

11-160 W. H. H. Steele

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



HELD IN MELBOURNE, SEPTEMBER, 1918.  
 SESSION TWELFTH.

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MELBOURNE :  
 BROWN, PRIOR & Co., PRINTERS, QUEEN STREET.  
 1918.



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of Victoria.  
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Historical Records  
Devised by the  
Rev. W. Hussey B.Sc. & A.A.

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1918.





# GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

## Presbyterian Church of Australia.

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**Right Rev. the Moderator:**

Rev. JOHN WALKER, Minister of St. Andrew's, Ballarat.

**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 Pavidemics and English Bible.  
J. Howlett Ross, Esq., Geo. Wilson Lecturer on Elocution.

SENATUS.

The Professors, with D. K. Picken, M.A., 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. A. J. Wade.  
Lecturer in Voice Culture and Elocution—Mr. R. Bertram Kohn.  
President of Faculty—Rev. Professor S. Angus, M.A., Ph.D.  
Secretary of Faculty—Rev. Professor Macintyre, M.A., B.D.

EMMANUEL COLLEGE, BRISBANE.

- The Rev. George Ewan and the Rev. W. H. Waters, B.A., Lecturers 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. Ozer, 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.  
 Lecturer in English Bible.  
 Principal—Rev. F. E. Ozer, M.A., B.D.

## EXAMINERS.

## ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

- Scrip. and Shorter Catechism—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. Barnett, B.A.  
 Greek—Revs. Tulloch 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 Forster, M.A., and J. Edwards, M.A.  
 Mental Philosophy—Revs. H. Kelly, M.A., and J. R. Blanchard, B.A.  
 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. S. Legge, M.A.  
 Apologetics—Revs. W. G. Maconochie, M.A., and A. C. Grievc, B.A.  
 Contents of Bible in English—Revs. J. Sinclair, B.A., and G. R. S. Reid,  
 M.A.

## H.M. AGENTS' EXAMINATION.

- Logic—Revs. T. Scott Neil and W. Tait, M.A.  
 Greek—Revs. H. C. Matthew, M.A., and J. H. G. Auld, B.A.  
 History—Revs. Aeneas MacDonald, M.A., and J. J. Gilmore, B.A.  
 English—Revs. K. O. McDonald, B.A., and W. Fraser, B.A.  
 Scrip. and Catechism—Revs. H. S. Legge, M.A., and J. N. McGee.  
 Mental Philosophy—Revs. Smith MacBain, B.A., and J. Barnett Steele, B.A.  
 Moral Philosophy—Revs. A. J. Davidson, M.A., and G. Chalmers.

## ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Perth—February 11th, 1919, and  
 March 25th, 1919.

## H.M. EXAMINATION.

July 3rd, 1919.

## EXIT EXAMINATION.

September 8th, 1919.

## NOTANDA.

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Special attention is directed to the following:—

Place and Date of Meeting of next Assembly—At Sydney on the fourth Wednesday of September, 1920, at 7.30 p.m.

Committees meet on preceding Tuesday and on Wednesday morning and afternoon.

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*Federation of Churches.*

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# Presbyterian Church of Australia.

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## MINUTES

OF THE

Proceedings of the General Assembly of the  
Presbyterian Church of Australia.

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SESSION TWELFTH.

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*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, on  
Thursday, 26th day of September, 1918, at 10 a.m.*

1. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Aus- Opening.  
tralia convened. Public worship was conducted by the Right Reverend  
the retiring Moderator (Professor R. G. Macintyre), and the Assembly  
constituted.

2. The Roll of Assembly was submitted by the Clerk and **Roll**.  
approved as follows:—



## NEW SOUTH WALES.

## ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

## BATHURST.

Rev. Charles Crane, B.A.

## THE CLARENCE.

Rev. George Logan, B.A. | Mr. Benjamin Morrison

## GOULBURN.

Rev. George Tulloch | Mr. H. A. Evans  
J. H. Craig, M.A.

## THE HASTINGS.

Rev. J. Davies | Mr. William Thomson

## THE HAWKESBURY.

Rev. Alex. McLennan | Mr. W. Morphet  
Harold D. Mackie, B.A. | J. A. Wark  
W. R. Milne | H. Sandercock

## THE HUNTER.

Rev. A. R. McVittie, M.A. | Mr. A. Gardiner  
J. C. Gibson | G. Froom  
A. Torrens | E. R. Mewburn

## ILLAWARRA.

Rev. George M. Torbett, M.A. | Mr. Alex. Nicholson.  
D. McKay Barnett, B.A. | John McPhail

## MONARO.

Rev. J. L. Forbes, M.A., B.D. | Mr. R. J. Anderson

## MOREE.

Rev. H. S. R. Innes, B.A. | Mr. George Wilson  
Duncan W. Swan

## MURRUMBIDGEE.

Rev. H. E. Thomas | Mr. Alex. Lang

## NEW ENGLAND.

Rev. F. Norman McKie, B.A. | Mr. W. McLennan  
William Beck

## NORTH SYDNEY.

Rev. A. McKinlay | Mr. J. Prentiss  
A. Clark | John Cameron  
A. M. Ogilvie | Roland Love  
J. J. Gilmore, B.A. | A. G. Baxter

## ORANGE.

Rev. W. Fisher Cragie	Mr. L. Currie
S. R. W. Richardson, M.A., B.D.	J. B. Coutts
Aiston M. Ferrie	

