron Knob, Petersburg, Port Augusta, Eyre's Peninsula, Prospect (Church Extension Charge), and Woodside, worked in connection with Mount Barker.

The Bible Class Union of Victoria gives us generous financial assistance towards the work on Eyre's Peninsula.

The Smith of Dunesk Mission, though worked by a separate Committee, is really Home Mission work, and is vigorous and prosperous.

We have no regular method just at present for assisting our Home Missionaries with their studies, but such assistance is arranged for when necessary. We have no particular scheme for securing new men for the work, but the Lay Preacher's Association gives us much help in this direction.

The outlook generally is good, as far as our present Stations are concerned, but if we had the means and the men much more work could be done. Financially the outlook is not bright, we are carrying a heavy overdraft, viz., £1,830. It is a heavy burden. Will not some good friend or friends relieve us of it?

J. DAVIES.

HOME MISSION REPORT.

Victoria.

Notwithstanding the definite set-back through the drought of 1914-15 and the general unsettlement created by the War, together with the resignation of 17 missionaries for service with the Colours or with the Y.M.C.A., in some districts progress was made. The chief hindrance has been the insufficient supply of suitable men, but, considering the unprecedented circumstances of the State, the Committee is profoundly thankful to God for the record of work accomplished as shown by the accompanying figures. The luncheon hour services in the factories of Melbourne continue to succeed under the guidance of Mr. Jarvis; the concentration of effort in two congested areas has been attended with gratifying results. Some Charges, principally in old mining districts, lapsed, but in progressive districts new Charges have been formed. Extension work has been along the line of providing assistants to ministers in developing parishes.

Home Missionaries are assisted in their studies by correspondence under the direction of Rev. J. Barnaby, and these students attend lectures on the proscribed books, together with their work on subjects connected with their work for four weeks at Ormond College.

Steps taken to secure new missionaries are: The Director and Convener, with others, press the claims of this department of the Church for young men at special services; the Home Missionaries are urged to watch for recruits; some Presbyteries instruct their members to draw attention to the subject in connection with the Home Mission Sunday; and the Candidates for the Ministry's Committee appointed by the Assembly renders valuable aid in making known the need for young men with gifts and the grace of God in their hearts.

The outlook financially, despite the numerous special claims, is encouraging; interest in this department is increasing, and the future is bright with promise of a steady advance in claiming our country for Christ.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA.

HOME MISSION UNDERTAKINGS.

TABLE I.—STATIONS.

Committee.	Total. June 30, 1916.	Separate.	Assistantships.	During last Two Years.				Not Receiving Aid.	New Stations. On Estimates.
				Opened.	Abandoned.	Reduced from Full Status.	Raised to Full Status.		
Queensland ...	44	40	4	2	1	nil	3	9	—
New South Wales ...	58	33	25	9	nil	1	4	11	—
Victoria ...	129	123	6	12	3	7	9	44	26
Tasmania ...	18	16	2	2	nil	1	nil	4	3
South Australia ...	10	9	1	nil	nil	nil	nil	6	—
S. of D. ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Western Australia ...	11	10	1	2	2	1	3	nil	—
Aust. Inland Mis. *	10	7	3	4	nil	nil	nil	nil	—
Total ...	281	239	42	31	6	10	19	74	23*

* Including 3 nurses and 2 workers employed conjointly with other denominations.

TABLE II.—STAFF.

Committee.	Total in Regular Service. June 30, 1916.	Ordained.	As regards Study.						Ministers applying to G. A. A. to be received	Number of Married Men.	Extra Men urgently Required.
			Attending Theological Hall.	University.	Under H. M. Course.	Completed H. M. Course.	Preparatory	Arrested.			
Queensland ...	40*	nil	2	2	22	—	—	19	—	18	5
New South Wales ...	75	14	11	No Returns	49	—	—	—	—	—	—
Victoria ...	120	13	25	6	49	23	—	1	3	75	10
Tasmania ...	15	nil	nil	nil	9	—	—	6	—	2	6
South Australia ...	8	nil	nil	2	3	—	—	3	—	3	12
S. of D. ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Western Australia ...	10	1	nil	2	2	—	—	2	—	5	3
Aust. Inland Mission ...	10	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Total ...	279	34	48	12*	85*	23	3	31*	3	107	26*

* Also 5 "on leave" with A. I. F., and included in Study figures.

TABLE III.—REMUNERATION, ETC.

Committee.	Maximum Salary.	Minimum.	Average.	Travelling Plant Prov ded.	Maintenance of Same.	Residences Owned or Rented.	Furlough Provided.
Queensland	£ 161	£ 120	£ 124	18	13	15	—
New South Wales	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Victoria	170	90	115	53	—	26	—
Tasmania	140	90	112	5	—	4	—
South Australia	175	65	135	1	—	4	Fortnight
S. of D.	250	—	—	All	All	1	—
Western Australia	170	130	—	All horses	—	2	—
Aust. Inland Mission	300	125	—	All	All	5	{ 3 months after 3 yrs.

TABLE IV.—REVENUE (Last Financial Year)

Committee.	Field Revenue, Total.	Home Base Revenue, Total.	Collections.	Donations.	Societies and Special Schemes.	From Overseas.	Interest on Endowments, etc.	Bequests.	Other.	Balance.—Credit.	Debit.
Queensland	£ 5,647	£ 1,645	£ 915	£ 405	£ 142	£ 124	£ 319	—	—	£ 34	£ 131
New South Wales	7,823	2,359	783	30	439	—	1,104	—	—	—	—
Victoria	17,527	4,491	1,930	585	443	—	1,256	175	102	—	—
Tasmania	1,447	519	122	42	213	—	141	—	—	23	—
South Australia	799	430	81	1	250	—	98	—	—	—	24†
S. of D.	21	292	41	4	3	—	244	—	—	35	—
Western Australia	852	786	—	356	—	430	—	—	—	—	577
Aust. Inland Mis.	*800	3,291	—	3,156	—	90	45	—	—	993	—
Total	34,916	13,813	3,548	4,233	1,846	664	3,207	175	—	—	—

* Approximate (Returns incomplete).

† Plus £1,800 "Accumulated Deficit."

REPORT FROM THE WESTERN AUSTRALIA HOME MISSION COMMITTEE FOR TWO YEARS.

In the North West where the A.I.M. has relieved us of responsibility, but not of intense interest, Rev. F. G. H. Brady with his heroic wife are holding on year after year at Broome, while at Port Hedland the spiritual and practical side of Presbyterianism are

being ably demonstrated by Rev. J. Shaw, with his wife and sister in the Church, and Nurse Haines in the Hospital.

On the East-west Railway, work is carried on by a joint Committee of Methodists, Congregationalists, and Presbyterians—the last working through A.I.M. The Methodists supplied the first worker, but through shortage of men an appeal was made to us and we at the time were able to give Mr. G. W. Cleavely, one of our Home Missionary Staff, for the work, and he is now there.

In the field more particularly our own we have to report both progress and retreat. Two of our Country wheat Charges have this year given Calls and are now fully established. A suburban Church that was in deep water also came back to full status. Three Suburban Churches that had been carried on by Lay Preachers are now under care of Home Missionaries. A handsome church has been built in a new district at Mount Lawley, and services are now regularly conducted there. This is under the care of St. Andrew's, Perth. Against this we have abandoned two tentative charges in the far back wheat area: this was largely owing to the number of men who have left this pioneering work for still more strenuous work of war. Besides, we have two other Churches vacant at present in the country. The rapid change of our staff is a great hindrance to our work. Of our staff of two years ago only three are left to us. In that time, we have engaged five from within our own borders, we have received two from Victoria, and one from Scotland. We have lost two who have completed their Theological course and have been ordained, but we would gladly lose more from that reason. One other has been inducted into a charge, one transferred to the A.I.M., two have enlisted, two have resigned, and two have been dismissed. Seven of our agents are under promise to sit for examination next year. Those studying receive a considerable amount of help in their work, either personal coaching or by correspondence.

We are doing only a part of the work that we know should be done, but are unable to do more, for the two ever present wants of men and money. Last year our expenses exceeded our income by an alarming amount. Our people are few, but for their numbers they contribute well. Several of our Congregations, and not large ones, contribute for Home Missions more than whole Presbyteries in the East. But we are too few to accomplish more than a fraction of the work that should be done.

ALEX. CROW, Convener.

W. HUEY STEELE, Convener.

AUSTRALIAN INLAND MISSION.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Since last Assembly deep war shadows have rested about us. The effect on the A.I.M. is difficult to estimate. Obviously we have been handicapped, for Red Cross activities have captured that section of the public drawn by novelty, as well as those who are always there when Service calls. On the other hand the latter section has learned to think more deeply, and in wider circles, so the national significance of the A.I.M. has gripped many more firmly than ever before.

My own endeavours have been directed to prevent a threatened reverse. In September, 1914, Victorian representatives warned us that the revenue from their State was certain to fall. They told us, in fact, that they would not be surprised to see a decline to £1,200. A decline did ensue, but not quite so much as anticipated.

The awkward circumstance was that we were already committed to four distinct new undertakings, three of which meant considerable expense. The only way to avert disaster was to hurry up revenue in New South Wales and Queensland. In both these States results before the war were rather disappointing; and, until they did more, it was out of the question to expect advance in Victoria, or even to complain at a decline there.

Forced delays in extension—due to scarcity of staff—had permitted a satisfactory credit balance to accumulate, so that on Dec. 31, 1914, we had over £1,500 in hand. Then as new work was taken up we did what Camels do in bad times—we lived to a considerable extent on our hump. By the end of 1915 this providential reserve was half gone.

Meantime, however, our people in N.S.W. and Queensland were steadily realising that a national work awaited them. At the Easter Fellowship Conference at Windsor, Rev. G. A. Gordon, our N.S.W. Convener, told how a working man had called on him and left a roll of notes which counted out at £72. "There's no moral to my tale," added Mr. Gordon, as he resumed his seat.

The A.I.M. owes Windsor Conference a good deal, for at least twenty young lives went forth determined to compel others into activity. It was to try and utilise some of the helpers thus discovered that experiments were begun which finally resulted in the "Office Teams."

In every State we have had difficulty in keeping the Inland Brigade together, for Honorary Secretaries could never devote the innumerable hours necessary to keep records and routine correspondence up-to-date. But by the end of 1915 Sydney had a band of five ladies who met every week in the Church Office, posted up the A.I.M. Registers wrote letters of thanks and of information, sent out parcels of Inlanders and Folders, and interviewed personal inquirers. There are now seven members, and the work goes on with even success.

At the beginning of this year a similar team was initiated in Melbourne, composed largely of members of the Ladies' Committee, which has rendered such good service since the beginning, and the work proceeds there with enthusiasm.

In July we enrolled no less than ten volunteers to do similar work for Queensland. Of these ladies no less than five are experienced in office work, and already they seem perfectly at home in their important service for the A.I.M.

Thus aided in clerical matters, our Sectional Committee and Honorary Secretaries are left free for aggressive work of special character. In these days, however, such efforts are by no means easy to arrange. I understand from Mr. A. M. Ferguson that even in Melbourne—where in 1913 and 1914 such unique results were won by deputations of laymen—it is difficult to get public demonstration.

Our hopes for New South Wales and Queensland seem to be justified. The actual revenue for the latter (crediting an amount sent direct to Sydney) showed 1915 to be exactly double 1914. The former is now certain to raise twice as much for 1916 as for 1914, thus securing over £1,000 for the year.

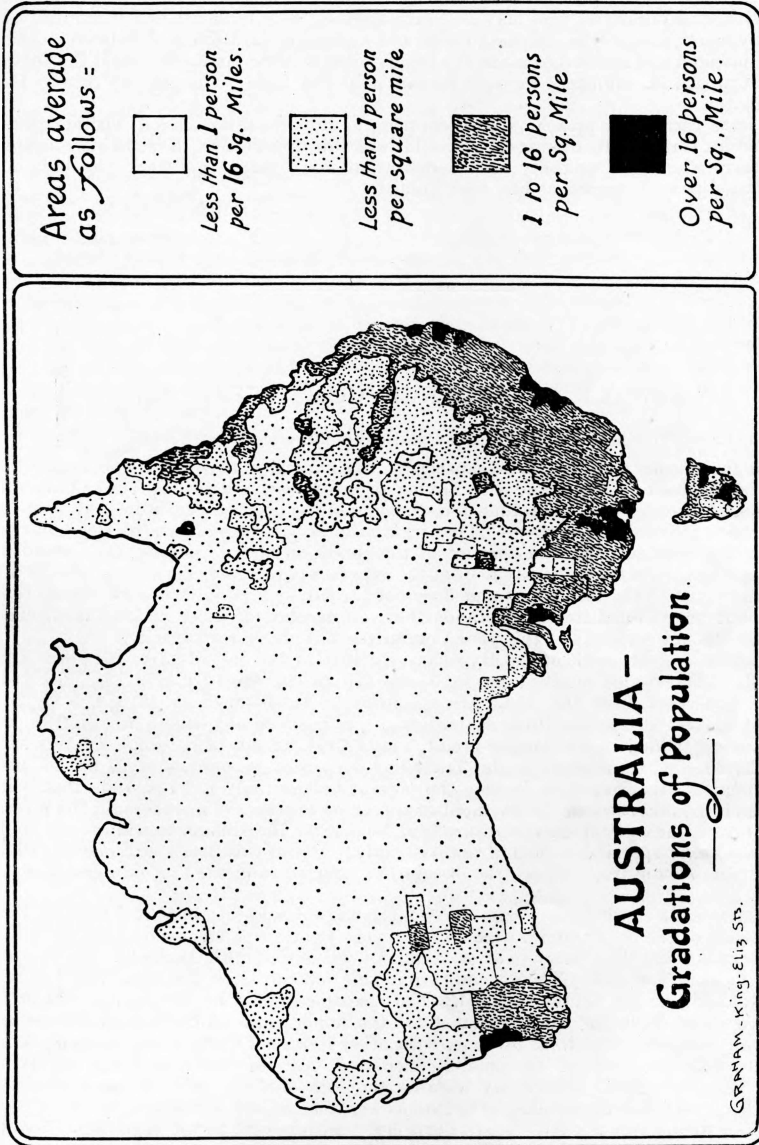
We have been giving increasing attention to the girls and boys, and independent Juvenile Groups have been formed in some places. The general thing, however, is for Sunday Schools to give a grant from funds in the ordinary way. They are then invited to appoint "Inland Leaders" from among the children themselves. To these our magazine is posted direct, and they pass it methodically round their respective circles.

From among these juvenile "Leaders" the A.I.M. should eventually recruit many nurses and ministers, not to mention Local Representatives and general helpers. In fact, parents as well as children are showing considerable imagination in this connection. Infants have been enrolled as subscribers in their own name. One yet scarcely able to walk unassisted struggled across the room to our representative at Kogarah and handed over his Commonwealth Note. Actual service in the A.I.M. has been discussed both by parents and children, and something should come of it all in due course.

My aim throughout has been to cultivate a sense of individual responsibility rather than to secure direct cash results. The idea is spreading that it is everybody's business to secure lives and money for our venture. Places never visited by any official delegate are sending in their gifts—one such place forwarded £9, apart from £2 10s., which one enthusiast had secured from the next-door parish.

We seem definitely to have turned the corner this year, for in spite of our increased expenditure the credit balance shows a slight upward trend again. This is well, for the task before us is very great, not half yet having been attempted.

The map prepared to show distribution of population in Australia gives food for deep thought.



In nine-tenths of our Commonwealth, counties fail to average even one soul per square mile. In fact, about two-thirds averages less than one person in sixteen miles.

Obviously the congregation, as the religious unit, is impossible under such conditions. In "The Real Australia" we must rely on the family as our unit, and devise ways and

means to train every guardian of children to be prophet, teacher, and pastor, as in the days of old in lands across the sea.

This means long endeavour, but here one sees great possibilities in the financial system of the A.I.M. We know our helpers by name, and gradually we are getting to know their personalities. It is possible then, in time, to link up every willing bush resident with some supporter who may also give spiritual help by letter and literature. In this way lonely men will be assisted to work out their own salvation, and isolated mothers will be inspired and assisted to make the family altar a living institution amid the Inland vast. Our A.I.M. ministers themselves can help but little, after all, by face-to-face teaching.

I have carried on preaching and lecturing as opportunities offered, visiting places from Mount Gambier to Brisbane. I would take this opportunity of thanking ministers and others who, by hospitality and co-operation, have made this work pleasant, and contributed to such success as has been gained.

JOHN FLYNN,
Superintendent.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE, 1916.

The Committee herewith submits the audited balance sheets and report.

In the special circumstances caused by the excessive expenditure in connection with the Brisbane meeting, and also having regard to war conditions, your Committee at a special meeting, held some time ago, considered the position carefully, and after due deliberation resolved as follows:—"That intimation should be made to the Headquarters of each State Church, that, on account of the condition of the finances, the Committee might not be able to make the payment of the expenses to members in the same proportion as formerly." This resolution was duly forwarded in accordance with instructions given, but your Committee understands that, on account of other action taken, effect to same was not given. For this your Committee accepts no responsibility.