## THE RICHMOND.

Rev. Gordon W. McAlpine	Mr. C. J. McRae
Herbert E. Hulme	James Barric

## SYDNEY.

Rev. Professor Angus, M.A., Ph.D.	Mr. Hector Kidd
F. A. Darling	H. A. Wilson
D. F. Brandt	John Brinckley
C. W. Willins	R. B. Job
J. Keith Miller	Jas. Wallace
Thomas Tait, M.A., B.D.	J. S. Jones
C. H. Talbot	Wm. Peel
C. A. White, B.A.	Wm. Pert

## WAGGA WAGGA.

Rev. W. Tulloch	Mr. W. G. Balfour
A. Fleming	John Ross

## YOUNG.

Rev. J. B. V. Steel	Mr. J. Murdoch
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## ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. John Burgess, D.D.	Mr. J. H. Balfour
John Ferguson	J. H. Beatson
Andrew Harper, D.D.	S. J. Carruthers
A. J. Wade	G. A. Clifton
R. G. Macintyre, B.D.	Wm. Cowan
David Smith, M.A.	W. G. Crane
J. C. McDonald, M.A.	John Kirkland
John Paterson	J. C. Rylie
G. A. Gordon, B.A.	C. E. Rennie
W. G. Forsyth	Wm. Wood
G. R. S. Reid, M.A.	W. O. Montgomery
R. Scott-West	John Bicket
A. J. Doig, B.A.	J. P. Muir

## QUEENSLAND.

## ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

## BRISBANE.

Rev. F. W. Gresham	Mr. T. W. Wilson
George Ewan	George Johnston
Ebenezer Fox	C. Paterson
Wm. Duffy	F. T. Morris

## MARYBOROUGH.

Rev. M. Kirkpatrick, B.A.	Dr. Luther Morris
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## ROCKHAMPTON.

Rev. James Walker, M.A., B.D.		Mr. W. J. Macleod
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## TOOWOOMBA.

Rev. J. Lundie, B.A.		Mr. James De Conlay
R. Miller		A. S. Barr

## TOWNSVILLE.

## ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. J. B. Galloway		Mr. G. R. Milliken
Wm. E. Radcliffe, B.A.		A. S. Lang, F.I.A.Q.
J. C. Milliken		W. A. Morrow, M.A., LL.B.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

## ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

## ADELAIDE.

Rev. F. S. Souter, B.A.		Mr. J. Drennan
J. Hall Angus		A. W. Walkley

## BELALIE.

Rev. J. Andrew Pawson		Mr. D. M. McKenzie
George Anderson, B.A.		P. E. Wylde

## ONKAPARINGA.

Rev. Jas. A. Ford		Mr. A. Caldwell
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## ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. Dr. George Davidson		Rev. Wm. Gray
Dr. J. A. Seymour		Mr. R. Godfree

## TASMANIA.

## ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

## HOBART.

Rev. J. Heyer, M.A.		Mr. P. R. Henery
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## LAUNCESTON.

Rev. W. J. Harris		Mr. A. Storer
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## MIDLANDS.

Rev. J. G. Millar		Mr. G. N. Finlay
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## ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. J. B. Rentoul		Mr. F. Burbury
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## VICTORIA.

## ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

## BALLARAT.

Rev. E. J. Welch		Mr. J. J. Watson
J. H. R. Halford		A. F. White
A. H. Moore		W. Rain

## BEECHWORTH.

Rev. Coledge Harland		Mr. J. Jamison
F. Chisholm		W. I. Munro

## BENDIGO.

Rev. F. A. Hagenauer, M.A.		Mr. G. Bisset
B. T. Buntine		W. D. Rees
H. E. Hunt		W. Anderson

## FLINDERS.

Rev. S. Williams		Mr. John Carpenter
J. H. Dawe		R. Gibb

## GEELONG.

Rev. J. H. Mitchell		Mr. J. Pettit
K. Forster, M.A.		J. F. Parkinson
D. S. Jones		G. C. Troup

## GIPPSLAND.

Rev. H. Carroll, B.A.		Mr. H. Hopkins
J. G. Owen		M. McDonald

## GOULBURN VALLEY.

Rev. J. A. Lee		Mr. A. H. Campbell
H. E. O'Sullivan		George Hosie

## HAMILTON.

Rev. J. L. King, M.A.		Mr. J. Smith
J. Alexander		M. Miller

## MACEDON.

Rev. Lithgow Tait, B.A.		Mr. J. F. Crow
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## MARYBOROUGH.

Rev. Æ. Macdonald, M.A.		
Cyril Phillips.		

## MELBOURNE NORTH.

Rev. W. Borland, B.D.		Mr. C. Mackinnon
G. S. Brodie		A. Mathieson
W. Fraser, B.A.		R. Moffat
C. Jones		W. L. Mollison
J. T. Robertson, M.A.		G. F. Pitcher
R. W. Rock		W. S. Robertson
A. Stewart, M.A.		R. Scott
T. Yuille, B.D.		J. M. Scott

## MELBOURNE SOUTH.

Rev. F. McQueen	Mr. H. M. Thompson
R. Robertson, B.D.	A. Fussell
D. Ross	W. Nelson
E. H. Chapple	G. J. Mauger
J. D. Landels	G. W. Farram
J. Sinclair, B.A.	C. H. Sanhum
J. T. Smith, M.A.	D. Kidd
W. Thomson	F. Pitcher

## MORILLAKE.

Rev. John Gray, M.A., B.D.	Mr. G. S. Mackay
E. M. Baird	E. J. Kelly

## PENOLA.

Rev. D. Chapman	Mr. J. Warner
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## SEYMOUR.

Rev. James Jackson	Mr. James Morrison
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## WESTERN PLAINS.

Rev. John Downey, M.A., B.D.	
H. T. Postle, M.A., LL.M.	
E. A. Forbes	

## WIMMERA.

Rev. H. C. Matthew, M.A.	
E. H. McLean Shugg, B.A.	

## ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. J. Mathew, M.A., B.D.	Dr. MacFarland
J. C. Coutie, B.A.	J. Smyth
P. J. Murdoch, M.A.	Mr. A. J. Pryde
D. M. Stewart	J. M. Campbell, LL.M.
W. Goyen	R. K. Gillespie
George Tait, M.A.	A. G. Proudfoot
D. A. Cameron, M.A.	W. Gray
J. Barnaby, M.A., B.D.,	D. K. Picken, M.A.
E. E. Baldwin, M.A.	D. Macmillan
D. Millar	J. R. Crowther, B.A.
Prof. J. L. Rentoul, M.A.,	A. Mathieson
D.D.	L. K. McNab
J. McKenzie, M.A.	H. H. Kemp
R. W. Macaulay, B.A.	J. Kelso
Prof. D. S. Adam, M.A., D.D.	G. McKay
John Walker	

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

## ELECTED BY PRESBYTERIES.

## FREMANTLE.

Mr. J. Bartlett
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## GOLDFIELDS.

Rev. C. D. P. Taylor

|

## PERTH.

Rev. E. F. Cameron

| Mr. A. W. Tocher

## ALBANY.

| Mr. J. Berkley

## ELECTED BY STATE ASSEMBLY.

Rev. Alex. Crow

| Dr. Samuel Macaulay

**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. John Walker, the Minister of St. Andrew's, Ballarat, the nomination was approved by acclamation and Mr. Walker declared the Moderator of the Assembly. Mr. Walker was conducted to the Chair, and delivered a suitable address.

It was moved by the Rev. D. Macrae Stewart, and seconded by the Rev. P. J. Murdoch:—

"That the cordial thanks of the Assembly be tendered to the Ex-Moderator for his valuable services to the Church during his year of office."

The motion was unanimously approved.

**5.** The Rev. John Sinclair gave notice of his intention to move the following deliverance on the Report on Religion in the Home:—

"1. That the Assembly receive and adopt the Report, and express gratification at the demand for the Family Altar Card."

"2. That the Committee be re-appointed, with the addition of Rev. W. S. Laurie, Queensland; Rev. George Anderson, South Australia; and Rev. Hucy Steele, West Australia; and that the Committee be authorised to issue the Family Altar Card annually, and also any other aids to the promotion of Home Religion that may be found desirable and practicable."

**6.** The Rev. W. Gray gave notice of his intention to move:—

"That the Assembly instruct the Business Committee to determine and report to the House the times allotted to each item of business and to the individual speeches on such items; its decision to be final, unless, at the suggestion of the Moderator, without debate, and by leave of a majority of the House, the times be extended."

Year Book.

7. The Rev. D. McBarnet gave notice of his intention to move the following deliverance on the Report on the Year Book:—

"That the Assembly receive the report; approve of the experiment of placing the books with the booksellers instead of sending directly to each minister and missionary; instruct the Committee to continue to publish along the same lines, and if need be to increase the price; again urge ministers and missionaries to co-operate with the Committee heartily in getting the book into the hands of our people."

H.M. Deputations.

8. The Rev. A. McCarlie gave notice of his intention to move the following deliverance on the Report of the Home Mission Deputations:—

"Receive the Report; re-appoint the Committee, substituting Rev. D. Millar for Rev. W. H. Cooper, and Dr. Seymour for Rev. J. C. McPhee.

Communion Service.

9. The members of Assembly united in a Communion Service, in the Scots Church, conducted by the Moderator, assisted by the Revs. Tulloch Yuille, J. C. Macdonald, and Professor Macintyre.

Business Report.

10. The Report of the Business Committee was submitted by the Convener.

The Report was approved with the following addition:—  
"That a Session be devoted to a consideration of the spiritual needs of the Nation, and the Church's preparation to meet them; that the following Committee be appointed to arrange for such a discussion, and that the Business Committee be instructed to provide a place for this subject:—Revs. Prof. Macintyre (Convener), J. B. Galloway, D. Ross, John Sinclair, and Alexander Crow."

Business Committee.

11. The following were appointed the Business Committee for the Session:—Revs. P. J. Murdoch and Dr. Burgess, Joint Conveners,

R. G. Macintyre, G. Tait, J. H. Angus, W. E. Radcliffe, A. Crow, and Messrs. J. M. Campbell, W. Wood, S. J. Carruthers, A. S. Lang, and Dr. MacFarland.

**12.** The following were appointed Scrutineers of Ballot:—Messrs. Scrutineers. S. J. Carruthers, Convener, Dr. MacFarland, J. De Coulay, and Rev. W. Gray.

**13.** The following were appointed a Committee of Selection to Selection Committee. 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 report at the morning Sederunt:—Revs. C. A. White, Convener, D. Ross, J. B. Rentoul J. B, Galloway. A. Crow, and Messrs. A. L. Pryde, W. Wood, D. Macmillan, and J. H. Balfour.

**14.** A letter from the Council of Churches, conveying its greetings to the Assembly, was received, and the Clerk was instructed to acknowledge its receipt, and to convey the brotherly greetings of the Assembly to the Council. Council of Churches.

**15.** The Overture relative to Home Missionaries' Course of Studies was submitted by the Rev. Professor Angus, who moved:— H. Missionaries' Course of Study.

“That the Overture be remitted to the College Committee, with instructions to report to a future Sederunt.”

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

**16.** The Petitions of Messrs. Walter Owen, W. P. Brunton, and Petitions from Students. Walter Jones were remitted to the College Committee, with instructions to report to a future Sederunt.

**17.** The Report on the Official Organ was submitted by the Rev. Official Organ. J. R. Fiddian.

It was moved by the Rev. J. A. Lee, and seconded by the Rev. R. W. Macaulay:—

“That the Assembly receive the Report; recognise the importance of the subject, and the present opportunity for united action;

remit the whole question to the following Committee for further consideration of ways and means to report to a future Sederunt: — Queensland—Revs. R. Miller, J. Walker, W. C. Radcliffe, Mr. A. S. Lang; New South Wales—Revs. D. Smith, Jno. Waugh, G. Tulloch, R. Scott West, D. M. Barnett, Messrs. J. Balfour, W. Wood; Victoria—Revs. J. Mackenzie, W. W. Watts, W. H. Ash, W. Goyen, J. T. Lawton, J. A. Lee, Wilson Macaulay, J. R. Fiddian, Messrs. W. A. Sanderson, Arch. Campbell; South Australia—Revs. Dr. Seymour, F. Souter, W. Gray, Mr. J. Drennan; Western Australia—Rev. A. Crow, E. F. Cameron, Mr. A. W. Tocher; Tasmania—Revs. J. Heyer, J. B. Rentoul, W. J. Harris, Mr. D. Storrer.

The motion was approved.

Finance.

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

“1. That the Report be received.

“2. Authorise the payment of the expenses of members travelling to the Assembly *pro rata*, on the same basis as formerly, namely — That members attending the General Assembly in September, 1918, 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) These 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, £130 1s.; Victoria, £130 1s.; Queensland, £38 5s.; South Australia, £21 5s.;

Tasmania, £21 5s.; Western Australia, £21 5s. Also authorise the transference from the General Assembly Expenses Account to the Travelling Expenses Fund of such sum as may be required for the payment of the members in the proposition set forth in Clause 2.

"5. Authorise the transfer of the sum of £35 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, two per cent., for collection upon all revenue for all funds, with the exception of moneys received for capital, and the income of the John Frazer Foreign Missions Endowment Fund Account; also the sum of £26 per annum from the Home Mission Department for rent of room and £9 per annum on account of service of typiste.

"7. That the payments made by the Finance Committee on behalf of the Year Book, £55 17s. 6d., be confirmed.

"8. That the Committee be authorised to pay second-class return fares to the members of the Union Committee, who attended the recent meeting held in Melbourne."

"9. That the Balance-sheets be approved.

The motion was seconded by Mr. R. Gillespie.

It was moved, as an amendment, by the Rev. A. Stewart, and seconded by the Rev. Professor Adam:—

"That it be referred to the Finance Committee to secure an increase in the Capital Fund, so as to make provision for the full amount of the expenses of the General Assembly; including the expenses of members travelling to the Assembly and its Committees."

The amendment was approved.

The motion as amended was approved.

19. The Report of the Committee on Statistics was submitted Statistics. by the Rev. R. W. Macaulay, who moved:—



"1. That the Assembly receive the Report.

"2. Express its deep regret at the death of the late Con-  
vener, Rev. Jas. Steele.

"3. Adopt the schedule of questions as tabulated, request  
State Assemblies to include the questions of Part II. in their schedules,  
and to urge care and promptitude in compiling returns; the schedule  
to be again revised by the Committee before being printed in the Blue  
Book.

"4. Refer that portion of the report which deals with the  
growth of the Church membership to the Committee on Public Ques-  
tions, Religion, and Morals, with an instruction to inquire into the  
causes of leakage in Church membership, and the diminishing ratio  
of increase, with possible remedies, and report to next Assembly."

The motion was seconded by the Rev. T. J. Smith, and ap-  
proved.

**Beneficiary  
Funds.**

**20.** The Report on the Beneficiary Funds was submitted by  
Mr. A. G. Proudfoot, who moved:—

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Reappoint the Committee, substituting Rev. J. Ferguson  
for Rev. R. Steel, and adding the name of Rev. G. A. Gordon.

"3. Request the Committee to continue its work, and to pre-  
sent to the next Assembly a scheme of as definite a character as it  
is able to mature without actuarial assistance."

The motion was seconded by Mr. W. Wood, and approved.

**Federation  
of Churches.**

**21.** The Rev. Dr. Rentoul gave notice of his intention, when the  
Report on the Federation of Churches is before the House, to move  
the following amendment to the Deliverance:—

"(1) After the words, 'have been able to come to agreement,'  
insert the words 'thus far;' (2) omit all the words after the words,

'with our Church's Committee regarding a basis of Union,' for the purpose of inserting other words; those other words would be, 'and refer the Basis of Union back to the Committee for further consideration and enquiry, in keeping with the declaration, 'that in the judgment of the Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, two conditions precedent to incorporated Union are absolutely requisite:—

(1) That, prior to the acceptance of any basis of incorporated Union, the Federating Churches shall, not in theory only or suggestive scheme, but in actualised fact, bring their standard and practice of education of students for the Holy Ministry up to the standard now in realised practice in the Presbyterian Church of Australia, or at least to that set forth in Section A., iii., of the "Proposed Basis of Union," and ensure that by the term "Theological Hall" employed in that "Basis" is meant an efficiently equipped Theological Hall, with adequately provided Professors, or specially-fitted tutorial staff, definitely set apart to that function.'

"(2) That, prior to any incorporated Union, an effective plan and actualised method shall be attained in each of the incorporating Churches, for ensuring an adequate stipend, or maintenance, for an educated Ministry worthy of an United or National Church of Australia, and in keeping with the needs and demands of our modern day." — 20

22. The Rev. D. Macrae Stewart gave notice of his intention at **Repatriation**. a future Sederunt to move:—

"That, having regard to problems arising in connection with returned soldiers, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia desires to express its cordial approval of the provisions of the Soldiers Act of 1917-18, and urges its members and office-bearers along with its Ministers and Home Missionaries to give such encouragement and assistance as is in their power to the State Boards in their administration of the regulations.