The amount at credit of the Hymnary Royalty at the end of July, 1914 was £234 17s. 9d. The amount received for 1915 was £70 5s. 2d. for 1916, £79 13s. 9d.; total for the two years, £149 18s. 11d. On account of School Praise for 1915, £15 8s. 2d.; interest to 31st December, 1915, £3 18s. 8d.; making a total revenue of £169 5s. 9d. This amount added to the former credit, made £404 3s. 6d. of a total. Of this sum, £375 2s. 6d. was transferred to the Travelling Expenses Account, and £6 9s. 2d. used on account of other expenses, leaving the present balance only £22 11s. 10d., that being all there is in hand towards the payment of travelling expenses of members for the present Assembly, as the estimated expenditure is at least £250, the difference will require to be provided for by special direction of the Assembly. It was this position of matters which caused your Committee to pass the resolution referred to in the first paragraph of this report.

The present credit in the General Assembly Expenses Fund Account is £293 0s. 10d., with a sum of £85 outstanding, which, so far, your Committee has been unable to collect—Tasmania being three years in arrears, and Queensland, South Australia, and Western Australia one year each. The expenditure in this account since last Assembly has been £638 12s. 5d., as per details supplied. The assessment paid by the various States for the two years, including the assessment for the honorarium of the College Secretary, has been £606 10s.; the total revenue, with other items set forth in the account, being £660 0s. 5d. In view of the possible increased cost of the Blue Book and White Book, your Committee cannot say whether the sum of £100 could be made available from this fund towards travelling expenses, as was done at last Assembly.

Your Committee is compelled to again note, with regard to the Hymnary Royalty, that only the amount placed at its disposal can be spent, and that the expenses of members to the Assembly can only be paid *pro rata* up to the amount available, which at present is wholly inadequate to meet the former proportion.

The basis, upon which the travelling expenses of members of Assembly were formerly paid, was:—That members attending the General Assembly in September, 1916, 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. But unless some provision is made by the Assembly to provide the amount necessary, your Committee is not in a position to make payment of even this proportion, and so must ask for a direction in the matter. One method suggested would be to assess £100 extra and to transfer £100 from the General Assembly Expenses Fund, leaving the balance to come out of the prospective Hymnary revenue.

With regard to the Assembly Expenses Fund, your Committee recommends that instructions be given to assess State Assemblies for Assembly expenses as follows:—New South Wales £76 10s.; Victoria, £76 10s.; South Australia, £12 10s.; Queensland, £22 10s.; Western Australia, £12 10s.; Tasmania, £12 10s.; making a total of £213. Also, that a sum of £100 extra be assessed *pro rata* among the various States on account of the Travelling Expenses Fund.

In the Home Mission account for the past two years the extent and details of the work required to be done has been much greater than formerly, as reference to the balance sheets will show. The minutiae of detail in connection with this work is exceedingly great, and requires much care and attention. The total revenue evolved from all sources for the two years was £6,922 16s. 9d., and the expenditure £6,065 17s. 9d., leaving a credit balance as at 30th June last of £993 2s. 11d., which your Committee apprehends is not by any means too great, having regard to liabilities, present and prospective, in this particular department. The credit in the account for mission work in the bush of Australia stands at £35 16s. 2d., and your Committee recommends that this balance be transferred to credit of the Home Mission account proper.

The Expenses Capital Fund stands at £34 17s. 8d., the interest of £2 15s. which was earned having been transferred to Expenses Account.

The investment of the £1,000 held to the credit to the John Fraser Foreign Mission Endowment Fund stands as formerly, i.e.: invested in New South Wales Government Stock at 3½ per cent. The interest is paid to the credit of the Board of Missions every half-year, and has been paid to the 30th June, 1916.

As was done at last Assembly, your Committee recommends that 2 per cent. be the amount paid for collection upon all revenue for all funds to the Treasurership Committee of the New South Wales Church, who act as treasurers for your Board. It is an open question, having regard to the increased amount of work and service required in the Home Mission Department, whether this should not be increased, but under present circumstances the New South Wales treasurers are not making a request in that direction.

In connection with the Year Book, the payments made have been—for 1913-14-15, £65 5s. 5d.; for 1916, £32 10s.; total, £96 15s. 5d.; and the revenue received £21 18s. 11d., leaving a shortage of £74 16s. 6d., which had to be met out of the General Expenses Fund. There may be a small proportion of revenue for the current year still to come in.

Under the circumstances your Committee would repeat the clauses which were placed before last Assembly:—(1) To recommend that the publication of the Book be discontinued; and (2) That in the event of its being continued, that it be not made a charge upon any Fund under any Committee's care.

On behalf of the Committee,

WALTER G. CRANE,

Chairman.

BOARD OF MISSIONS REPORT, 1914—1916.

With thankful acknowledgment of the goodness of God in His care of our workers, and His manifest blessing on the Missionary work of our Church, the Board of Missions presents its report for the last two years.

THE STAFF.

There have been numerous changes in the Mission Staff. The long and arduous service of Mrs. J. G. Ward resulted in a temporary breakdown in health while in Victoria. Under medical advice her furlough was extended for six months, and a complete cessation of work ordered. She has greatly benefited thereby, and is now back at Mapoon.

The Rev. A. and Mrs. Richter are still war stranded in Europe. The Board has made the best arrangements possible for the work at Aurukun in their absence. Mr. and Mrs. Owen, assisted by a South Sea Islander, carried on for nearly two years, until the health of Mrs. Owen and child necessitated a change. Thereafter Mr. and Mrs. Holmes were moved from Weipa, and are now in charge of Aurukun. Mr. and Mrs. Owen, after faithful service, resigned, on account of health; but have so far recovered that they have returned to the work as Assistants at Mornington Island.

From Mornington Island we have to report the resignations of the assistants, Mr. and Mrs. Paull; and then of Mr. and Mrs. Campbell. Rev. R. Hall our Missionary at Mornington Island has passed the Examinations of the Extra Mural course, and is now qualified for license. The Board has instructed the Brisbane Executive to take all necessary steps for his ordination. Mr. Hall is congratulated on his achievement, as it shows no small powers of concentration and industry to pursue his studies without neglecting his work as a Missionary under tropical conditions.

Port George IV.—When Mr. and Mrs. Black left during the sitting of last Assembly, the Board felt that it could no longer defer furlough to Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, who had served seven successive summers in Queensland and Western Australia. Mr. J. R. B. Love took charge in their absence, and when they returned last year they were accompanied by their helpers, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Paton. Mr. Paton is the youngest son of our late venerated Dr. J. G. Paton. He and his wife have thrown themselves into the work most heartily.

REPORT BY MR. J. R. B. LOVE.

By the generosity of the late R. Barr Smith, Esq., of South Australia, and other friends, the Board was able to print and circulate the excellent Report on the Aborigines of Central Australia, drawn up by Mr. Love. Copies are available for distribution.

The Board would gladly have further employed Mr. Love in filling one of its temporary vacancies. He felt that the call of Empire came first. After completing his B.A. examinations at Adelaide he enlisted, and has sailed for the Front. While at Port George he compiled a grammar and vocabulary of the dialect of the Natives of that district.

GENERAL.

Owing to war-conditions nothing has been done towards procuring Oil Engines for the Mission Stations granted by last Assembly.

A desire has often been expressed to obtain some fixity of tenure in regard to the Mission sites. The Queensland Government has met this to some extent by placing the Reserves at Mapoon, Weipa, Arukum and Mornington Island under two Trustees, one nominated by the Government, and the other by the Mission. Our trusted friend, Mr. Jas Allan, of Brisbane, has been appointed by the Queensland Executive to represent the Missions.

Fraser Scholarships have been awarded to Deaconess Hocking (Vic.) now in Korea, Miss Jean Graham (N.S.W.) now in India, and to Miss A. S. Bryant (Vic.), who is at present in training. The Board invites the attention of Foreign Mission Committees to the help given by this Scholarship Fund to missionary candidates training under their supervision. The balance immediately available is £90 12s. 6d.

Dr. Fraser Campbell of the Church of Scotland Mission, through the New South Wales Committee, forwarded to the Board a strong appeal that our Australian Churches should undertake the work at the Mission Stations in India, formerly occupied by German Missionaries. The Board fully recognises the claims of India on our people, but with the grave responsibilities already resting on our Committees, it cannot make any recommendation in the matter.

At the beginning of this year a communication was received offering to transfer to our Church a Mission Station contiguous to ours on the North West coast of Western Australia. The Board has taken pains to procure all possible information on the subject. The Mission lies within our area of delimitation, and if the right man could be

procured the extra expense would not be great, as the two stations might be worked with one vessel.

Owing to the necessity for economy in printing, the Board is not presenting separate reports from our Missionaries and the Churches this year. No matter of importance has been overlooked, and the Board directs the sympathetic and prayerful attention of the members of Assembly to the full reports in the Blue Books of the various Assemblies.

FEDERAL MISSION STATIONS.

Port George IV. Mission has now been removed from the Coast to Kunmainya, a site about three miles inland. The soil is better, and the Natives will be further removed from the vile and shameless abuses of European and Asiatic traders who frequent these coasts. The whole area of 58,000 acres is now permanently reserved for the Mission.

The Mission Lugger "W. S. Park" after many years service in the Gulf of Carpentaria and Western Australia has reached its limit of safety, and acting on the best expert advice our Missionary and Mr. H. L. Richardson of Broome have purchased the Lugger "Dampier" 13 tons, for £150. About £50 will be required to put it in order. Towards that cost the sum of £100 previously collected by Rev. W. S. Rolland for repairs to the "Park" is available. Mr. Wilson is raising £67 by the sale of Pearl-shell, and work done in the spare time of the lugger. The Board approved of the purchase, and is greatly relieved that not only the comfort but the safety of the missionaries is thus provided for. The prospects at this station are hopeful, the people are friendly and attached to our Missionaries. Now that the heaviest part of the initial manual labour is over, we anticipate still greater progress in spiritual work. Unfortunately the Western Australian Government has withdrawn the monetary grant of £150. The loss is mitigated to some extent by its promise to supply rations, such as rice and flour, to the extent of £100 for a year with freight to Broome. The Board thanks the Executive and friends in Western Australia for obtaining this concession and hopes that their effort to have it continued may be successful. It remembers gratefully the kindnesses at Broome of the Rev. F. G. H. Brady and his wife to our Missionaries, and the valuable help given by Mr. Richardson to the Mission.

MORNINGTON ISLAND.

After a careful survey of the whole Island the station was located on the South West corner, where there is a good harbour for the boat and a patch of fair soil. Water was found at a depth of nine feet. The station is within easy reach of the Natives from all quarters. The known population of the Island is about 200. They are friendly and helpful, though somewhat thievish. Vegetables have been cultivated, and a generous friend—Mr. McIntyre of Burketown—has presented the Mission with cattle, goats and a fine mare. The Board has heartily thanked him for his valuable gifts. The Missionary is pushing on with the erection of dwelling houses, out buildings and fencing. School for Children was started in October, 1914, with 22 on the roll. The average daily attendance is seven. Daily morning prayers are held, also morning and afternoon classes for young people on Sundays.

At the older stations on the peninsula the work goes steadily forward.

MAPOON.

A great deal of additional work was laid upon Mr. and Mrs. Hey during the absence, through illness of Mrs. Ward. The Church will be relieved to learn that Mr. Hey has abandoned his desire to retire from the Mission at the close of his 25th year of service. He has sent to the Board for the Victorian Church a collection of native weapons and curios, some of which are exceedingly rare. These have been placed in the Foreign Missions Office at Melbourne. He reports that during the last twenty years, 181 persons have been baptised, and the year 1915 closed with a Community of 105 baptised persons, of whom 57 are communicants. The average attendance at the Sabbath services at Mapoon and the outstations is 154; day school attendance, 63. The Mission possesses a herd of 200 cattle, 13 horses and 2 mules. The co-operative store, managed for the benefit of the natives, had a turn-over of £313 for the last twelve months. There

have been no additions to the Church, but a number of candidates are being prepared for baptism. The Mapoon Native Teacher conducts occasional services in their own dialect. All other services are in English.

WEIPA.

The Rev. and Mrs. Brown have been working without assistance most of the time since their return from furlough, but even in the midst of much discouragement, the work of God goes on. One young married woman who had passed through a severe illness came asking for baptism. Severe epidemics of influenza and eye trouble visited the station in the early part of this year. Five white men were brought with what seemed like a form of Meningitis, one died but the other four recovered. A concrete dam has been put across the Station Creek, which will secure an abundant supply of fresh water. The Missionary intends to erect a small oil engine and piping, which will send the water on to the Mission Compound. The daily school has a roll of 50, and an average attendance of 36.

Mr. Brown's addresses and lantern lectures while on furlough were greatly appreciated, and did much to stimulate interest in the Mission. The matter of the disposal of stock on the Mission Reserve, which has been under discussion between Mr. Brown and the Board for a considerable time, has been referred by him to the Moravian Board, and may involve his retirement from our service.

AURUKUN.

Despite the prolonged absence of Mr. and Mrs. Richter, the work has been well cared for first by Mr. and Mrs. Owen, and at present by Mr. and Mrs. Holmes. More land has been cultivated, a jetty built, and buildings for smoking fish have been erected. Daily School and Sabbath services are well attended, and evidences of the working of the Spirit of God are manifest.

From all these Stations specimens of needlework and other educational progress have been sent to the Exhibition in Brisbane, and have gained prizes for their excellence.

The Natives have also shown their loyalty by contributions of money and garments to the red cross funds both British and French.

Industrial work has been greatly hampered by the high price of rice and flour, the Missionaries being unable to provide food for many workers, some of the Natives had to disperse to their hunting grounds.

Our Missionaries deserve the thanks of the Government as well as the Church for their efforts to keep down expense, by training the people to cultivate the soil and conserve their native products.

The Board asks the direction of the Assembly as to its action in regard to Aurukun Station, as there is no immediate prospect of the Missionary's return.

WORK UNDER THE FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEES.

In regard to the work more immediately under the direction of the State Assemblies—the Board is sincerely thankful that in such disastrous times the cause of God among the Heathen has suffered so little detriment. It is true that there is a shortage of male Missionaries. New South Wales has been unable to find a man for Nogogu, and Victoria looks in vain as yet for clerical Missionaries for the Southern Islands of the New Hebrides, as well as men to make up the full complement for Korea. There is little prospect of filling these places until the end of the War.

Tasmania reports that their Missionary in Epi has found of late more encouragement in his work. A valuable motor launch has been presented to the Church for his use. The Tasmanian Committee is faced with a deficit of about £300, mostly on the Maritime Service, but steps are being taken to wipe it off.

Queensland reports :—There has been no falling off in our Mission Funds, we are able to close the year with a credit balance of £28 4s. 11d. The Committee notes with

satisfaction the extension of the P.W.M.U. Union, Women's Guilds, and branches of the Girls' Auxiliary over the Church. The largest portion of the work done by the Committee has been as the Executive of the Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, for which we are pleased to be able to report that our relations with the Queensland Government, which provide so much for the maintenance of the Aborigines, as well as for the land and buildings, have been of the most pleasant character.

The Board regrets to learn of the death of the Rev. P. Robertson, of Ipswich, Convener of the Heathen Missions Committee of the Church in Queensland.

New South Wales.—The Rev. J. T. Lawton having accepted a call to South Yarra, Victoria, the Rev. C. A. White, B.A., has been appointed to the dual office of Convener and F.M. Secretary.

The work at Malo New Hebrides makes steady progress, but the Missionary complains of the inaction of the Condominium authorities, who allow not only the sale, but the manufacture of intoxicants to proceed practically unchecked. The Committee has begun to publish short pamphlets dealing with its Mission Fields; the first, on the New Hebrides, has been written by the Rev. C. E. James. It also has under consideration a scheme for securing and training Missionary candidates.

In India Miss D. Symonds, B.A., has been compelled to retire through ill health, but her place has been filled by Miss Jean Graham, B.A., who is now at Sholinghur and engaged in Language Study. A second lady Doctor is urgently needed. The Men's work requires another ordained Missionary, and the lack of boarding houses for boys and girls hinders the training of the Christian youth for future service.

The following statistics of the work in India are given:—Male Missionaries, 1; Female, 2; Medical, 2; Evangelistic, 6; Catechists, 7; Bible Women, 21; Native Teachers (Christian), Male, 21; Female, 23; Non-Christian, 7; Professed Christian people, 795.

Victoria reports with regret the death of Rev. A. Adamson, who retired from Korea a little over two years ago; also the resignation of Mr. E. K. Lomas, the educational Missionary in Korea, owing to the hostile attitude of the Japanese Government to Christian Education. Dr. Currell has reluctantly been obliged to resign, for the present at least, owing to his wife's health. For the same reason Dr. Crombie has resigned from Villa Hospital, New Hebrides. But the vacancy at Villa has been filled by the appointment of Dr. T. W. Hoggarth (grand nephew of the late Dr. J. G. Paton). The Rev. F. J. and Mrs. Thomas sailed for Korea along with two new lady Missionaries, Misses Scott and Hocking. Mr. Eric M. K. Raff, B.A., an Exit Student from Ormond College, has been accepted for service in the New Hebrides. He is now receiving medical training.