"The Assembly is pleased to know that the Minister in charge of Repatriation, whilst claiming that the provisions of the Act, the regulations that have been put in operation, and the methods of administration, are wise and safe, and are well adapted to fit returned soldiers for civil occupations and to provide for the comfort of those

unable to earn their own living, yet is willing to take the necessary steps to secure an extension of the benefits of repatriation as experience proves should be done.

“The Assembly enjoins the State Churches to devise or put in operation such practical measures as will secure the attachment of returned soldiers, who are Presbyterians, to the Congregations of our Church in places where they settle, and which will be most conducive to their moral and spiritual, as well as to the material welfare of themselves and their kins-folk.

“The Assembly, for the purpose of guiding the State Churches in carrying out this injunction, remits to a Committee of the Assembly to enquire as to the best means whereby these objects can be gained, and so as to secure uniformity of action so far as practicable in each State. The Committee to consist of the following:—Revs. Professor R. G. Macintyre, G. Cranston, J. B. Galloway, W. E. Radcliffe, Dr. J. A. Seymour, Wm. Grey, J. B. Rentoul, W. Borland, Right Rev. D. Macrae Stewart, W. Thomson, and Messrs. Wm. Wood, A. S. Lang, and Dr. Macauley. The Rev. Professor R. G. Macintyre, Convener.”

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

## SECOND SEDERUNT.

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins-street, on  
 Thursday, September 26th, 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.

**26.** The Report on the Welfare of Youth was submitted by the Rev. J. Mackenzie, who moved:—

Welfare of  
 Youth.

"1. That the Report be received.

"2. That the Assembly express gratitude to God for the measure of unanimity already secured in reference to an Australasian scheme of graded lessons; instruct the Committee to continue negotiations with the Welfare of Youth Committees and Assemblies of the various States, with a view to securing agreement upon an Australasian scheme of Graded Lessons, the present Australasian scheme in its general outlines to be the basis of such agreement.

"3. That the Committee be instructed to confer with various State Committees, with a view to securing greater uniformity in the matter of organising the work of religious education amongst the children and young people of the Church, and also in the matter of collecting statistics.

"4. That the Welfare of Youth Committees in each State be urged to make a special study of the problems of adolescence in so far as they affect the work of the Church amongst our growing youth, and to report with relevant recommendations to the Assembly's Committee before 1st August, 1920."

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

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

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### THIRD SEDERUNT.

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*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins-street, on  
27th day of September, 1918, at 10 a.m.*

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

**29.** The Minutes of the previous day were confirmed.

Federation of  
Churches.

**30.** The Report on the Federation of the Churches was submitted by the Rev. Professor Adam.

It was moved by Professor Adam, and seconded by Professor Macintyre:—

“1. That the Assembly receive the Report, reaffirm its belief in the great desirableness of union with the Methodist and Congregational Churches, express its thankfulness that the Committees representing the negotiating Churches have been able to come to agreement regarding a Basis of Union.

“2. That the Assembly adopt the Basis as to Doctrine and Polity as one on which union might be consummated.

“3. Reappoint the Committee with the following changes—  
Omit the names of Revs. J. Kemp Bruce, R. H. Waugh, M.A., W. G. Maconochie, M.A., H. Robertson, B.A., Dr. Hay, T. Shanks, A. T. Wade, J. D. Brown, Messrs. William Affleck, W. E. Greenwood; and add the names of Revs. Dr. Rentoul, G. R. S. Reid, C. H. Talbot, G. Cranston, R. G. Macintyre, Tulloch Yuille, R. W. Macaulay, D. Millar, G. N. Dods, W. Huey Steele, J. Heyer, W. J. Holt, A. Crow, Dr. Seymour, J. H. G. Auld, Messrs. A. G. Baxter, S. J. Carruthers, H. Perdriau, Dr. Macfarland, W. Gray, H. H. Kemp; with power to add to their number.

“4. Instruct the Committee to send the Basis adopted to State Assemblies and Presbyteries as nearly as possible at the same time as similar action is being taken by the other negotiating Churches, with instructions to report through the Committee, within a time to be fixed by the Committee, as to whether they ‘approve’ or ‘disapprove’ of union on this basis, giving numbers approving and disapproving; and, further, authorise the Committee, should a majority of State Assemblies and Presbyteries ‘approve,’ to submit the Basis of Doctrine and Polity to sessions and congregations in time, if possible, to permit of all returns being presented to next Assembly.

“5. That the Assembly further instruct the Committee to appoint a sub-committee on law and finance in connection with the proposed union, with power to include other than members of the General Committee.”



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

“That all the words after the word ‘Report’ be omitted with the view of inserting the words, ‘Thank the Committee, and, following the example of the Canadian Assembly of June, 1917, agree that no further action in the direction of federation or corporate union be taken till the second Assembly after the close of the war; that meanwhile discussion and organised propaganda be discontinued; and, further that Presbyteries, Home Mission Committees, and other administrative Committees of the various State Assemblies be urged to continue their present interdenominational, practical, co-operative activities.’”

The amendment was rejected.

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. Dr. Rentoul, and seconded by the Rev. E. F. Cameron:—

“That all the words after the word ‘Assembly’ in paragraph (2) be omitted, with the view of inserting the words of which he had given notice.” *see § 21.*

The amendment was rejected.