The situation caused by the attitude of the Japanese Government of Korea towards Christian education, which led to the resignation of Mr. Lomas, gave the Committee grave anxiety. As it seemed impossible to develop Educational work along the lines intended at first, the Committee resolved to appoint a Missionary for definite work among the Japanese, and one of the abler Ministers of the Church offered himself. This offer by the Rev. T. J. Smith, M.A., of East Malvern, was accepted as a direct answer to prayer.

It is a matter of profound thankfulness to God that the outstanding debt of £4,032 was wiped out by voluntary offerings without lessening the ordinary giving for last year. There was a deficit on the Korean and Chinese Mission income of £2,156. The Mission to Chinese in Victoria has unfortunately never stirred the Church as its other Missions have done, but there are evidences of awakening interest. So keenly did the Committee feel the situation that it submitted a scheme of retrenchment to the Assembly, but in the interval between the preparation of the report and the meeting of Assembly, God moved the hearts of His people to send in sums equal to the proposed saving for the first year. The Assembly heartily agreed to carry on the full work for another year at least.

The Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union has now attained its semi-jubilee, and goes on from strength to strength. Last year it raised a sum of £2,968, and sent mission boxes to the Field to the value of £710. It has a number of candidates in training. These will ensure a supply of lady missionaries for several years to come.

The Foreign Missions Secretary devotes a large portion of his time to conducting Bible and Mission Study Schools both in town and country. After long experience and

a close study of results he is convinced that it is the most fruitful work to which he could give himself, for it bases the Missionary interest in the deepened spiritual life. The influence of the Schools has not only been manifested in the splendid response to self denial appeals, but is being felt in many departments of the Church's work.

The Board hails with thankfulness the recent movement of the Methodist Church in sending out its first staff of men and women to open a Mission to the Aborigines in the Northern Territory. This is the first fruits of the scheme of delimitation agreed to at a Conference of the Churches, summoned by your Board about four years ago.

FINANCE.

The last General Assembly fixed the assessment for five years, two of which have elapsed. Estimates of income and expenditure such as the Board usually submits are accordingly unnecessary in this Report, but there are some minor matters of account on which it asks the guidance of the Assembly.

1. A deferred payment of £114 has been received from the Australian Deposit and Mortgage Bank. Though regarded as probably certain to come in, this payment was not included as receivable when the estimates were submitted. Now that it is actually in hand the Board suggests that the benefit of it should be distributed among the contributing Churches, reducing the assessment on each of them *pro rata* for the next three years. Should the Assembly approve the assessment will from October 1st, 1916, be:—

Victoria	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1210	0	0
New South Wales	...	...	...	...	...	...	801	0	0
Queensland	...	...	...	...	...	...	334	0	0
Western Australia	...	...	...	...	...	...	148	0	0
South Australia	...	...	...	...	...	...	87	0	0
Tasmania	...	...	...	...	...	...	73	0	0

2. The maintenance of communication by sea with the various mission stations is under existing conditions exceeding the estimates. The Board requests the Assembly's approval of its transfer of the credit balance of the General Expenses account to Boat Maintenance to the extent of £357 16s. 6d.

3. Should the Assembly continue the inquiries already begun by the Board as to the feasibility of taking over a further mission station offered to our Church in Western Australia, though this station is represented as self-supporting, and has probably been for a long period, some guarantee for initial outlay on it from the side of the Board must be provided. An overdraft or other form of credit for this purpose must be authorised.

4. The credit at current account when the books closed was £1,285 13s. 3d., on which there are the following claims:—

John Fraser Endowment	...	...	...	...	...	...	£90	12	6
Salaries	...	...	...	...	...	...	186	8	3
Assistants Salaries	...	...	...	...	...	...	85	0	6
Pensions	...	...	...	...	...	...	78	4	9
Upkeep	...	...	...	...	...	...	323	11	8
Furloughs	...	...	...	...	...	...	387	19	8
General	...	...	...	...	...	...	327	1	9
							£1,478	19	1

Less amount advanced on "Morning Star" for which re-
payment is provided in the Assessment £193 5 10

Balance in Bank... .. £1,285 13 3

ACCOUNTS NOT PAID.

Unpaid Salaries	...	...	...	...	...	£324 15 0
Pensions to 30/9/16.	...	...	...	...	...	84 0 0

Some of these balances seem fairly large, but they cannot be used for other objects, as the amounts will all be required immediately or in the near future for the various purposes indicated. One of the claims has caused the Board perplexity. It arises from the unpaid salary of a Missionary whose prolonged absence from his station has hampered the efficiency of the Queensland Missions. The Board should receive authority to close his engagement, and compromise his claim equitably. Almost in any circumstances likely to arise it might be well to appoint another Missionary in his stead.

5. Referring to the authority given by resolution of last Assembly to distribute two per cent. of the Board's income among the offices doing its work, the Board reports that it found great difficulty in interpreting and complying with the resolution, and asks that the matter be again taken into consideration, and its meaning made clear. Queensland has retained out-of-pocket expenses from its assessment; £5 have been allowed to the Office in Perth for similar outlays, and the office in Melbourne has been paid such charges along with exchange on remittances. The Board will be pleased to carry out the will of the Assembly, but it hesitates to recommend continuance of the resolution, since it cannot pay two per cent. on its income without increasing the assessment to provide the money; and it would prefer the rescinding of the resolution during the currency of the existing assessment, and its receiving authority to pay to the several Church Offices concerned on their quarterly detailed statements the full amount of their out-of-pocket expenses in its service. The alternative plan proposed by its Treasurer is that the two per cent. should cover all the expenses incurred in the several Church offices for book-keeping, postages, stationery, etc., but that all out-of-pocket expenses should be met in addition to the two per cent., and that the percentage charge meet the expenses of supervision, book-keeping, office accommodation, and responsibility.

GENERAL.

For the better instruction of our youth as well as the general membership of our Church, the Board purposes to issue and distribute a pamphlet on our Missions to the Aborigines.

It heartily acknowledges the zeal and devotion of all our Missionaries, the loyalty of the Committees, and rejoices that even in these strenuous times of war the cause of God among the heathen has not lacked support, and in conclusion, the Board recommends the Assembly to recognise the special help it has received from the various Church Offices, and the honorary auditors of its accounts which are herewith submitted.

Signed for the Board by direction,

ALEX. STEWART, Convener.
T. WATT LEGGATT, Secretary.

QUEENSLAND EXECUTIVE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS BOARD.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR TWO YEARS—FROM 1st AUGUST, 1914, TILL 31st JULY, 1916.

Dr.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.			DISBURSEMENTS.							
1914.										
Aug. 1 To Balance	...	£205 11 2	1916, July 31.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1916.			By MAPOON.							
July 31.			Mission Station Account	...	735	0	0			
To Government Grant for Mapoon	... £1,000 0 0		Teacher's Salary, 2 years, till 30/6/16	...	240	0	0			
Government Grant for Weipa	... 600 0 0		Teacher's Passage to Brisbane	...	7	4	0			
Government Grant Aurukun	... 600 0 0		School Requisites	...	2	0	6	984	4	6
Government Grant for Mornington	... 800 0 0									
		£3,000 0 0	.. WEIPA.							
F. M. Board Refund to adjust Mrs. Campbell's Passage Money Advanced...	...	10 0 0	Mission Station Account	...	403	17	0			
			Teacher's Salary till 31/3/16	...	175	0	0			
			School Requisites	...	1	11	7	580	8	7
			.. AURUKUN.							
			Mission Station Account	...	385	0	0			
			Teacher's Salary, 9 months, 1913-1914	...	75	0	0			
			Teacher's Salary 2 years till 30/6/16.	...	200	0	0			
			Teacher's Passage to Brisbane	...	10	7	6	670	7	6
			.. MORNINGTON.							
			Mission Station Account	...	550	0	0			
			Teacher's Salary, 5 months, 1915	...	41	13	4			
			Teacher's Salary, 12 months, till 30/6/16...	...	100	0	0			
			Mrs. Campbell — Passage Brisbane to							
			Burketown	...	13	10	0			
			Mr. Campbell — Passage Brisbane to							
			Burketown, Advanced	...	13	10	0			
			Mr. Campbell Advanced for Stores	...	30	0	0			
			School Requisites and Sundries	...	4	9	1			
								753	2	5
			By Petty Cash, Bank Charges, Duty Stamps, etc.					17	16	11
			.. Balance	...				209	11	3
		£3,215 11 2						£3,215	11	2

Brisbane, August 21st, 1916.

Audited and found correct.

(Sgd.) A. S. LANG, F.I.A.Q., Auditor.

REPORT OF COLLEGE COMMITTEE.

The College Committee reports that it has taken into careful consideration the matter of training Home Mission Agents, referred to it by the last Assembly, and recommends that the following changes be made in the rules as printed in the 1915 Year Book, pp. 58 and 59.

Par. 1, p. 58.—Add to paragraph the words—"In the case of applicants who are under the age of 25 years, the College Committee shall satisfy itself that for them a University course is impracticable."

Par. 2, p. 58.—Delete "within four years of date of their acceptance by the State General Assembly"; also delete "within the same period"; and add to paragraph the words "Passes in Junior, or Senior Public Examinations of a recognised University will be accepted by the College Committee as equivalent to parts of this course."

Par. 3, p. 58.—Put "and" after "History" and add "Greek" to the last sentence.

Par. 4, pp. 58 and 59.—Delete (a) and (b) and all matter following (b); and also all matter within [].

Par. 6, p. 59.—Delete "or the Extra-Mural Course."

A petition for exemption from a supplementary Examination in Entrance Greek was received from Mr. N. M. Jaboor, B.A. Petitioner stated that he was a graduate of the University of Beirut; that Classics were not taught at this University; that he had completed a four years' course in English, French, and Arabic; that he had acquired sufficient knowledge of N.T. Greek to enable him to do the work of the Class as a 2nd year private student at the Theological Hall, Ormond College; and that he had obtained second class Honours at the Sessional Examinations.

It was resolved to accept Mr. Jaboor's pass in Arabic as a substitute for a pass in Greek at the Entrance Examination, and report decision to the General Assembly.

It was reported to the College Committee by the Senatus of Ormond College that Mr. J. A. Souter had failed to pass a Supplementary Examination in Psychology at Melbourne University, and so had not completed his first years in Arts, in terms of Assembly's resolution in his case. Senatus further reported that Mr. Souter had been admitted to the Theological Hall as a private student before the University result appeared, and recommended, in view of his having passed in all the other subjects of the first year, that he be permitted to sit for the Entrance Examination in 1917, but that a paper in Psychology be set as part of his Entrance Examination by the examiner in Mental Philosophy. The Committee resolved to refer the case to the General Assembly with expression of its approval of the course proposed by the Senatus.

Applications for admission to the Home Mission Course of training, accompanied by certificates from convener of Home Mission Committee, Queensland, were received from Messrs. J. A. Laurie and T. H. Ferguson, both under the age of 23 years.

A letter was read bearing on the applications from Rev. Geo. Tulloch, who had lately visited Great Britain under commission from the General Assembly, to secure men for Home Mission work in Queensland. Mr. Tulloch stated that Messrs. Laurie and Ferguson were amongst those whom he had selected; that both had obtained a good educational ground-work, and although under the stipulated age, he would strongly recommend their admission to the Home Mission course of training as they were prevented by want of means from entering on a University course.

It was resolved to admit Messrs. Laurie and Ferguson to the Home Mission course as students of the first year, and formally declare that the decision is not to be regarded as a precedent, and report it to the General Assembly.

All examinations under the control of the Committee were duly held at the appointed times. The syllabuses and examination results are printed in the 1915 and 1916 Year Books.

At the 1914 Exit Examination, 3rd year, 16 passed. Of these, 7 were from St. Andrew's College, 5 from Ormond College, and 4 from Emmanuel College.

At the 1915 Exit Examination, 3rd year, 21 passed; 10 from St. Andrew's College, 7 from Ormond College, 2 from Emmanuel College, and 2 from Theological Hall, Perth.

At the 1914 Exit Examination, 2nd year, 20 passed; 10 from St. Andrew's College, 8 from Ormond College, and 2 from Emmanuel College.

At the 1915 Exit Examination, 2nd year, 16 passed; 10 from Ormond College, 5 from St. Andrew's College, and 1 from Emmanuel College.

At the Feb. Entrance Examination, 1915, 7 passed; and at the April Examination, 7 passed. Total for year 14.

At the Home Mission Annual Examination, 1914, as reported to last Assembly, 35 passed. Sixteen subsequently passed at the Supplementary Examination; making the total for the year 51.

At the Home Mission Annual Examination, 1915, 19 passed the 1st year, 15 the 2nd year, 4 the 3rd year, and 7 the 4th year.

At the Home Mission Supplementary Examination, 1915, 1 passed the 1st year, 1 the 2nd year, 2 the 3rd year, and 3 the 4th year. Total for 1915, 52.

At the Home Mission Examination, 1916, 2 passed the 1st year, 7 the 2nd year, 14 the 3rd year, and the 4th year. Three candidates have received a supplementary examination, and one a deferred examination. Total for year to date; 30.

The number of candidates at this examination was sensibly affected by the War.

Since last Assembly, 45 Home Mission Agents have been admitted to the course of training—Victoria 19, Queensland 14, N.S.W. 6, S.A. 5, and W.A. 1.

The following changes have been made in the list of Examiners:—

EXIT EXAMINERS.

THEOLOGY.—Rev. W. Borland, M.A., B.D., in place of Rev. A. Gillison, M.A., killed while acting as Chaplain of the A.I.F. at Gallipoli.

HEBREW.—Rev. H. S. Legge, M.A., temporarily, in place of Rev. H. M. Barnes, M.A., B.D., on leave of absence.

APOLOGETICS.—Rev. A. C. Grieve, B.A., in place of Rev. J. Paterson, M.A., resigned.

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

SCRIPTURE AND CATECHISM.—Rev. H. G. Jones, M.A., in place of Rev. G. B. Murphy, B.A., resigned.

ENGLISH LITERATURE.—Rev. E. E. Baldwin, M.A., in place of Rev. A. Yule, M.A., resigned.

HEBREW.—Rev. M. McQueen, M.A., in place of Rev. J. V. McNair, deceased.

GREEK.—Rev. Tulloch Yuille, M.A., B.D., in place of Rev. J. H. Robertson, M.A., resigned.

H.M. EXAMINATION.

MENTAL PHILOSOPHY.—Rev. J. Barnet Steel, B.A., in place of Rev. J. Paterson, M.A., resigned.

LOGIC.—Rev. T. Scott Neil, in place of Rev. J. Paterson, M.A., resigned.

The Committee deeply regrets the removal by death of Rev. J. Meiklejohn, M.A., D.D., co-Convener, Rev. Robert Steel, M.A., Convener of N.S.W. Section of the College Committee, Rev. A. Gillison, M.A., examiner in Exit Theology, and Rev. J. V. McNair, for many years examiner in Entrance Hebrew, and gratefully acknowledges the valuable services which they rendered to the cause of Theological education.

JOHN MATHEW, Convener.

REPORT OF COLLEGE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS.

At a duly constituted meeting of the College Committee the above Petitions were considered, and the following decisions were unanimously resolved upon :—

In re Petition of J. B. Clarke : Recommend to the Assembly that, in view of the work already done by him in the Theological Hall, St. Andrew's College, and the present condition of his health, the prayer of the Petition be granted.

In re Petition of L. M. Fairey : Recommend that the prayer of the Petition be granted and that Hebrew be a subject of the examination.

In re Petition of Hubert Robertson : Recommend that he take the Entrance Examination in Scripture, Moral Philosophy and English ; that he attend the Theological Hall, Emmanuel College one year, and pass the Exit Examination in all subjects except Greek and Hebrew.

JOHN MATHEW, Convener.

YEAR BOOK REPORT, 1915-16.

Two annual issues of the Churches' Year Book have been published, according to the instructions of the last Assembly.

Members will observe that the information has been presented in somewhat different form to that in former years, and also the introduction of some fresh useful reference matter.

Acting on the instructions of the Assembly to find means of defraying the cost, ministers were asked to remit the small charge of sixpence on receipt of the Year Book, and in addition a little canvass was made at the time of the Assemblies in each State, with the result that out of some 692 copies in 1915, and 667 copies in 1916, the Committee have received payment for 377 and 367 copies respectively for these two years.

The total cost of the Year Book for the two years amounts to £83 6d. 9d., while the receipts from sales were £27 4s. 4d., advertisements, £36 7s. ; total £63 11s. 4d. Leaving a deficit of £19 15s. 5d. on the working for the two years.

There has been a general testimony to the value of the Book to the Church, and a strong desire has been expressed for its enlargement rather than discontinuance.

J. R. FIDDIAN, Editor.

JAS. STEELE, Convener.

August, 1916.

YEAR BOOK.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE								
				£	s.	d.						
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			
Sales and Arrears, 1915	14	3	3	Printing, Postage, etc., 1915	...	...	39	18	5
Sales and Arrears, 1916	13	1	1	Printing, Postage, etc., 1916	...	...	3	5	1
										79	3	6
Advertisements, 1915	14	16	0	Editor's Expenses, 1915	...	...	2	8	0
Advertisements, 1916	11	1	0	Editor's Expenses, 1916	...	...	1	15	3
										4	3	3
Vic. Theological Hall, 1915	5	0	0	Cash remitted to Sydney	...	...	21	17	11
Vic. Theological Hall, 1916	5	0	0	Balance Cash on hand	...	...	0	16	8
Finance Board, 1915	10	0	0						
Finance Board, 1916	32	10	0						
				42	10	0						
				£106	1	4				£106	1	4

16th August, 1916.

J. R. FIDDIAN, Adelaide.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS, 1915.

Windsor, N.S.W.,

September, 1916.

The Blue Book for 1903, page 118, contains a Schedule of some 88 questions or more that the Assembly of that year recommended as suitable for Statistical purposes.

In the report for 1913, 59 of these were tabulated. This year, owing to the omission of many of the questions from the returns from the various States, the number is much further reduced, Queensland being the most complete.

Amongst the questions to which no answers are given, we find such as:—Sittings set; Sustentation Fund Collectors; Households; Attendance at all Services; Marriages; Funerals; Details of Communion Roll; Adherents; and the Financial questions have been reduced by one half.

In the accompanying schedule it should be noted that the Victorian figures are in each case for the year previous, while those for Tasmania are taken from the best returns available.

We consider that a revised schedule of Questions asking for less details should be adopted by the Assembly. Such a form has been drawn up and submitted to the Statistical authorities in each State, and we trust it will be ready to lay on the table of the Assembly in September.

Owing to the War we have not made the usual comments, but the figures for the previous Assembly and that of 10 years ago are shown. Except for Building purposes the figures compare favourably with previous years.

We consider that these returns should be made out in one of the Church Offices where all the State Blue Books are at hand, and where clerical assistance is available in compiling and checking the tables of figures. The accompanying table of Communion Roll returns shows the most vital part of our Church Life.

JAS. STEELE,

Joint Convener.

REVIEW OF COMMUNION STATISTICS

Year	Victoria		N. S. Wales		Queensland.		South Australia		West Australia		Tasmania	
	Total	First Time	Total	First Time	Total	First Time	Total	First Time	Total	First Time	Total	First Time
1902...	25,238	2,212	13,952	1,433	5,776	445	1,623	132	1,002	106	1,719	—
1904...	26,673	1,371	15,537	962	5,529	287	1,441	134	992	—	1,496	—
1905...	27,185	1,115	16,034	1,176	5,807	370	1,703	45	1,098	92	1,714	—
1906...	27,601	1,449	16,824	1,149	6,277	281	1,777	87	1,039	102	1,691	140
1908...	28,518	1,174	17,596	1,012	6,484	284	1,905	86	1,371	103	1,777	108
1909...	29,079	1,930	18,533	1,625	6,730	399	1,988	110	1,411	93	1,280	50
1911...	30,498	—	19,526	1,150	7,530	443	2,004	—	—	—	—	—
1913...	31,461	1,826	20,856	1,049	8,671	486	2,751	130	1,943	194	1,280	50
1915...	33,666	1,939	21,729	1,255	9,311	530	2,405	114	2,128	110	1,244	—

NOTE.—Chapman-Alexander Missions were held during the years 1909 and 1912.

MINISTERS, CHARGES, AGENTS.

TABLE I.

		N. S. Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Australia.	W. Australia.	Tasmania.	Totals.
Presbyteries ...	1905 ...	14	14	5	3	3	3	42
	1913 ...	17	15	5	3	3	3	46
	1915 ...	17	17	5	3	4	3	49
Charges ...	1905 ...	183	274	40	23	20	25	580
	1913 ...	184	214	44	29	17	18	506
	1915 ...	222	222	49	18	19	17	547
Ministers settled ...	1905 ...	137	189	32	15	11	16	400
	1913 ...	153	207	35	17	13	17	442
	1915 ...	149	—	36	15	15	14	—
Ministers <i>Emeriti</i> ...	1905 ...	11	25	1	1	—	1	39
	1913 ...	9	21	—	—	—	—	30
	1915 ...	9	—	3	0	—	1	13
Ministers unsettled ...	1905 ...	24	24	1	1	—	—	50
	1913 ...	27	36	6	1	1	—	71
	1915 ...	19	—	—	1	2	1	—
Students, Divinity ...	1905 ...	21	13	—	—	—	—	34
	1913 ...	22	28	7	—	—	—	57
	1915 ...	21	26	3	0	2	—	52
Home Missionaries ...	1905 ...	30	61	—	—	—	—	91
	1913 ...	40	71	46	10	10	13	190
	1915 ...	—	118	55	7	10	12	—
Ministers in Special Service ...	1913 ...	16	7	5	2	1	—	31
	1915 ...	6	8	3	2	—	—	19
Mission Stations ...	1913 ...	31	99	42	9	11	9	201
	1915 ...	32	107	39	10	11	14	213

CHURCH BUILDINGS.

TABLE II.

	Churches.			Schools.			Manses.			Debt.		
	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.
N. S. Wales	349	436	431	85	116	108	116	141	155	£81,256	£59,440	£70,633
Victoria	487	543	574	149	—	161	171	199	207	105,523	122,760	119,833
Queensland	84	144	154	35	39	35	26	41	45	14,798	13,152	14,534
South Australia	29	31	37	—	5	9	14	14	16	2,225	2,910	4,336
Western Australia	—	21	25	—	12	8	—	9	12	16,855	20,292	22,841
Tasmania	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,735	—	—

CHURCH BUILDINGS.

TABLE III.

	Insurance.			Value.			Sitting Accommodation.		
	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.
	£	£	£	£	£	£			
N. S. Wales	198,541	336,121	399,668	566,436	550,566	648,463	56,740	69,508	74,913
Victoria	320,057	462,008	499,349	697,395	907,070	—	83,738	93,226	124,788
Queensland	59,146	86,554	95,658	112,375	172,462	178,375	14,152	22,121	24,064
South Australia	—	27,520	34,675	20,165	54,275	57,785	6,093	8,165	7,785
Western Australia	—	24,914	37,590	—	24,422	60,280	—	4,507	5,142
Tasmania	—	9,448	—	—	25,855	—	—	4,635	—

PERSONAL ORGANIZATION.—TABLE IV.

	Elders.			Managers.		
	1905	1913	1915	1905	1913	1915
N. S. Wales	715	915	1,012	2,335	2,898	2,902
Victoria	827	1,039	1,085	4,440	5,149	5,346
Queensland	234	346	345	565	971	1,050
South Australia	79	120	118	132	315	355
Western Australia	48	73	84	150	203	253
Tasmania	65	68	—	—	165	—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...

SOCIETIES—TABLE V.

	Women's.			Membership.		
	1905	1913	1915	1905	1913	1915
N. S. Wales - - -	160	218	188	3,792	3,470	—
Victoria - - -	232	311	276	6,354	9,311	7,300
Queensland - - -	46	65	98	761	1,810	1,608
South Australia - - -	17	35	28	—	340	612
Western Australia - - -	—	23	30	—	432	508
Tasmania - - -	—	9	—	—	128	—
Total - - -						

TABLE V.—Continued.

	Fellowship.			Membership.		
	1905	1913	1915	1905	1913	1915
N. S. Wales	71	142	109	1999	2709	1240
Victoria	118	—	72	2866	1890	1563
Queensland	6	16	15	147	323	326
South Australia	—	1	1	—	55	30
Western Australia	—	2	—	—	27	—
Tasmania	—	2	—	—	42	—
Total						

RELIGIOUS ORDINANCES.—TABLE VI.

	Preaching Centres.			Sabbath Services.		
	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.
New South Wales	1,113	1,335	1,170	24,531	30,910	30,708
Victoria	991	1,050	1,094	39,137	42,101	—
Queensland	243	421	391	5,912	10,588	11,230
South Australia	34	176	72	2,679	3,548	3,465
Western Australia	—	63	78	—	2,526	2,661
Tasmania	64	55	—	633	2,019	—
Total						

TABLE VI.—Continued.

	Weekday Services.			Prayer Meetings.		
	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.
New South Wales	3,358	2,967	1,854	3,089	1,944	2,620
Victoria	1,686	1,517	—	5,031	4,742	—
Queensland	1,148	928	143	544	715	552
South Australia	374	126	—	72	261	307
Western Australia	—	122	95	146	251	180
Tasmania	—	412	—	—	286	—
Total						

RELIGIOUS ORDINANCES.—TABLE VII.

	Baptisms.			Funerals.			Marriages.		
	1905	1913	1915	1905	1913	1915	1905	1913	1915
N. S. Wales ...	2717	3071	2993	793	819	—	1203	—	—
Victoria ...	2732	2871	3066	1495	1861	1735	1223	—	1634
Queensland ...	303	1418	1318	161	599	552	286	316	745
South Australia ...	52	166	149	47	121	119	27	—	166
Western Australia ...	165	250	225	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tasmania ...	—	153	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...									

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP, &c.—TABLE VIII.

	Households.			Persons.		
	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.
New South Wales ...	17,373	21,160	—	74,502	86,924	83,734
Victoria ...	30,815	34,928	36,168	117,558	108,658	129,402
Queensland ...	3,903	9,376	10,043	10,771	33,765	36,401
South Australia ...	601	2,700	2,868	2,093	9,957	10,936
Western Australia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tasmania ...	—	1,374	—	—	4,161	—
Increase ...						

TABLE VIII, (Continued.)

	Communicants.			First Time.		
	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.
New South Wales ...	16,034	20,856	21,729	1,176	1,049	1,255
Victoria ...	27,185	31,461	33,666	1,115	1,826	1,939
Queensland ...	5,807	8,671	9,311	370	486	530
South Australia ...	1,703	2,251	2,405	45	130	114
Western Australia ...	1,098	1,943	2,128	92	194	110
Tasmania ...	1,714	1,280	1,244	—	50	90
Increase ...						

TABLE VIII. (Continued.)

	Total Admitted.			Total Removed.		
	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.
New South Wales ...	2,031	2,416	2,318	1,193	1,297	1,568
Victoria ...	2,591	4,019	4,486	1,712	2,831	1,831
Queensland ...	595	1,283	929	403	636	533
South Australia ...	86	276	247	48	130	124
Western Australia ...	239	519	258	194	140	156
Tasmania ...	—	84	146	—	89	36
Total ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

WELFARE OF YOUTH.
TABLE IX.

	Schools.			Teachers.			Scholars.			Bible Classes.		
	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.
N. S. Wales	335	379	351	2,161	2,187	2,368	21,706	21,529	21,222	1,563	1,515	—
Victoria	585	552	566	4,199	4,166	4,452	39,158	37,285	39,137	3,781	4,388	—
Queensland	133	175	187	939	1,276	1,290	8,148	10,687	9,980	365	456	249
South Australia	34	41	41	156	313	—	1,160	2,288	2,399	163	167	93
Western Australia	24	32	43	205	287	360	2,013	2,143	3,132	—	116	71
Tasmania	39	22	—	189	140	—	1,684	1,370	—	—	123	—

FINANCIAL.—TABLE X.

	Revenue for Congregational Purposes.						Foreign Missions.			Home Missions.		
	Ordinary.			Special.			1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.
	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.						
New South Wales	£ 44,620	£ 64,896	£ 68,554	£ 24,485	£ 25,193	£ 15,637	£ 1,290	£ 1,876	£ 1,548	£ 732	£ 1,192	£ 1,050
Victoria	83,480	97,366	126,605	12,144	21,406	—	1,115	5,614	—	757	2,294	—
Queensland	14,030	20,113	21,498	2,639	8,856	4,544	60	160	432	62	765	1,206
South Australia	5,461	5,923	5,923	597	832	503	—	529	401	—	524	302
Western Australia	—	6,748	6,384	—	1,972	1,038	—	23	125	—	205	312
Tasmania	—	3,000	—	—	353	—	—	15	—	—	—	—

FINANCIAL.—TABLE X. (Continued.)

	S.S. Revenue.			Total Congregational Revenue.			Stipends			Capital Fund and Credit Balances.		
	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.	1905.	1913.	1915.	1906.	1913.	1915.
New South Wales	£ 1,191	£ 1,507	£ 1,953	£ 77,562	£ 95,960	£ 91,811	£ 41,015	£ 53,121	£ 55,231	£ 109,606	£ 197,184	£ 217,298
Victoria	2,264	9,319	—	115,939	142,373	153,683	60,396	66,278	73,093	345,026	426,654	—
Queensland	1,511	2,150	1,845	18,621	35,229	32,198	9,011	11,637	12,480	12,099	12,088	11,993
South Australia	—	345	317	—	10,160	8,748	3,902	5,778	5,640	13,927	21,051	27,080
Western Australia	330	664	413	5,914	8,982	9,416	3,436	4,750	4,630	241	—	1,654
Tasmania	370	253	—	5,557	4,240	—	3,749	2,982	—	—	7,959	—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OFFICIAL ORGAN.

There is little to report on behalf of this Committee, but it must be obvious that the whole matter of Church Publicity and Publications needs very close and earnest attention. A large amount of money and time is being spent on printer's ink as will be apparent from the list of publications in the *Year Book*. Yet the large *Australian* outlook is too little in evidence and there is a regrettable want of co-ordination and organisation both as between Committees and as between States.

The idea of co-operating in the production of an Australian "inset" to which additional pages could be added for individual States and even for these individual congregations, which issue local publications has found favour in some States, but from the others no response has been made.

Judging by the example of the Churches in Canada and the United States the time has come for Australia to take publication work seriously. In those instances the definite organising of this branch took place in connection with the inauguration of a Sunday School scheme.

On behalf of the Committee,

J. R. FIDDIAN.

REPORT OF THE IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE.

The Committee has pleasure in presenting its second report. The Executive Members of the Committee with Headquarters in Melbourne were, Mr. D. Macmillan (Convener), W. Thomson (Corresponding Convener), Rev. R. W. Macaulay, and Mr. C. McKinnon (Hon. Secretary). The Executive by correspondence with the Committees in the State Churches has gathered information as to the work of meeting, welcoming and assisting immigrants to Australia, and begs to report the same to the General Assembly.

From the New South Wales Church no tabulated results have been received. The Committee summarises its work in the following terms:—"During the period named our Committee has, by visiting vessels on arrival, given the new arrivals a hearty welcome, and where their location has been traced, informed the Minister of the Parish of the new arrivals' residence. The work at present is practically at a standstill, but we anticipate that as soon as the war is over there will be greater need than ever for much activity in the Immigration Department."

The Victorian Church has retained the Agent, the Rev. W. Thomson, and has through his agency continued to meet the steamers arriving with immigrants at Melbourne. The Agent's reports show that from November, 1914, to April, 1916, five hundred and eighty-four Presbyterians, representing three hundred and eighteen families, were met and reported to Ministers and Home Missionaries in the places where they settled.

The Report from the Queensland Church is from the 1st July, 1914, to 31st December, 1915. It shows that 224 Presbyterians were welcomed, of whom 195 were reported to Ministers, and 53 advised and assisted. This kindly help was mainly given by Mr. A. S. Barr and the Secretary at the Church Offices.

The Rev. Robert Hanlin, Fremantle, reports that since the war began in August, 1914, immigration from the old land has practically ceased in Western Australia. Lack of facilities at Fremantle for getting into communication with the new arrivals makes it almost impossible for Mr. Hanlin to meet the few who have come to that part, especially since the closing of the Immigration Home.

The Committee of the South Australian Church reports that the war has stopped immigration in that State, and that a large number who arrived from the Homeland previous to the war have enlisted and gone to the front.

In view of the general belief that at the close of the war there will be a larger influx than ever of people from the Homeland into Australia, caused by general unsettlement, and by the Governmental and other Schemes to provide work and land for our own returned soldiers, and rural occupations and land for British soldiers, under Sir Rider Haggard's scheme, the Committee would respectfully urge upon the Assembly to enjoin the State Churches to organise co-operative means and agencies by which our own men shall be welcomed on arrival, and reported to Ministers in the parishes where they settle, and that those who are attracted to our shores, both from the Army and Navy, and as civilians seeking to make their homes in Australia, shall be similarly dealt with when they come.

The Executive, in accordance with the decision of the last Assembly, to recommend State Committees to co-operate as far as possible with a view to effective work, corresponded with the State Committees on this subject, and now suggests the adoption of the following scheme of co-operation, so that a maximum of benefit, with a minimum of labour and expense, will be secured in the work of meeting new arrivals at the ports of call.