**31.** At this stage, the consideration of the Deliverance was adjourned, and the Committee on Federation instructed to prepare the draft of a form to be used by State Assemblies, Presbyteries, Sessions, and Congregations in sending Returns to this Remit, and to report to the Sederunt of this evening. 35

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

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#### FOURTH SEDERUNT.

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*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins-street, on  
27th day of September, 1918, at 7.30 p.m.*

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

34. The Report of the Business Committee was proved.

35. The consideration of the Deliverance on Union was resumed.

The Committee submitted the following as the form to be used in sending in Returns on the Remit, and proposed that it should be inserted as Clause 5:—

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA.

Return to Remit anent the Union of the Presbyterian, Methodist, and Congregational Churches of Australia:—

The\*..... having considered the above Remit, resolved to answer as follows:—

..... †  
(\*The name of Court or Congregation.)  
(†Insert "Approve" or "Disapprove.")

Number approving.....

Number disapproving.....

(Place and Date).....

Clerk.

In addition to expressing approval or disapproval, any Church, Court, or Congregation, desiring to suggest any alteration in the Basis submitted, is at liberty to append it to this Return, such suggestion to be duly certified by the Clerk of the Court or Congregation.

The Report was approved, and its proposal adopted.

By leave of the House, the following was inserted as Clause 6:—

"6. That the Committee be empowered to consider any suggestions that may be made, on such returns, in consultation with the representative Committees of the other negotiating Churches, and report thereon to next General Assmby."

By leave of the House, the following was inserted as clause 7:—

"7. That the Committee be authorised in sending down the Basis of Union, to accompany it with a brief historical statement, based on the Minutes of Assembly bearing on the matter."

The Deliverance, with these insertions, was unanimously approved.

**36.** The Report on Co-operation was submitted by the Rev. Pro-Co-operation. fessor Adam, who moved:—

“That the Assembly receive the Report, and resolve to leave any further action in the matters referred to therein to State Assemblies and Presbyteries.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Dr. Harper, and approved.

**37.** The Report of the Committee relative to a Sederunt to consider the needs of the nation was submitted by Professor Macintyre, Needs of the Nation. who moved:—

“That the Report be received, and the Committee discharged.”

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

**38.** The Reference from the State Assembly of South Australia Reference S.A. of S.A. was introduced by the Rev. Dr. Seymour.

It was moved by the Rev. George Tait, and seconded by the Rev. J. T. Robertson—“That the Assembly receive the Reference; reaffirm its previous opinion as to the desirability of transference suggested in the Reference; and remit the matter to the State Assemblies of Victoria and South Australia as having jurisdiction in the matter.”

The motion was approved.

**39.** Mr. A. L. Pryde gave notice of his intention, when the Report Board of Missions. of the Board of Missions is before the House, to move:—

“That the Board be directed to pay to the Board of Finance of the Victorian Church the sum of £50 annually for the responsibility and office work connected with the keeping of the accounts of the Board.”

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

## FIFTH SEDERUNT.

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins-street, on 28th day of September, 1918, at 10 a.m.*

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

**42.** The Minutes of the previous day were confirmed.

Selection  
Committee.

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

The Report was received, and it was agreed that further nominations be received until the close of Monday's Sederunt, and that, if necessary, a ballot be taken on Wednesday at twelve o'clock.

Overture  
Relative to  
Beneficiary  
Funds.

**44.** Mr. A. G. Proudfoot gave notice of his intention to move that the following Overture be received and sent down to State Assemblies and Presbyteries to be dealt with under Article XIII. in the deed of Union.

*Whereas* it is desirable to remove certain doubts that have arisen as to the legal authority of the General Assembly of Australia to make provision for aged and infirm ministers and the widows and orphans of ministers.

*It is Humbly Overtured* by the undersigned members of the Assembly to the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia to add the following Article to the Deed of Union at the conclusion of Article XII. in the Articles of Agreement therein contained namely:

XII. 2. It shall be lawful for the General Assembly if it thinks fit to make or secure financial provision for the benefit of ministers of the Church incapacitated by age or infirmity and of the widows and orphans of deceased ministers of the Church and without limiting the generality of the preceding power to form a fund or funds for the said purposes or any of them, and also to require ministers of the Church to contribute towards any such provision or fund, and to require congregations or Churches to contribute thereto in respect of ministers of such congregations or in the employment of such

Churches connected therewith, and to determine the amount of contributions. And also to legislate or pass regulations in respect of any of the matters hereby authorised.

*Provided that* no minister within the jurisdiction of a State Assembly connected with or liable to join a beneficiary or provident fund thereof shall be required to contribute to any financial provision or fund of the General Assembly hereunder without the consent of that State Assembly.

**45.** By arrangement Mr. E. W. Greenwood, M.L.A., President of the Strength of Empire League, addressed the House. Strength of  
Empire  
League.

It was moved by the Rev. Professor Macintyre, and seconded by the Rev. G. Brodie:—

“That the Assembly thank Mr. Greenwood for his address, and assure him that the Assembly is heartily in accord with the main aims of the ‘Strength of Empire’ Movement.”

**46.** The Report on Public Questions was submitted by the Rev. Professor Macintyre. Public  
Questions.

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

“1. That the Report be received.

“2. That the Assembly, while cordially recognising what has already been done in the way of limitation of the hours for the sale of intoxicating liquor, declare that the only effective method for meeting the social evils inevitably connected with the liquor traffic, and dealing effectively with the repatriation of our soldiers, is National Prohibition; that it urges the Government to proclaim National Prohibition as a war measure; and that until this becomes effective a regulation be immediately issued, applicable to civilians as well as soldiers, forbidding what is known as ‘shouting.’

“3. That the Assembly commend the action of the Government in prohibiting lotteries in connection with the war loan, and discouraging gambling in connection with patriotic funds.

"4. That the Assembly renew its expression of the grave social dangers associated with the prevalence of venereal diseases, and, while recognising what has been done by some State Governments, urge that immediate steps be taken more effectively to combat this evil.

"5. That the Assembly draw the attention of the Commonwealth authorities to the urgent need for a more satisfactory censorship of picture films, including those made in Australia.

"6. Re-appoint the Committee with the following changes:— Omit Revs. F. H. L. Paton, John Gillies, T. Shanks, J. G. Buntine; and insert Rev. Prof. Macintyre, C. E. James and Rev. J. T. Robertson, Dr. McFarland and Mr. D. K. Picken, with the Clerk and the Moderators and the Clerks of State Assemblies and the Conveners of Cognate Committees in the States."

The motion was approved

**47.** The Moderator and the ex-Moderator were requested to wait on the Prime Minister to urge the views of the Assembly as set forth in the Deliverance just approved.

**48.** The congregation of Brunswick applied for authority to meet on Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock.

The authority was granted.

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

#### SIXTH SEDERUNT.

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins-street,  
Melbourne, on 30th September, 1918, at 10 a.m.*

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

**51.** The Report of the Code Committee on the Chapter on Discipline was submitted by the Rev. Dr. Burgess, who moved:—

“1. That the Report be received.

“2. That the present rules on discipline be and hereby are repealed, and the rules as amended adopted, provided that any case *sub judice* be dealt with under the old rules, unless all parties agree to proceed under the new.

“3. That the Committee be authorised to publish the rules, and to add an appendix containing sample minutes and forms.”

The motion was duly seconded and approved.

**52.** The Overture from the State Assembly of Queensland was introduced and supported by the Rev. W. E. Radcliffe, and the Rev. J. Lundie. Overture from S.A. Queensland.

It was moved by the Rev. J. T. Robertson, and seconded by the Rev. J. Miller:—

“That the Overture be received and sent down to State Assemblies and Presbyteries with instructions to report to next General Assembly.”

It was moved, as an amendment, by the Rev. Dr. Harper:—

“That all the words after the word ‘be’ be omitted, with the view of inserting the word ‘rejected.’”

The consideration of the Overture was adjourned. — 76

**53.** According to arrangement, delegates from the Young Women's Y.W.C.A. Christian Association were present, and Mrs. Robert Harper, the President, and Miss Hardie, the Secretary, addressed the House.

The Moderator, on behalf of the Assembly, thanked Mrs. Harper and the delegate for their presence, and Miss Hardie for her address.

**54.** The Board of Management of the Prabran Congregation applied for authority to meet on Tuesday evening.

The authority was granted.

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

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### SEVENTH SEDERUNT.

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*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, on Monday, 30th day of September, 1918, at 7.30 p.m.*

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

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

**58.** The Report of the Committee on Naval and Military Affairs was submitted by the Chaplain-General. Professor Rentoul.

Naval and  
Military  
Committee.

On the motion of the Rev. W. Borland, seconded by the Rev. R. Scott West, the Assembly resolved as follows:—

“The Assembly adopts the Report, with earnest thanks to the Convener, the Vice-Convener, the Executive, and the Committee, and expresses its cordial gratification at the results and character of the far-reaching services which they have administered. The Assembly records its sense of indebtedness to the Chaplain-General for his visit to the old land and the war-fronts, and its satisfaction at the success which has attended his mission. It rejoices in the fact of the closer and more effective organisation of chaplaincy work, as symbolled in the administration of the first senior chaplain at headquarters in London (Colonel Crookston), and thanks him for his wise and gracious direction of a great service, and for his unshrinking self-denial and toil.

“The Assembly expresses its warm admiration for the gallantry and devoted sense of duty manifested by our A.I.F. chaplains,



of all branches of the services by land or sea. It records its profound sorrow at the death of valiant and beloved officers (Chaplains Gillison, Stevens, and Kemp Bruce), and conveys to their relatives its deep sympathy in their loss.

"The Assembly voices its great admiration for the heroism, endurance, and skill of our Australian men and boys at the battle-fronts, and in the various spheres of daring on the field, in the air, and on the sea. It feels deeply the common burden of bitter pain and sorrow which all this sacrifice of young life involves, and the agony of loss and shattered hope it has carried into the homes of our ministers and our people. The Assembly unites its heart, with them in their grief, and prays for them the presence and uplift of the Divine consolation and pity. To our troops in their daring and danger, the Assembly sends its message of joy in their splendid achievements, and of sympathy with their struggle and temptings and suffering.

"The Assembly desires to thank our people, and especially our Church's womanhood, for their noble and generous loyalty and help in this hour of sore need. In particular, it recognises the noble benefaction of Mrs. George Dunnet, in her Christmas gift to our men at the front, through each of our chaplains; the generosity of Mrs. Black, Mount Noorat, which has made midnights of pain, amidst battle dangers, changed into hours of renewed warmth and courage; and it thanks also Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. Buchanan and the Robertson family for their thoughtful care of returned soldiers through the St. Andrew's Club.

"The Assembly cannot but express its deep regret that the failure of Government and Parliament to make recruiting for the A.I.F. equable and fair for all Australia's manhood has cast the burden of sacrifice and death unjustly upon one section—the nobly loyal section—of our nation, and upon our Protestant Churches; and the Assembly urges upon Government and the authorities the imperative duty of promptly making wise and adequate provision and plans for safeguarding the moral and physical welfare of our returning soldiers, and for restoring them to positions of work in the civic life of our nationhood.