- 1st.—That when steamers bringing immigrants call at Albany or Fremantle, the Immigration Committee of the Western Australian Church shall arrange to obtain, when practicable, the names of Presbyterians bound for Adelaide, and forward the list to the Convener of the Immigration Committee at Adelaide by the same steamer until speedier communication is in vogue by train.
- 2nd.—That in the case of steamers coming direct from Capetown, and also of steamers calling at either Albany or Fremantle, arrangements be made with the Victorian Immigration Committee to obtain the names of Presbyterians landing at Sydney and Brisbane, to give cards of welcome to such provided by the Churches of N.S.W. and Queensland respectively, forward the lists of such to the Conveners of the Immigration Committees at Sydney and Brisbane.
- 3rd.—That the Executive, after ascertaining the expense involved in visiting steamers, corresponds with the Immigration Committees of the Churches receiving the benefits, and arrange as to the allotment of such expense to be paid by them.
- 4th.—That the Executive be instructed to issue a card with the names and addresses of the Conveners, and of the Immigration Committee's Agents, at the ports of call, with offer of services to new arrivals from the Homeland, with instructions to forward a supply of such to the Conveners of the Colonial Committees of the Presbyterian Churches of Scotland, England and Ireland, and to arrange that these cards be put on all steamers bringing immigrants to Australia.

With regard to obtaining Chaplains for steamers carrying immigrants, the Executive should be instructed to renew the correspondence with the Presbyterian Churches in Scotland and Ireland, and with the Council of Free Churches in England, urging them to take united action to secure the appointment of Chaplains on boats carrying large numbers of immigrants.

In conclusion, the Committee would urge upon the various State Assemblies to give every encouragement to the movements to extend a cordial welcome to all our people who come from overseas to settle in our Country, and to secure that they will be brought into connection with our Churches for their moral and spiritual benefit.

On behalf of the Committee.

D. MACMILLAN,
CAPT. ROBT. CRAIG, } Joint Conveners.

REPORT OF NAVAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

To the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Your Committee was appointed by the General Assembly held at Melbourne in 1912 to consider, report, and advise on all matters affecting the Presbyterian Church of Australia in relation to the Naval and Military affairs of the Commonwealth, the Senior Presbyterian Chaplains of each State being *ex officio* members of the Committee (Blue Book, 1912, p. 51.)

It was, however, the Public Questions Committee, through its Convener (Dr. Rentoul) and Executive, that dealt with the appointment and oversight of Chaplains and the religious interests of the troops and trainees under the new Military Regulations in 1913. (Blue Book, 1914, pp. 59, 60, 101 to 105). The deliverances on that Committee's Report and on the Report of the Naval and Military Affairs Committee (Blue Book, 1914, pp. 59 to 62, 103 to 105, and 191) recommended the constitution, procedure, and powers of the State Committees, and appointed its Committee on Naval and Military Affairs as follows:—The Chaplaincy Committees in the various States, with the addition of Prof. Rentoul as Convener, and as such Chaplain-General, the Victorian members of the Committee to be the Executive.

In carrying out this function, the Chaplain-General and the Executive have aimed at the co-ordination and unification of the work in the various States and at the war-fronts and in the Military Camps and Hospitals abroad in an effective and impartial manner. They have endeavoured to secure the best Chaplaincy oversight of soldiers in the Military Camps within Australia, with adequate institutes for the work of the Chaplains and the convenience and recreation of the men in the various training centres. In this effort they have been ably supported by the State Senior Chaplains and Committees, as will be seen from the summarised Reports appended.

In the early part of 1915, the Chaplain-General had much trouble in securing for the Presbyterian Church the Chaplaincy at the Royal Australian Naval College, Jervis Bay, in accordance with the regulations. In this matter he wishes to speak with gratitude regarding the loyal support he received from the Rev. R. Scott West, and the Rev. John Ferguson. The same question is again under consideration.

The Executive has had necessarily a difficult task in the selection, for the Chaplain-General's nomination, of candidates for chaplaincy with the A.I.F., especially for continuous service. There were over 60 applicants for these appointments—many of them very urgent. The aim has invariably been to select the best-trained and most effective men, keeping in view, as far as possible, the wishes of the various State Committees. The list of Chaplains nominated will show the impartiality, while the warm commendations of their work on active service, given by our own soldiers and by non-Presbyterian authorities, would seem to prove the sagacity of their selection. The requests of the Adjutant-General for nomination of Chaplains "for voyage only" were made, for the most part, in the early months of war-time, and at short notice.

List of Chaplains "for Continuous Service," in order of their nomination by the Executive.

The	Rev. E. N. Merrington, Q.
" "	J. C. McPhee, S.A.
" "	A. Gillison, V.
" "	J. Keith Miller, N.S.W.
" "	S. McBain, V.
" "	D. Macrae Stewart, V.
" "	W. J. Stevens, W. A.
" "	F. W. Rolland, V.
" "	Joseph Lundie, Q.
" "	George Cranston, N.S.W.
" "	W. S. Shannon, W.A.
" "	J. L. Cope, V.
" "	F. Milne, V.
" "	J. B. Rentoul, T.
" "	G. A. Gordon, N.S.W.

The Rev. A. M. Stevenson, N.S.W.
„ „ J. H. McGoun, N.S.W.
„ „ A. S. McCook, N.S.W.
„ „ A. Irving Davidson, V.
„ „ J. Crookston, V.
„ „ Hume Robertson, V.
„ „ J. Bates, Q.
„ „ P. A. Hope, T.
„ „ J. Smiley, V.
„ „ J. A. Malcolmson, N.S.W.
„ „ F. W. Macaulay, V.
„ „ W. Fraser, V.

There have, therefore, been nominated and appointed for continuous service—

From Victoria	12
„ New South Wales	7
„ Queensland	3
„ W. Australia	2
„ Tasmania	2
„ S. Australia	1
Total	27

In addition to these, the Rev. A. H. Tolhurst was appointed, in exceptional circumstances, by the Military Authorities in Egypt. It may be noted that the Rev. W. J. Stevens, W.A., was nominated by request of the New South Wales Committee.

There were nominated "for voyage only" (transport duty):—

From Victoria	6 (of whom 1 has not sailed).
„ New South Wales	2
„ Queensland	1
„ West Australia	1 (who resigned).
„ Tasmania	1
„ South Australia	2 (of whom 1 has not sailed).
Total	14 (of whom 11 have served).

In addition to these, the Rev. G. A. Gordon (N.S.W.) was sent "for voyage only," but transferred, on arrival in Egypt, to "continuous service."

In addition to these, the Rev. Prof. Adam was appointed by the Military Authorities for service on a hospital ship.

On several occasions during 1915 and 1916 difficulties arose, in Egypt and elsewhere abroad, in connection with the allocation of Chaplains belonging to the various denominations to the several brigades and hospitals, and with the co-ordination of their work. This matter entailed upon the Chaplain-General and Executive no little negotiation and consultation with the Military and other Church authorities. Eventually in July, 1916, it was decided by the Military Authorities to appoint the various Chaplains-General to sail and do Chaplain's work with troops leaving for Europe; thereafter, to visit and inspect the Military hospitals and camps in Great Britain and the Chaplaincy arrangements there; afterwards to visit similarly the hospitals and camps in France and Egypt, and to report. For private reasons Prof. Rentoul at first declined the appointment; afterwards, with the approval of the Executive, he accepted it, and sailed in August as Chaplain-General (Presbyterian denomination) in the A.I.F., with duties as stated above. In his absence, and subject to the decision of the General Assembly in September, the Rev. William Borland, who had been appointed Vice-Convener of the Executive in September, 1915, was nominated as Chaplain-General (temporary), and this nomination was approved by the Military Authorities.

The Executive cannot close this Report without recording their appreciation of the services faithfully rendered by all our Church's Chaplains, and again expressing their deep sorrow at the great loss the Church and the troops have suffered in the death of that truly heroic soldier of God, Chaplain the Rev. Andrew Gilison, M.A. The influence of his character has sunk imperishably into the hearts and memories of the Australian Forces, and into our Church's higher life.

September, 1916.

W. BORLAND, Vice-Convener.

APPENDIX

REPORT OF THE NAVAL AND MILITARY CHAPLAINS COMMITTEE IN
NEW SOUTH WALES.

The Committee begs to report that monthly meetings were held throughout the year with satisfactory attendances.

It is somewhat difficult to give more than a bare outline of the many and varied duties which have come within its jurisdiction. In accordance with the resolution of last Assembly, the Committee has dealt with naval as well as military chaplaincy matters.

NAVAL.

By arrangement with the authorities, the Rev. F. L. A. Schloeffel, Naval Chaplain for the Port, conducts religious worship at Garden Island and on H.M.A.S. "Tingira." The Rev. W. P. Stewart, B.A., retired with a record of two years' faithful service on board H.M.A.S. "Encounter."

After a considerable correspondence with headquarters and no small amount of labour on the part of the Chaplain-General, the Chaplaincy of the Naval College, Jervis Bay, was retained by the Presbyterian Church, and on the recommendation of the Committee the Rev. George Chalmers, late of Paddington, received the appointment, and has already entered upon the duties of that office.

The Committee conveyed to Rev. Dr. Rentoul, Chaplain-General, its high appreciation of the fine service rendered by him in the interests of our Church.

MILITARY.

The Committee reports that since the outbreak of war, seven Ministers have been appointed for the Front, and two for Troopships.

Chaplain J. Keith Miller, the first Chaplain of our Church for continuous service, was stricken down with sickness after some months spent in Egypt and Gallipoli. We are glad to say that he is once again with us, and we hope that he will soon recover his normal health and strength.

The Rev. W. J. Stevens shortly after arriving in Gallipoli became a victim of the prevailing sickness, and was removed to an hospital in Malta. The last letter received from him showed that he was in good spirits and hoped soon to rejoin his Brigade.

Chaplain George Cranston

Chaplain G. A. Gordon, nominated for troopship service, was afterwards transferred to continuous service, and is at present engaged in hospital in France.

The Rev. J. Hunter McGoun

The Rev. A. M. Stevenson

Chaplain A. Stuart McCook

Chaplains George Chalmers and John Paterson returned to New South Wales after troopship service to Egypt and England.

CAMPS.

Since last General Assembly Chaplain Hugh Paton has been in charge of the work at Liverpool Camp. He has also conducted Church Parades for the resident guard at the Concentration Camp, Holdsworthy, and lately he has arranged to hold Church Parades at the Light Horse Camp, North Menangle.

At the request of the Committee the Military Authorities granted Mr. Paton a commission as Chaplain, and also placed him in Orders, thus giving him a recognised position in the Camp.

The Committee has already expressed to Chaplain Paton its appreciation for the work he has done and is doing, and no one admires him more than the soldiers—both officers and men—who have learned to look upon him as their counsellor and friend.

The Church was wisely guided in appointing him to a position for which he has special if not unique qualifications.

For some time Camps were established at Warwick Farm, Holdsworthy and Casula. The Committee in order to overtake the work, found it necessary to call for assistance, and the following gentlemen kindly gave their services, extending over various periods, for which the Committee expresses its gratitude and appreciation:—

Chaplains Williams late of Goulburn; Williams, late of Tamworth; McKissock, Auld, Rev. G. McL. Scott and Mr. Drury, Home Mission Agent.

Services have been conducted at the Agricultural Grounds, and also Moore Park, by Chaplain Barber, and at Rosebery Racecourse by Chaplain McKissock. Arrangements have been made for services to be held at the Warren. As the Camps, since general leave was granted, have been practically empty on the Sabbath, the Camp Commandant instituted week-day Church Parades, which have not only relieved the pressure, but have been generally acceptable to the Chaplains. In all these Church Parades the Presbyterians and Methodists worship together, which among other advantages secures a larger attendance and incidentally gives expression to our common Christianity. When it was decided to establish Country Camps—to meet the new order of things—the Military authorities granted supernumerary Chaplains, for the duration of the war, equal in number to the Chaplains on the Attached List, and your Committee nominated the following Ministers, who have since been gazetted:—Revs. G. A. Gordon, Petersham; A. Clarke, North Sydney; Alexander Fraser, Newcastle; A. Thain Anderson, Hamilton; A. Stuart McCook, West Maitland; Hugh S. Buntine, Armidale; John Alexander Malcolmson, Cootamundra; John Kemp Bruce, Wahroonga, for Milson Island; W. P. Stewart, Bathurst; C. E. James, Alex. Fleming, Albury; Alex. Smith, East Maitland.

The Committee appointed Chaplain J. B. McKissock to visit the Garrison Hospital and Chaplain J. A. Barber to visit the General Hospital, Randwick, and the manner in which they have fulfilled their duties has earned the approbation of the Committee and also of the Military Authorities.

The Chaplains on the Attached List are as follows:—

Senior Chaplain	...	...	...	...	Rev. J. Ferguson.
2nd L.H. Bde.	...	...	...	...	„ T. J. Williams.
3rd L.H. Bde.	...	...	...	...	„ W. A. Williams.
4th Inf. Bde.	...	...	...	...	„ J. H. G. Auld, B.A.
5th Inf. Bde.	...	...	...	...	„ J. Paterson.
6th Inf. Bde.	...	...	...	...	„ J. B. McKissock.
8th Inf. Bde.	...	...	...	...	„ G. Cranston.
9th Inf. Bde.	...	...	...	...	„ R. Scott West.
10th Inf. Bde.	...	...	...	...	„ D. McK. Barnett.
11th Inf. Bde.	...	...	...	...	„ W. G. Forsyth.
General Duties	...	...	...	...	„ J. K. Miller (A.I.F.), replaced temporarily by Rev. J. A. Barber, B.A.
General Duties	...	...	...	...	„ Hugh Paton.

The Committee desires to express its thanks to the Home Mission Committee for much assistance given to it, and for the generous response by that Committee to the many claims made upon its liberality. The Committee would place on record its deep sense of gratitude to the Military Authorities for their courtesy and willingness to meet us in every possible way. At Headquarters and in the various Camps throughout the State our work has been made comparatively easy by the unfailing kindness of the officers in command.

JOHN FERGUSON, Senior Chaplain.

R. SCOTT WEST, Secretary.

QUEENSLAND.

REPORT OF SENIOR CHAPLAIN REV. DR. MERRINGTON TO CHAPLAIN-GENERAL REV. DR. RENTOUL.

Sir, I have the honour to report on my service since the outbreak of war, including the period devoted to the Australian Imperial Force, and also the work done in the Camps around Brisbane.

I.—ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

I was gazetted on the 8th September, 1914, as Chaplain to the First Expeditionary Force of the A.I.F. I was officially attached to the 1st Light Horse Brigade; but notwithstanding that appointment, I was detailed for duty as Chaplain on the Transport "Omrah" which convoyed the 9th Infantry Battalion, the 1st A.L.H. Brigade Train of the A.S.C. and two companies of the 6th Infantry (from Victoria, embarked at Albany from the "Hororata"). During the voyage, which lasted for ten and a half weeks, services were held regularly. I was the only Chaplain on board, and there was no difficulty of a sectarian or military character. Communion services were held, and participated in by soldiers of the various denominations.

On arrival in Egypt I joined the 1st A.L.H. Brigade, of which Col. (now Major-General) H. G. Chauvel took command. I was attached to the 1st L.H. Regt. for messing, etc. As the Anglican Chaplain declined to hold combined services, Chaplain Plane (Methodist) and I held services for "Other Protestant Denominations" each Sunday. This division continued till a short time after reaching Gallipoli, when the sectarian tendency broke down "under fire." Much was done for the troops in Egypt, especially by our Presbyterian (Church of Scotland) civil Chaplains at Alexandria and Cairo. Mr. Gillan, of Cairo made Australians welcome at his house and organised "soirees" at the Church and "the Continental" for our soldiers. The Y.M.C.A. Hut at Heliopolis was usually staffed by Presbyterians, and served as the rendezvous of our Chaplaincy work. Hospital and other visitation, providing lectures, concerts and amusements for our men, kept the Chaplains busy, and every effort was made to keep the soldiers interested in better things than the streets of Cairo could furnish. The temptations were fearfully great; but it is doubtful whether there was more drunkenness and vice than exists in the Capital Cities of Australia, where our soldiers frequent the streets while on leave. The route marches and "treks"—sometimes occupying absence from camp for more than a week, were attended by the Chaplains, who lived with their units all the time.

The first intimation of the great deeds of the Australian Infantry at the Dardanelles was conveyed to us by the arrival of thousands of wounded at the hospitals of Cairo. It meant a busy time for the Chaplains of the Light Horse, who were almost the only Australian Chaplains in Egypt at the time. We moved from bed to bed, ward to ward, hospital to hospital, hearing everywhere the same story of heroism, told in a hundred different ways, while the wounded, arriving often in their blood-soaked uniforms afforded the most wonderful scene of cheerfulness and determination it would be possible even to imagine. The ministrations of the Light Horse Chaplains were much appreciated in this time of trial, pending the arrival of hospital chaplains.

But soon we were transferred to the actual battle front. The Brigade left early in May, and we landed at Anzac under fire on the morning of the 12th May. The 1st L.H. Regt. at once took post in the fire trenches on Pope's Hill. As we moved up Shrapnel Gully in single file there were several casualties from shell and sniper's fire. Pope's Hill was next to the notorious Quinn's Post, and was the most advanced portion of our trenches into the enemy's country. The track from here to the Beach was marked by blood and bodies awaiting burial, at the side of the path: as the Turks used to shoot down upon it from a commanding trench near Quinn's Post. The Chaplains used to travel up and down this zone of death very frequently—sometimes twice and thrice daily. The wounded had to be seen at the various Aid Posts along the track, and they were collected at the Beach Casualty Clearing Hospital, from whence they were evacuated to the hospital ships. The whole procedure took place under constant fire. There was no zone of respite or reserve. At night the Chaplains led the Burial Parties with the bodies—either borne on mule-carts or if not too numerous—on stretchers, to the little areas designated as cemeteries, where, after the graves had been dug, a short service was held, and the bodies were interred, after the identity disc had been removed by the Chaplain. These services were almost invariably held under darkness and under fire. It is largely owing to the care and diligence of the late Chaplain Andrew Gillison, of the 4th Infantry Brigade, that the fallen comrades were buried according to their units in sections marked out for the purpose on these hallowed "gardens of sleep."

The first services at Anzac were held on the first Sunday of June, in Pope's Reserve Gully. Holy Communion followed, and about forty grimy Anzacs knelt on the ground in the rear of the trenches. No singing was allowed at first, owing to the danger of specially directed explosives causing havoc to the soldiers participating in the service. The crack and roar of battle constantly accompanied the Chaplain's voice, sometimes

drowning it for a time. Every Sunday—except during the Battle of Sari Bair the men were assembled from trenches, saps and dugouts by the Padre for service, both morning and evening. In my little dugout on the heights of Pope's Hill, where I lived for the first three and a half months at Gallipoli, soldiers used to gather for Bible-reading and prayer every evening after sunset; and those who are left of the little band will never forget those occasions, while the twilight glowed over the western sea between Imbros and Samothrace. The singing—which was permitted after the first services passed off without casualty—was a feature of the simple assemblies and the grand old hymns of the Church acquired a deeper significance under the conditions of the battle-siege.

The Presbyterian Chaplains at Anzac were much in evidence. They "stuck" it very well; and for a considerable time they were more numerous than the Chaplains of any other denomination. At one time we had Chaplains McPhee, J. K. Miller, Gillison and myself of the Australian Force, and Grant and King of the New Zealand Contingent. Sickness interfered with the stay of J. K. Miller; and, later, of my colleague of the First Expeditionary Force, J. C. McPhee, who was Acting Senior Chaplain of the 1st Australian Division for a considerable period, and later still the most heroic of deaths robbed us of the earthly presence of Andrew Gillison and William Grant, who laid down their lives in a manner worthy of the Victoria Cross in endeavouring to rescue wounded. As Senior Chaplain of the New Zealand and Australian Division, under General Godley, I had to record the casualties of Chaplains in that Division as two killed and three wounded; which will afford some idea of the dangers run by the padres at Anzac. I am pleased to refer to the fact that there was no difficulty of a sectarian or military character in the administration of the Chaplains; but all worked together in the most amicable spirit of co-operation.

At the end of July I visited Lemnos Hospitals, where our sick and wounded were collected, for one week, and returned on a transport with the staff of the 13th Division of Kitchener's Army. I was just in time for the tremendous fighting associated with the five days Battle of Sari Bair, and the landing of Suvla Bay. As the Light Horse and the whole of the N.Z. & A. Division were intensely engaged in this great battle, it was fortunate that I was present for there were many claims upon the time and care of the Chaplains. I was in the first trenches dressing the wounded when the Light Horse were making their glorious, albeit tragical charge from Quinn's, Pope's and Walker's Ridge, and was able to say a long good-bye to a many gallant comrade. After the magnificent advance of the Anzacs, the line fell back to a little below the ridge of Sari Bair, and it remained so till the evacuation, save for some sanguinary struggles between Anzac and Suvla Bay in the latter part of August in the course of which the ever gallant Gillison laid down his life for an unknown wounded man who called for help from the area in front of the trenches. On August 22nd, this noble colleague died at the Front, and we interred his body between the Beach and No. 2 Outpost the same night at 9 p.m. The moonlight showed his face calm and triumphant, with a slight smile curving the lips; and he showed by his life and death a broken gleam of the Supreme Sacrifice of Him who "died for us."

There were few Chaplains left on the Left during September and October, among whom we were glad to welcome Chaplain W. J. Stevens, who arrived with the 5th Brigade, but unfortunately soon fell a victim to enteric fever, and Chaplain George Green (Anglican) and I covered much ground each Sunday holding four services each in different parts of the line. Meanwhile, on the Right, Chaplain McRae Stewart had arrived and was "carrying on" in that area. After being through many battles and the long strain, malarial fever made its presence known just about the time when I was ready to be relieved from duty at the Front. After a trying week at Mudros, I reached Egypt on November 6th, and passed some time at No. 1 A.G. Hospital and the Convalescent Home, Helouan. I was instructed then to travel to Australia on board the returning Transport "Themistocles," conveying invalided soldiers; and, after a tranquil voyage, during which I acted as the ship's Chaplain, we reached Sydney on 4th January, 1916. After a month's sick leave I resumed duty as Senior Chaplain of the First Military District.

11. IN CAMP AROUND BRISBANE.

On the outbreak of war I organised combined services at Enoggera and Lytton camps. An arrangement was arrived at whereby the Non-episcopal services alternated with the Anglican, each being attended by the units in full strength. This arrangement continued for about a year; but then, owing to objections raised by the Anglicans denominational services took the place of these general parades. Chaplain Cosh acted as

Senior Chaplain during my absence with the A.I.F., and, as the work of the camps continued to grow, energetically grappled with the situation, and was able to raise money for the purpose of keeping our Church's interest in the troops alive, and extending the scope of the work in many practical directions. Tents were put up in most of the principal camps, and a Resident Chaplain, the Rev. J. Haddon Bates, who has since gone on continuous Service, was appointed. Rest Tents and places for religious services were thus secured, and the hearty co-operation of the Methodist Chaplains at Parade services continued to be accorded. This co-operation has, during the past two months taken a further form. Permanent structures to serve as admirable Soldiers' Rest Homes have been erected and furnished by the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches acting conjointly; and the expense is equally divided between the two denominations. The influence of the Non-episcopal services has continued to increase in the camps at home, as it did in Egypt and Gallipoli, largely because the spirit of co-operation commends itself to officers and men of the Forces, especially in time of war. The two Rest Homes are a noble monument to the activity of the two Churches concerned, and are much used and appreciated by officers and men in Camp. To the Chaplains they are very valuable, since they afford a quiet place for personal work among the men, in addition to their use as places of worship on Sundays and at other times. The voluntary Chaplains of the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches hold service in every camp at 7 a.m. on Sundays. The Resident Chaplain now in camp is Rev. R. Glasgow Crawford, B.A., who kindly came to our assistance, like his predecessor, from the N.S.W. Church. I would like, in closing to pay a warm tribute to the zeal and diligence shown by Chaplain James Cosh, B.A., B.D., who took over the work in my absence.

From Queensland, in addition to myself and Rev. J. H. Bates, the Rev. Joseph Lundie, B.A., of Toowoomba, who has rendered excellent service as a Hospital Chaplain in Egypt, and later on with the 3rd Inf. Brigade in France has gone with the A.I.F., and having now completed more than his year of active service, is expected back again soon.

ERNEST N. MERRINGTON,

Senior Chaplain,

1st Military District.

REPORT OF SENIOR CHAPLAIN IN S. AUSTRALIA TO THE CHAPLAIN-GENERAL.

I. ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

I have the honour to report on my work with the A.I.F. covering the period Sept. 8, 1914, to March 6, 1916. After gazettal, I transferred to Melbourne, in order to join up with the 2nd Infantry Brigade to which I had been attached; and after a month in Broadmeadows Camp, I sailed on H.M.A.T. "Benalla" on Oct. 19, in the company of the 5th Infantry Battalion and two A.S.C. Companies. There was no other Chaplain on board; but Mr. George Sharpley, Y.M.C.A. Secretary from Adelaide, was with us and rendered magnificent service throughout the voyage. The usual religious duties were regularly carried out, but in addition "sing song" services were arranged and numerously attended, and concerts and sports were organised. On arrival in Egypt, early in December, we proceeded at once to the Mena Camp, situated in a valley just below the Pyramids of Cheops, Khafra and Mycerinus, and at once the troops entered upon arduous, thorough-going training. Alongside the Camp was Mena House, a large hotel which was transformed into the No. 2 Australian General Hospital, and here much of our work lay, because, for various reasons, patients were numerous from this Camp of 18,000 men. After we became settled, it was found that there was no non-Anglican Protestant Chaplain with the 3rd Infantry Brigade, and as I had come from a State which was largely represented in the Brigade, it was suggested that I should transfer, and this was done in January, 1915. Attached to the Brigade for Chaplaincy work were Artillery, Light Horse and other Units to the number of nearly 3,000, so that there was no small occasion to invent opportunities for work. By arrangement, these troops were divided into two units for Church Parade purposes, and the services were conducted

alternately by the Anglican Chaplain and myself. A gathering of notable interest, which was jocularly called "The First Presbytery of Egypt," met at the home of the Rev. James Gillan, B. D., Chaplain at St. Andrew's (Church of Scotland), Cairo, early in 1915. It was composed of Presbyterian Chaplains and other workers from Australia, New Zealand, Scotland, and Syria, met together for conference, and an important issue of this Conference was the organisation of four "Presbyterian Rallies." Officers and men from the various Camps were invited to a service in St Andrew's, and afterwards to a social gathering, and many were delighted at the opportunity of attending such a distinctively Presbyterian gathering. The first "Rally" was organised by myself, from the Mena Camp and was held just the day before my brigade went forth, not knowing whither it went, upon the way that led ultimately to Gallipoli. Here I wish to mention, with sincere gratitude, the interest in and services to our Australian troops of the Rev. James Gillan and Mrs. Gillan in Cairo, and of the Rev. Dr. Mackie in Alexandria.

On February 28, 1915, we marched out of Camp, and in due time found ourselves at the Cairo Railway Station, *en route* for Alexandria. Before the end of that week the five transports conveying the Brigade and attached units dropped anchor in the Mudros Harbour in the Island of Lemnos, and all were in expectation of immediate conflict with the enemy, for the Brigade had been chosen to form the "covering force" for the landing of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. Our expectation was not realised, and so we continued Military training and landing operations for over seven weeks. From a purely chaplaincy point of view this was one of the most interesting and fruitful periods of my work, for with the knowledge of approaching climax there was a greater tendency towards serious spirit and thought. Happily, I was able to arrange for a service, followed by Communion, the night before the troops left the ship for the landing, and the occasion will remain, for myself and many others, unforgettable.

Under orders, and against my earnest desire, I remained on board the ship, but was soon to recognise the wisdom of the arrangement, and to discover a splendid opportunity for service, for our ship received wounded in large numbers. Everyone knows now the remarkable cheeriness and buoyancy with which these heroic but sorely wounded Australians bore themselves, but to us who met with the experience for the first time this commonplace of later days was a thing marvellous in our eyes. Immediately on return from Alexandria after disembarkation of the wounded, I landed at Anzac Cove, and made my way along the beach and up the gully to the hill where the Third Brigade was entrenched. Thus began four months of continuous, hazardous work in Gallipoli. Every day the Chaplains moved in and out amongst trenches and dug-outs in closest touch with the men, sharing to the full their dangers and deprivations, delighted to render any service, greater or smaller, that might contribute to their physical and spiritual well-being. Field hospitals and hospital ships were visited, and Church parades held regularly on Sundays when conditions permitted. At first we conducted burial services at anytime, but as practically the whole of the area occupied by our force was under enemy observation, it was found necessary to bury the dead at night—and very pathetic and impressive were these solemn services in the darkness in those cross-studded "God's acres" of Anzac. Before the evacuation, every burial-ground had been surveyed, carefully laid out and enclosed, and every grave had its wooden cross telling of a brave fellow who had paid the full price.

At the end of June I was summoned to Divisional Headquarters and attached to the Headquarters' Staff as Senior Chaplain, being charged with the organisation and administration of the Divisional Chaplaincy work. Until the arrival of the Rev. J. Keith Miller, I was the only Presbyterian Chaplain with the 1st Australian Division, and when he fell victim to enteric at the end of July, I was left ecclesiastically alone again. There is no need now to speak of the dangers and hardships that became the commonplace in the lives of all who landed at Anzac, but I earnestly desire to bear my testimony to what has come to be known as the "Anzac spirit." Australian as I am, I confess to considerable amazement at the almost unique capacity shown by the Anzac troops to "Stick it" under conditions that are without parallel, and I express my conviction that Australians revealed qualities and characteristics in Gallipoli that are a very reassuring augury in relation to the future of Australian manhood and nationhood.

At the end of August, indeed on the very day on which the devoted and heroic Gillison was killed, I fell sick of a fever, and after four days of vain attempt to emulate my comrades' powers of "sticking it," I was sent off to a Hospital Ship and arrived in Egypt. After treatment in the No. 1 Australian General Hospital, two English families who had soon after our arrival in Egypt, shown great kindness to myself and my "boys," again opened their gates to the stranger, and by their goodness and care hastened my recovery

to health, so that I was able to return to Gallipoli about the middle of November. By this time I had begun to realise that I should either return to my Charge or resign, so, after consultation with Divisional Headquarters, I resolved to return to Australia as soon as relieved. Returning to my old Brigade, I accompanied the last of them to leave Anzac to the Sarpi Camp at Lemnos and later to the Camp at Telekkebir in Egypt, but it was a Brigade tragically changed in personnel.

The Rev. J. Lundie relieved me about the middle of January of this year, and on the 21st I found myself on the move towards Australia, on duty with the Hospital Ship "Karooia." After disembarkation at Melbourne, and a period of recuperation, I took up duty as Senior Chaplain in the 4th Military District.

It is with great satisfaction that I record the fact that, so far as Anzac is concerned, there was a negligible amount of sectarianism. Amid those elemental experiences—those scenes of ghastly wounds and sudden death—neither officers nor men wished to be reminded of ecclesiastical differences which had become to them as the fine dust in the balance.

In S. Australia, as in every other State in the Commonwealth, the past two years have been years of unprecedented development and opportunity for Chaplaincy work. At the outbreak of war, we had three (3) Chaplains in all—the Rev. J. C. McPhee (Sen. Chaplain), The Rev. R. W. McLean and P. H. Widmer. At the present time there are seven (7) Presbyterian Chaplains in South Australia appointed thus:—

A. ON REGULAR ESTABLISHMENT.

Rev. J. C. McPhee (Senior Chaplain).
 Rev. R. W. McLean.
 Rev. T. J. Riddle.
 Rev. Hugh Morris.

B. SUPERNUMERARY FOR DURATION OF WAR.

Rev. W. Gray.
 Rev. J. Davies.
 Rev. Dr. J. A. Seymour.

From September, 1914 to March, 1916, the Rev. J. C. McPhee was absent from the State on active service with the Australian Imperial Forces. As the other two Chaplains at the time of Mr. McPhee's departure were to be resident far from Adelaide, it was resolved to nominate another Chaplain, and so for the sake of convenience and efficiency, the Rev. J. W. Maguire who was acting as locum tenens for Mr. McPhee was appointed to act temporarily as Senior Chaplain, and he continued in this office until December, 1915, when he was inducted as minister of High Church, Geelong. The Rev. W. Gray was then appointed to carry out the duties of Senior Chaplain until Mr. McPhee's return.

In June, 1915 the Rev. P. H. Widmer resigned his Chaplaincy, the Rev. R. W. McLean was appointed a troopship Chaplain for the voyage to Egypt and also took duty with troops on the return voyage. When it became evident that the war would be prolonged, and the military camps became permanent institutions, the Church of England and the Methodist Church appointed permanent Chaplains for duty at Mitcham in the largest of our A.I.F. camps. The Congregational and Baptist Churches with the Church of Christ, combined to provide a Chaplain in the same way. Thus it seemed to our Committee that the Presbyterian Church must make a similar appointment. After conference with the Presbyterian Men's League, and acting on the authority granted to the Committee by the State Assembly to inaugurate a Chaplaincy Fund to meet expenses incurred in connection with the work, it was resolved to make an effort to raise £500 to meet the needs of the work until the end of 1915. The proposal at this stage was to appoint a Chaplain exclusively for this work. Owing to the difficulty of providing the men and the inability to raise the necessary funds, the Committee adopted a plan that has worked very well. Each of our Chaplains in turn takes a month's duty in the Mitcham Camp, and the Committee provides pulpit supply as needed; also expenses not met by the military Allowance. In addition to this work in the main camp, our Chaplains share with the Chaplains of other Churches, the work in the other camps and at the Military Hospitals.

In this State the Senior Chaplains representing the Church of England, the Presbyterian, and the Methodist Churches, and the "Other Protestant Denominations" meet in conference and thus a considerable amount of co-operation is secured in providing for the Chaplaincy needs of camps and hospitals.

On August 4th, 1916, the date of the Second Anniversary of the Declaration of War a United Open-Air Intercession Service was organised by these Chaplains, all of whom took part in the service. There were present His Excellency the Governor and Lady Galway, the Premier and Members of the State Cabinet, Members of the State War Council, the State Military Commandant, the Official Heads of Various Churches, the President of the Council of Churches, and other representative citizens.

From our Congregations in this State large numbers of men have continued to enlist for active service, thus maintaining the high standard of patriotic endeavour established by Presbyterian men throughout the Commonwealth when the first call for volunteers was sounded in Australia in August, 1914.

Aug. 10th, 1916.

J. C. MCPHEE,

Senior Chaplain (Presbyterian) 4th Military District.

NAVAL AND MILITARY COMMITTEE OF VICTORIA.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Committee beg to report that in addition to the Institute at Broadmeadows, a permanent Institute has been erected at Royal Park, a large tent—and later a smaller one—erected at Seymour (which are now being replaced by a permanent structure), and that the use of a building has been obtained from Messrs. Tye and Co. for the benefit of our soldiers at the Show Grounds. A canteen for the sale of tea, coffee, etc., the same as at Broadmeadows, has been in use at Seymour, but is at present discontinued, and, owing to the kindness and generosity of Mrs. Morrison, one was opened at the Show Grounds.

Our share of Anzac Day was £1,000, which has been a very great help to your Committee. It enabled a further appeal to our people, who have been so generous, to be postponed several months. At the present time we have about £600 in hand, with a liability of about £325 for the permanent Institute, etc., which is in course of erection, so that, with only a balance of £275 to draw upon, another appeal is urgent. The Committee have no doubt that our people will nobly respond as in the past for the purpose of continuing to provide for the spiritual and other needs of our young soldiers.

Your Committee feel that they must bring specially under the notice of the Assembly the noble and self-sacrificing help of the Ladies' Committee, of which Mrs. Borland is the energetic President. Without their help the Committee could not have carried on so successfully the large amount of work and administration in securing for our young soldiers in the many camps of the States institutes for recreation and the services of Chaplains.

We owe also a debt of gratitude to the following Congregations, which have loyally spared their Ministers to go into residence in camp for three months or more, in order that the full influence of their work might be felt, viz. :—Eaglehawk, Brighton Beach, Coburg, St. George's (Geelong), North Carlton, Ascot Vale, Nagambie, and Bairnsdale.

The following Ministers have been or are at present at the front, viz. :—Revs. J. Crookston, Smith MacBain, D. M. Stewart, J. L. Cope, A. H. Tolhurst, W. Fraser, A. I. Davidson, F. W. Rolland, F. Milne, and J. Smiley. With the exception of Mr. Crookston, who holds the rank of Colonel, and Mr. MacBain, who is Major, all the other rank as Captains.

The following Ministers have been or are at present in residence in the several Camps, viz. :—Revs. J. Mathew, Broadmeadows; H. Robertson, Show Grounds; H. Carroll, Royal Park; Prof. Adam, Royal Park; J. A. Forrest, Seymour. All these rank as Captains.

In addition to the above, the following are acting as visiting Chaplains, viz. :—Revs. Hugh Jones, Langwarrin Camp; F. McQueen, Caulfield Military Hospital; D. G. McCrea, Queenscliff; W. Thomson, Base Hospital; R. M. Fergus, Geelong Camp; J. D. Landels, Port Melbourne Instruction Camp; J. Gray, Warrnambool Camp; J. Walker, Ballarat Camp; J. G. Stirling, Bendigo Camp; Alex. Hardie, Mont Park; F. A. Hagenauer, Castlemaine. All the above who have been gazetted also rank as Captains.

In addition to the above-named Chaplains the following are also on the Establishment, viz. :—Col. W. H. Cooper (Senior Chaplain), Captains T. W. Maguire, R. W. Macaulay, and W. Beck.

Before Col. Crookston left for the front he acted as our Chaplain to the Bendigo Camp, giving great satisfaction to all interested in our work among the volunteers.

It is recommended that in the case of an unattached Minister going to the front in any capacity his increments on the Beneficiary Fund should be continued.

It is with deep regret that the Committee refers to the lamented death of the late Chaplain Major Gillison. The Commission of Assembly adopted a Memorial Minute, expressing the Church's high appreciation of his self-sacrificing labours and the deep interest he took as Chaplain in the welfare of our valiant soldiers.

W. H. COOPER, Convener.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR CHAPLAIN, TASMANIA.

"The Senior Chaplain reports that ever since the beginning of the war the Chaplains of the Presbyterian Church have actively embraced the opportunities offered for work in various military camps. Soon after the outbreak of the war duties had to be undertaken in five camps in the neighbourhood of Hobart, where services and meetings were regularly conducted on a plan agreed to by the representatives of other churches.

"Thanks to the facilities given by the Y.M.C.A. all Protestant Churches are enabled to combine in Christian work among the men in camp. There is at present only one regular camp in Tasmania, at Claremont, eight miles from Hobart. Here special accommodation has been provided for the use of the chaplains, so that we have been spared the necessity of separate denominational undertakings in a camp that is relatively small. The Church Parades are all united and the spirit of co-operation among all Protestant Churches here is something to be thankful for. We cannot speak too highly also of the way the Y.M.C.A. authorities set themselves to assist the chaplains. A special collection was taken up in all Protestant Churches (except one) for the funds of the Y.M.C.A. field service.

"There are serving on the establishment in Tasmania, the Revs. W. J. Holt, M.A., B.D., P. Hope, B.A., J. B. Rentoul, and J. Heyer, M.A. (Senior), with the Revs. A. D. Leckie, W. Mabin, and J. Scott as supernumeraries during the war. In addition the Revs. A. D. Leckie and W. J. Harris are Port Chaplains for the Naval Defence Force.

"One of our ministers, the Rev. J. B. Rentoul, of Chalmers' Church, Hobart, went first as troopship chaplain and later for continuous service at the front. He is still abroad on active service. He was followed during the current year by the Rev. P. Hope, B.A., who is the second of our Tasmanian chaplains to be appointed for continuous service. The work of these chaplains and the sacrifices in which it has involved their families and their congregations is much appreciated by our Church.

"It should be added that by arrangement with other Churches we are only represented in camp officially by one of our chaplains who goes into residence for a week once a month. Regular visits are, however, paid by the two chaplains resident in Hobart. The same system is adopted by the other churches, with the exception of the Anglican Church, which combines with us all in the roster for united Church Parades.

"While there are obvious advantages in having a resident chaplain permanently in camp, the conditions here render such a course undesirable at present."

J. HEYER, Senior Chaplain,

Pres. Denom., 6th M.D.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON AUSTRALIAN BENEFICIARY FUNDS.

The Overture to the General Assembly of 1914 which led to the appointment of this Committee recited that "in other Presbyterian Churches in the United Kingdom, the British Dominions and the United States, there are funds for aged and infirm ministers and the widows and orphans of ministers, that there are such funds in connection with some of the State Assemblies for the benefit of their ministers, but ministers in being translated from one State to another suffer various disabilities and pecuniary hardships which constitute a hindrance to the obtaining of ministers for many churches, and there are no beneficiary funds in the Presbyterian Church of Australia which all ministers have the right and privilege of joining."

The immediate purpose of the Overture was the appointment of a Committee to consider the advisability of initiating a new fund or funds for the whole Church in Australia, which ministers should be permitted or compelled to join. In sustaining the Overture and appointing the Committee pending report to the General Assembly of 1916, the Assembly disallowed any outlay for actuarial services.

In pursuing their inquiries, the Committee has from the outset experienced the need of competent actuarial assistance. The problem of the existing State funds, and their place in a new Australian fund is as important as it is delicate. Its solution involves much negotiation, some of it, it is true, of a character involving merely an ordinary knowledge of affairs, but requiring fortification at many critical points by the advice and experience of a resourceful man familiar with constructive actuarial practice, in relation to assurances and annuities. Until the Committee is authorised to retain the services of an actuary to help in its work, it is felt that little practical progress is possible, except the accumulation of materials and the collection of information.

The Committee has obtained a number of documents in relation to Beneficiary Funds, placed at its disposal by the two great Churches in Scotland, the Presbyterian Churches in England, Ireland, the United States, Canada (Synod of Maritime Provinces) and New Zealand.

In addition, reports and literature have been obtained from the Presbyterian Churches of New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, which have beneficiary funds in operation and the Presbyterian Church of Queensland, which has one in contemplation.

It was at first intended to include in this Report a digest of the principal features of all these schemes, but the plan has been abandoned, as much of the matter is of local interest only and considerations of space prevent adequate publication of relevant provisions.

It is necessary to state, however, that there are in Australia at the present time Aged and Infirm Ministers' Funds in the Presbyterian Churches of New South Wales and Victoria, and Widows' and Orphans' Funds in the same Churches, and that there is a Provident Fund in connection with the Presbyterian Church of South Australia, which covers both these classes of benefit. The proposed Beneficiary Fund in Queensland makes provision for aged and infirm ministers only. It is not intended by the Church of that State to deal at present with the question of insuring benefits for the widows and orphans of ministers. All these funds, except the W. & O. Fund in New South Wales, are directly controlled by Committees appointed by the respective Assemblies, the actual investment of funds being attended to by the several finance boards. A similar method is to be adopted in connection with the proposed Queensland Infirm Ministers' Fund. The annuities for the W. & O. Fund in New South Wales are provided by a special organisation, called "The Association for the Relief of Widows and Orphans of New South Wales." It is a small optional fund with a present membership of between 40 and 50, managed by a Board of Directors, half of whom are ministers elected by the members from their own number, and the remainder elders appointed by the State Assembly. Investments are made in the names of Trustees elected by the Board, subject to confirmation by the State Assembly.

During the discussion on the Overture in the General Assembly of 1914, the opinion was expressed by representative business men connected with the Churches in New South Wales and Victoria, that those Churches would be prepared under proper conditions to extend membership in the beneficiary funds to ministers in States where there were no existing funds. This statement made a favourable impression in the Assembly. The Committee considered it important to communicate with the management of the several funds mentioned on the subject.

In New South Wales no reply was received from the W. & O. Association, but the Financial Secretary of the A. & I. M. Fund replied sympathetically, and the Committee subsequently endorsed the opinions expressed by him. These were (shortly stated) that it should be possible to put the proposed plan into operation, but legal difficulties might have to be surmounted. Apart from such difficulties, it was considered there were no obstacles that could not be overcome, though preference was expressed for "an absolute amalgamation of all the funds," and the substitution of a single fund covering both branches of benefit, viz: provision for aged and infirm ministers, and widows and orphans respectively.

In Victoria, the Convener of the Infirm Ministers' Fund reported shortly to his Assembly last May that the Committee had not had an opportunity of adequately examining the proposal, but the tenor of opinions expressed by its members was "that the Committee would be prepared to consider a proposal whereby the ministers of all the States would be allowed to join our Beneficiary Funds." The Convener of the W. & O. Fund has communicated the following carefully considered opinion of his Committee in the matter, viz: "That providing a satisfactory actuarial basis can be found, it can see no objection to the extension of the benefits of the Fund to Ministers in other States. Such a basis would include—(a) an entrance rate; (b) an annual rate; (c) a congregational contribution of an adequate character and (d) an adequate sum to be added to the capital of the Fund." His Committee did not approve of the extension of the privileges of the Fund on the same terms as Victorian ministers enjoy "on account of the unsatisfactory condition of the Fund as disclosed by the latest actuarial enquiries."

It will be seen that there is ground for believing that negotiation with some of the existing funds will result in an extension of the benefits to ministers in States where there are no funds, but the labour involved might more profitably be employed in preparing the way for a general amalgamation of the funds and the establishment of a united fund applicable to the Church throughout the whole Commonwealth. The secondary purpose of securing the broadening of membership in the existing funds might be kept in view, so that if the larger movement fails, the way may be clear for limited relief of the character indicated. In addition to the communication from New South Wales previously referred to, the similar Committee in Victoria has expressed the opinion "that the matter (of a united fund) might be duly examined subject to actuarial advice."

Failing the establishment of a general fund including the existing funds, a partial scheme operating in States where there are at present no funds or in such States and others where the authorities controlling the funds are prepared to amalgamate, is deserving of practical consideration, but in the first instance an endeavour should be made to secure the larger scheme.

Should any State institute a new fund the path might be secured against legal complications caused by subsequent consolidation, by carefully drafted clauses in the original rules giving authority to unite or co-operate with, merge in or absorb other funds. The authorities controlling existing funds might also consider the advisability of including such powers in their rules.

Apart from the difficulties incidental to the State funds, the task of devising a scheme of pensions for aged ministers and for widows and orphans would not be one of great difficulty. Such a Fund should include under the one principal administrative authority both branches of benefit. This has already been brought about in South Australia, New Zealand and the United States. The question whether membership should be compulsory or optional is for the present left over. As subscription for deferred annuities is unpopular in the sphere of modern life assurance, if our ministers are to be encouraged to take it up it should be made as attractive as possible to them, and while from the outset regard should be had to actuarial requirements, the liberality of our people throughout Australia would require to be drawn on to provide adequate annuities.

If it is, however, desirable that the amount of annuity with which the members own contributions to the reserve fund are sufficient to provide him, should be guaranteed. In the United States the funds are at present sufficiently strong to supplement that proportion by £50 to every £20 for which the members themselves pay, and the aim of the Church is to increase the supplementary allowance by a further £30. Arrangements of this kind of course imply the existence of large and systematic generosity.

If its appointment is renewed the Committee proposes to continue its labours on the same lines as previously, and if actuarial aid is authorised, to prosecute further negotiations with the controlling authorities of the different State funds, with the ideal in view of a general Australian Fund.

Dated the 21st August, 1916.

For the Committee,

A. G. PROUDFOOT, Convener.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOK OF COMMON ORDER.

Your Committee beg to submit the following progress report. For various reasons it has not been possible to do more than enter upon the work allotted to them by the last General Assembly. There has been a difficulty in getting into touch with the different members of Committee, and the time of the Convener has been very fully occupied with special duties placed upon him by the Church of New South Wales. The Committee lay upon the table a proposed outline of "Book of Common Order" for the approval of the General Assembly.

PROPOSED OUTLINE OF "BOOK OF COMMON ORDER."

Section 1.

(a) Order of Divine Service.

1. Morning and Evening for five Sundays.
2. Week-night Services?

(b) Prayers for special Occasions.

Section 2.

The Administration of the Sacraments and other Ordinances and Offices of the Church.

1. Order of Holy Communion.
2. Order of Baptism (a) Children (b) Adults.
3. Order for Admission of Catechumens.
4. Order for the Celebration of Marriage.
5. Order for the Visitation of the Sick.
6. Order for the Burial of the Dead.
7. Order for Ordination to the Holy Ministry.
8. Order for the Induction of a Minister.
9. Order for the Ordination and Induction of Elders.
10. Order for Licensing of Probationers.
11. Order for laying the Foundation Stone of a Church.
12. Order for the Dedication of a Church.
13. Order for the Dedication of Gifts.

R. SCOTT WEST, Convener.

DELIVERANCE.

Receive the report.

Appoint the following Committee to report to next General Assembly:—

N.S.W.—Revs. Kemp Bruce, McKinlay, Tait, Scott West (Convener).

Victoria.—Revs. Lahore, Borland, Mathew, Miller (Armidale).

Queensland.—Revs. Gibson, Galloway.

South Australia.—Dr. Davidson.

W.A.—Rev. Steel.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SITES IN FEDERAL CAPITAL.

The Convener of the Committee has kept in touch with the situation in the Federal Capital, both through political sources and through the Ministers of our Church in that area. A valuable report on the ecclesiastical situation at Canberra has been received from Rev. A. MacKintosh Carter, B.A., the minister of Queanbeyan, in whose parish the Canberra district is situated.

It is desirable that a formal application be lodged on behalf of the General Assembly, for a site in the Federal Capital, but until there is more definiteness as to the lines on which Canberra is to be laid out, it may not be advisable to ask for any special location. When ecclesiastical buildings are to be erected for the Presbyterian Church they must be of a worthy nature, and it ought to be kept in view that the ordinary place of meeting of the General Assembly will in due time be Canberra.

Your Committee is only concerned with the question of sites, but in the course of dealing with that matter they have been made aware of the present need of some such re-arrangement of the parish of Queanbeyan as will enable more attention to be given to the considerable number of workmen and their families within the Federal Territory. So far the minister of Queanbeyan has undertaken that work, but it needs more attention than he can give to it. Ecclesiastically, the Territory is under the jurisdiction and administration of the New South Wales Church, and it is better meantime that it should remain so. At the same time this Assembly should keep in touch with that work, and it would be advisable for the Assembly to enlarge the functions of your Committee and make it a "Committee for the Federal Territory." The Committee could then confer with the Home Mission Committee of the New South Wales Church on the whole ecclesiastical situation in the Federal Territory.

RONALD G. MACINTYRE, Convener.

REPORT OF CODE COMMITTEE.

Your Committee, having learnt from various sources that there was a general desire throughout the Church for the revision of the Chapter on Discipline, in order to mature matters for the Assembly, arranged that the New South Wales members of the Committee should re-draft the Rules. This Draft is submitted herewith.

GEORGE TAIT, Convener.

NOTE.—The draft is separately printed and will be issued to Presbyteries.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE FEDERATION OF THE CHURCHES.

Your Committee regret that it has not been able to carry out the Deliverance of last Assembly—the last General Conference of the Methodist Church did not reappoint their Union Committee. There was, therefore, no authoritative body representing

that Church with which your Committee could confer in regard to the changes proposed in the Basis of Union. The reason for this action of the Methodist Church was, your Committee believe, not any coldness toward the Union movement, but disappointment at its slow progress. The General Conference meets again early next year, and there is no doubt that if this Assembly resolve to continue Union negotiations the Conference will re-appoint its Committee. The Congregational Union at its recent meeting at Brisbane adopted a motion in favour of Union, and re-appointed their Committee,

Your Committee believe that a new situation has been created since the Assembly met two years ago. The War has made it far more difficult for the Churches to do their work efficiently, while it has at the same time greatly deepened their zeal. In view of the immense difficulties confronting them, Christian men are becoming impatient of unnecessary hindrances. Moreover, the resolution of the Canadian Churches to consummate their Union, their temporary hesitation having evidently been brushed aside by the lessons of the War, has set our Churches in Australia a stimulating example. Altogether a new situation has emerged. Union is more deeply and more widely desired, and is more generally admitted to be possible. Your Committee are sure that the Assembly ought to recognise this new situation, and act in correspondence with it; and they recommend the Assembly to adopt the following motion which, they believe, fulfils this duty.

JOHN EDWARDS, Convener.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC QUESTIONS COMMITTEE.

In 1915 referendum was taken in South Australia to find out the mind of the electors for the House of Assembly anent the early closing of liquor bars. The result was an overwhelming vote for the closing of all liquor bars at 6 p.m. Parliament gave effect to the referendum, and the Act came into force on March 27 this year. As a result of this the streets of cities and towns are comparatively free from the spectacle of persons being the worse for drink after the hour of closing, and there is very much less drunkenness among our soldiers. The full value of this restriction is the hours for the sale of strong drink will be seen in the young life of the nation. The rising generation will grow up under better conditions henceforth. In New South Wales 6 O'clock closing has been carried for the period of the war, and may be applied for a term not exceeding six months thereafter. In West Australia liquor bars have been closed from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. since the first of January, and this restriction will continue till the end of the war and six months after. In Tasmania a referendum for closing liquor bars at 6 p.m. has been carried with a big majority. The people there are now waiting for parliament to give effect to this vote. In Victoria the taking of a referendum for six o'clock closing is under way.

These facts present two considerations for the Assembly and the people to take into account. There is the question of some provision being made for the people who can no longer find social desires met since liquor bars have been closed. The other question is the further restriction of the sale of intoxicant liquors. Your Committee recommend the Assembly to declare that "No license" should be the attitude of the Presbyterian Church on the question.

By authority of the Committee,

GEORGE DAVIDSON, Convener.

COMMITTEE ON NORTH QUEENSLAND.

TOWNSVILLE OVERTURE.

This Committee was appointed by the General Assembly meeting in Brisbane in 1914 to take steps to help the work and strengthen the position of the Church in North Queensland. The need for such help was brought before the Assembly in an Overture from the Presbytery of Townsville and further set forth in an address to the Assembly by the Rev. George Tulloch, then of Charters Towers, and in a Booklet published by him: "The Presbyterian Problem in North Queensland."

To deal with the situation, the Assembly appointed a Committee, with executives in the several States, to endeavour to secure Ministers and Home Missionaries for North Queensland, and otherwise to do what might be possible in the circumstances.

Your Committee regret to report that, though something has been done, it has not amounted to very much. Many reasons might be given for this, but the chief reason is that the War has put such a strain on the Churches in the different States, in the demand for both men and money, that it has not been found possible to render help even to the very clamant need of North Queensland. The position of the Church in Western Australia, with its newly-established Hall and its scarcity of men, demands help from stronger Churches. Owing, perhaps, to the removal of the Convener of the South Australian Sub-Committee to New South Wales, no action was taken in the Church of South Australia, and the Queensland Sub-Committee was not able to do anything effective. In the Church of New South Wales the claims of North Queensland were brought before the students of the Theological Hall. But the call of the War has drained the Hall of 50 per cent. of its men, and, owing to the need for supplying the parishes of Ministers who have gone as Chaplains and Home Missionaries who have enlisted, none of the remaining students can be spared elsewhere.

The Sub-Committee of the Church of Victoria corresponded with the Rev. George Tulloch, and circulated the Booklet prepared by him. They also appealed through the Church organ, the "Messenger," and privately, for volunteers for North Queensland, and corresponded with 19 men, but could get no suitable men for the work. They also co-operated in the work of finding a man for the Cloncurry District of North Queensland, taken over by the Inland Mission. At their meeting last May, the reference was brought before the General Assembly of Victoria, but as the Assembly has undertaken to help the Western Australian Church with a grant of £300 for Home Mission work in that Church, and to assist with Home Missionaries and Licentiates, it could not see its way to tender direct assistance to North Queensland.

But although comparatively little has been done by the Committee, something has been done by other means. The Rev. George Tulloch, when visiting the United Kingdom last year, was commissioned to bring the claims and needs of Australia before the Home Churches. Mr. Tulloch fulfilled his commission with much energy and a large measure of success. He addressed the Synod of the English Presbyterian Church on General Assemblies of the Churches in Scotland and Ireland, and spoke at a large number of meetings of various kinds. He interviewed, also, a number of influential men and secured their interest. The result was that he secured two Ministers, and six Missionaries for Queensland, besides one Missionary for Western Australia. Of those who came to Queensland, it should be pointed out, that, owing to the exigencies of the Home Mission Committee, only two were appointed to the Townsville Presbytery.

ALEXANDER SKENE, Convener.

REPORT ON BALLOT.

HOME MISSION :

Revs. Professor Angus, W. G. Forsyth, Thomas Morgan, P. W. Rolland ; Messrs. J. H. Beatson, W. S. Park, D. McMillan.

BOARD OF MISSIONS :

Revs. J. A. Crockett, J. T. Lawton, M.A., W. C. Radcliffe, W. S. Rolland ; Messrs. Allan, D. K. Picken. M.A., Wm. Wood.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA HOME MISSION ACCOUNT.

Dr.

STATEMENT, 31st AUGUST, 1914 to 30th JUNE, 1915.

Cr.

DISBURSEMENTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Salaries—								By Balance, 31st July, 1914	...				973	3	11
Rev. John Flynn	...	341	13	4				Subscriptions from—							
„ W. J. Stevens	...	220	16	8				New South Wales	...	717	7	10			
„ J. C. Gibson	...	270	16	8				„ beyond	...	67	2	0			
„ F. G. H. Brady	...	182	11	3				Victoria	...	1505	0	0			
„ R. B. Plowman	...	143	0	0				Queensland	...	121	13	8			
„ R. Steel (Honorarium)	...	35	0	0				Darwin	...	13	3	6			
Nurse Rutherford	...	52	1	8				Port Hedland	...	51	10	0			
„ Finlayson	...	114	11	8				Port Hedland refund	...	50	0	0			
„ Haines	...	44	1	4						101	10	0			
East West East	...	60	0	0				Nurse Finlayson	...	2	0	0			
East West West	...	18	0	0				United Free Church of Scotland	...	50	0	0			
					1482	12	7	Presbyterian Church of England	...	35	0	0			
„ Expenses—										2612	17	0			
Rev. John Flynn	...	106	0	0				Mission Work in Bush of Australia	...	39	2	0			
„ J. C. Gibson	...	115	0	0				„ Inlander—							
„ R. B. Plowman and blackboy	...	28	10	10				Gordon and Gotch	...	70	0	0			
„ J. Shaw	...	40	0	0				Angus and Robertson	...	1	6	0			
Miss Shaw	...	25	0	0				Sales	...	1	9	3			
Nurse Rutherford	...	10	10	0						72	15	3			
„ Haines	...	12	14	0				„ Refund per Rev. W. Gray	...	0	2	0			
Mr. J. Morrison	...	2	2	6				„ Interest to 31st December, 1914	...	35	0	0			
					339	17	4						2759	16	3
„ Katherine District—															
Pine Creek	—														
Bibles	...	1	0	9											
Medicine	...	0	16	5											
Medicine Case	...	3	9	4											
„ Central District—															
Oodnadatta—															
Hospital Outfit	...	58	18	0											
Medicine	...	4	0	9											
Insurance	...	5	2	6											
Rent	...	4	0	0											
„ Broome District—															
Debt	...				50	0	0								

To Pilbarra District—				
Port Hedland—				
	Nurse (see refund)	50	0	0
	Horses and Harness	37	0	0
	Camel Buggy and Harness	11	0	0
	Timber	22	10	5
	Carpenter	4	0	0
			124	10 5
,, East West Railway Mission—				
	Equipment		10	0 0
,, Brisbane—				
	Hire Hall and Organ	7	6	0
	Programmes	1	17	6
			9	3 6
,, Inlander—				
	September	174	17	0
	December	174	10	4
	March	156	2	3
		505	9	7
	Miss E. Parsons, England	50	0	0
	Northern Territory Times	1	1	0
	Lantern Slides	39	13	6
	Maps	5	5	0
	Printing and Stationery	63	14	1
	Exchange on Cheques, etc.	8	8	3
	Postages	16	2	1
	2 per cent. on Revenue, 1913-1914	103	2	5
		2,886	7	6
,, Balance		846	12	8
		<u>£3,733</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>

	<u>£3,733 0 2</u>
By Balance	£846 12 8

Examined and found correct,

Sydney, 14th August, 1916.

JAMES LITTLE, R. L. SIDNEY & CO.,
 Official Auditors to Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA HOME MISSION ACCOUNT.

Dr.

STATEMENT 1ST JULY, 1915 to 30TH JUNE, 1916.

Cr.

DISBURSEMENTS	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Salaries—						
Rev. John Flynn	400	0	0			
" J. C. Gibson	300	0	0			
" F. H. G. Brady	255	15	0			
" R. B. Plowman	156	0	0			
" J. Shaw	287	10	0			
" F. L. Heriot	187	10	0			
Nurse Rutherford	20	16	8			
" Finlayson	125	0	0			
" Haines	125	0	0			
" Losada	104	3	4			
East West East	110	0	0			
East West West	18	0	0			
Expenses—				2089	15	0
Rev. John Flynn	90	0	0			
" F. G. H. Brady	13	15	0			
" R. B. Plowman and blackboy	39	0	0			
" J. Shaw	5	0	0			
" F. L. Heriot	70	10	6			
Nurse Rutherford	1	11	8			
" Lousada	8	5	1			
Katherine District—				228	2	3
Darwin—						
Purchase Horse	10	0	0			
Agistment	12	8	0			
Boy	5	0	0			
Repairs	5	5	0			
Central District—				32	13	0
Oodnadatta—						
Medicine	2	9	0			
Insurance	5	3	6			
Camp Outfit	4	3	9			
Rent	1	10	0			
Gulf District—				13	6	3
Cloncurry—						
Furnishings	64	1	6			
Verandah, Bathroom and Tank	127	3	0			
East West Railway Mission—				191	4	6
Kalgoorlie Outfit				10	0	0
Miss N. Inglis (guarantee)				5	0	0
Inlander—						
June	150	19	8			
September	151	6	0			
December	182	17	1			
	485	2	9			

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Balance, 1st July, 1915							846	12	8
Subscriptions from—									
New South Wales	975	9	1						
Victoria	1804	0	0						
Queensland	273	13	9						
Darwin	40	4	0						
Pine Creek	2	18	0						
Port Hedland	12	10	0						
Cloncurry	49	16	8						
United Free Church of Scotland	50	0	0						
	3208	11	6						
East West Railway Mission—									
Refund East	15	0	0						
Refund West	18	0	0						
	33	0	0						
Inlander—									
Gordon and Gotch	30	0	0						
Rev. J. McDowell	8	0	0						
	38	0	0						
Refund Burns, Philp & Co.	1	4	0						
Interest to 31st December, 1915	45	5	0						
	3326	0	6						

„ N.S.W. Mission Study Council	10 0 0
„ Hire Hall, Rockdale	0 15 0
„ Literature	1 0 0
„ Printing and Stationery	44 16 5
„ Exchange on Cheques, etc.	9 6 8
„ Postages	16 5 11
„ 2 per cent. on Revenue, 1915	42 2 6
	<u>3,179 10 3</u>
„ Balance	993 2 11
	<u>£4,172 13 2</u>

	<u>£4,172 13 2</u>
By Balance	£993 2 11

MISSION WORK IN BUSH OF AUSTRALIA ACCOUNT.

Dr.	31ST JULY, 1914 TO 30TH JUNE, 1916.	Cr.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
To General Assembly Home Mission Account Blue Book, 1914	39 2 0	By Balance, 31st July, 1914	39 2 0
„ Balance	35 16 2	„ Presbyterian Church of England	35 0 0
	<u>£74 18 2</u>	„ Interest to 31st December, 1915	0 16 2
			<u>£74 18 2</u>
		By Balance	£35 16 2

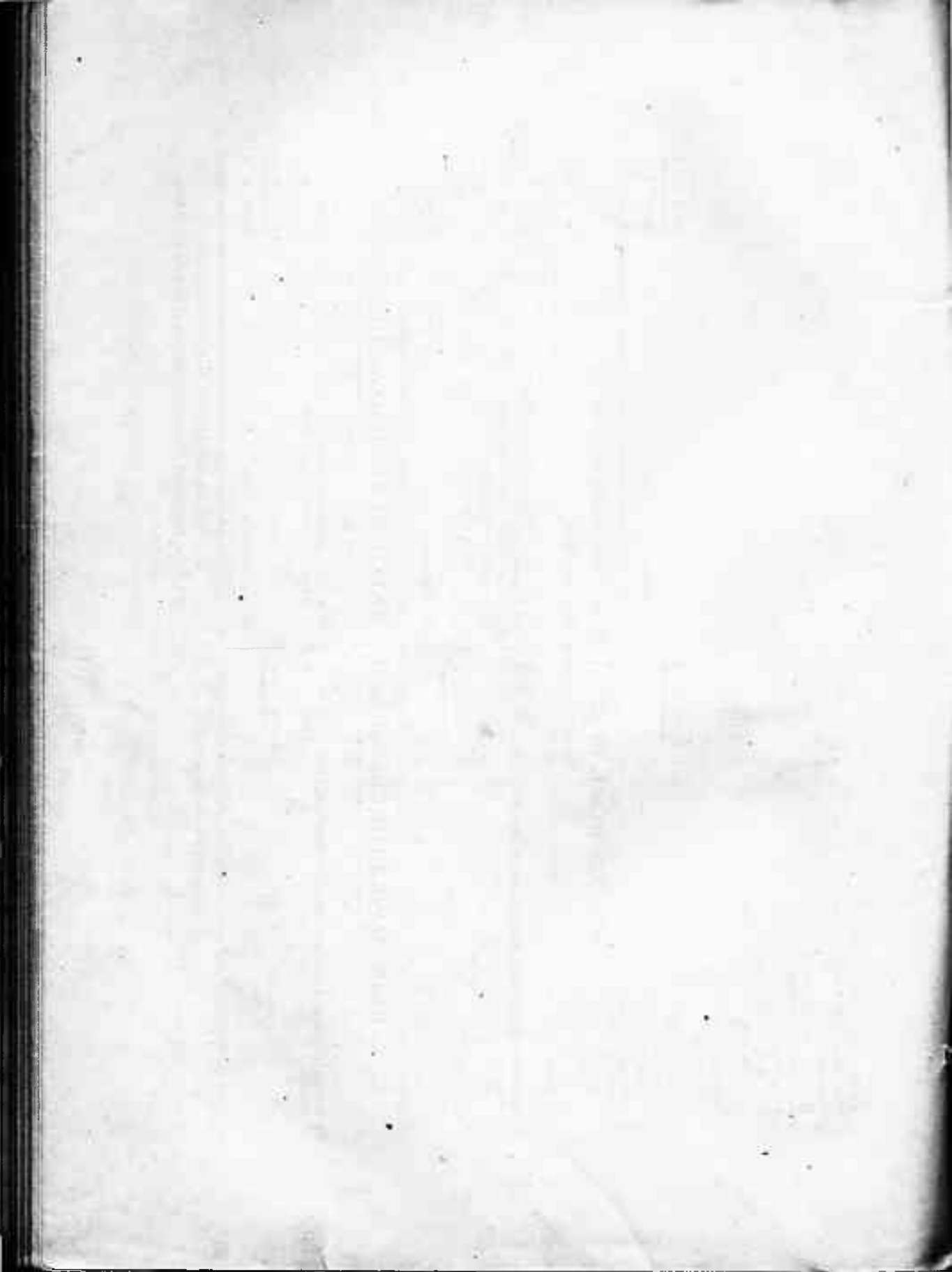
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JOHN FRASER FOREIGN MISSIONS ENDOWMENT FUND ACCOUNT.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Treasurer, Board of Missions Interest to 30th June, 1916...	75 0 0	By Balance, 31st July, 1914	1,000 0 0
„ Balance	1,000 0 0	„ Interest to 30th June, 1916	75 0 0
	<u>£1,075 0 0</u>		<u>£1,075 0 0</u>
		By Balance	£1,000 0 0

Examined and found correct,
Sydney, 14th August, 1916

JAMES LITTLE, R. L. SIDNEY & CO.,
Official Auditors of Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.



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