"The Assembly reappoints the Committee, consisting of the

Naval and Military Committees of the various States, with Dr. Rentoul as Convener and Chaplain-General, the Victorian Committee to be continued as the Executive, with the Rev. W. Borland as Vice-Convener."

The Assembly also instructs that the brief sub-reports from the Naval and Military Committee of the various States be appended to the Assembly's Report.

**59.** Thereafter, by arrangement, addresses were delivered by Chaplains Colonel Crookston, Captain J. Keith Miller, Colonel D. M. Stewart, Captain J. B. Rentoul, Captain J. Lundie, and Major F. Milne.

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

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#### EIGHTH SEDERUNT.

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*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, on Tuesday, 1st day of October, 1918, at 10 a.m.*

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

**62.** The Minutes of the 5th, 6th and 7th Sederunts were confirmed.

Federation of  
Churches.

**63.** The Rev. Dr. Davidson gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move:

"That the various State Assemblies be recommended to appoint local committees on union to keep in touch with this Assembly's committee on the matter and to sanction pro rata contributions towards the expenses of the General Committee, the General Committee to submit a scheme."

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64. The Rev. E. F. Cameron gave notice of his intention, at a <sup>League of Nations.</sup> future Sederunt, to move:—

“That this Assembly affirms the desirability of the formation of a League of Nations, or its equivalent, after the present war, so that the scourge of militarism of the Prussian type may never again afflict humanity.”

65. The Moderator was requested to write a letter of appreciation to their Excellencies the Governor-General and Lady Helen Ferguson for their courtesy in entertaining the members of Assembly and their wives at Government House yesterday afternoon. <sup>Thanks to Governor-General.</sup>

66. It was agreed to resume the consideration of the Overture from the State Assembly of Queensland relative to Home Missionaries <sup>Overture from S.A., Queensland.</sup> at 2 p.m.

67. The Rev. D. Ross addressed the House on the spiritual needs of the Nation and the Church, and moved:— <sup>Needs of the Nation.</sup>

“That, in view of the needs of the nation and the necessity of the Church’s preparation to meet them, the General Assembly recommends that a spiritual mission be held throughout each State, and that the Moderator-General communicate with State Moderators accordingly; and that each Presbytery be recommended to hold a Spiritual Retreat of its members in the course of next year.”

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

68. A letter of brotherly greeting from the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Australasia was received, and the Moderator was requested to send a suitable reply. <sup>Methodist General Conference.</sup>

69. The Rev. Wm. Gray, by leave of the House, withdrew the motion, of which he had given notice, relative to limitation of speeches. <sup>Time-limit.</sup>

70. An invitation from the Presbytery of Hobart to the General Assembly to meet in Hobart in 1922 was received, and the Assembly expressed its warm interest in the life of the Tasmanian Church. <sup>Presbytery of Hobart.</sup>

71. The Replies from the State Assembly of New South Wales to the recommendations of the General Assembly of 1916 were received. <sup>N.S.W. Assembly.</sup>

**72.** The Resolution from the State Assembly of New South Wales relative to the Inland Mission was received.

**73.** The Resolution from the State Assembly of New South Wales relative to the length of the Session in the Theological Hall was remitted by the College Committee.

"Record."

**74.** The Report on the "Record" was submitted by the Rev. A. Crow, who moved:—

"That the Report be received, and the Editor cordially thanked."

The motion was seconded by the Rev. D. McK. Barnet, and approved.

Senator  
Millen.

**75.** According to arrangement, Senator Millen addressed the House on Repatriation.

It was moved by the Rev. Professor Macintyre, and seconded by Mr. J. H. Beatson:—

"That the Assembly cordially welcome Senator Millen, the Minister for Repatriation; thank him for his address; express its appreciation of the work already accomplished on behalf of our returned soldiers, and its profound interest in this aspect of our Commonwealth's duty and task."

The motion was unanimously approved, and the thanks of the Assembly conveyed to Senator Millen by the Moderator.

Overture  
from S.A.,  
Queensland.

**76.** The consideration of the Overture from the State Assembly of Queensland, relative to Home Missionaries, was resumed.

By leave of the House, Dr. Harper moved his amendment in the following form:—

"That all the words after the word 'and' be omitted, with the view of inserting the words 'no further steps be taken.'"

The amendment was seconded by the Rev. P. J. Murdoch.

The amendment was rejected.

It was moved as a further amendment, by the Rev. J. Macenzie, and seconded by Rev. J. Sinclair:—

"That all the words after the word 'sent' be omitted, with the view of inserting the words 'to the Home Mission Committee, to make full enquiry as to the situation indicated in the Overture and report to next Assembly as to how that situation could best be met.'"

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved. (Minute 52.) *Remitted*

**77.** The Rev. Dr. Rentoul gave notice of his intention, at a *tu-war motion*.  
ture Sederunt, to move:—

"The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia renews its expression of unwavering loyalty and devotion to the person and throne of His Majesty the King, and to the unity and integrity of the British Empire, and of all its Dominions, and the Assembly dutifully expresses its glad congratulations to His Majesty the King, the British Government, and the Governments of all the British nationhoods, on the splendid victories now attending the skill and gallantry of the commanders and forces of the Armies of His Majesty and his heroic allies. The Assembly earnestly prays that their supreme valour and sore sacrifice may soon result in a great and abiding peace, ensuring the welfare and freedom not only of our British lands, but of all the enfranchised peoples. The Assembly further points, with pride, to the great sacrifice borne by the loyal people of Australia, and by the sons of the Presbyterian Church, in the great war, and to the noble gallantry and skill of all our Australian forces. The Assembly commends our troops on their return from the long and dreadful campaign, to the largest and most generous sympathy and care of our Australian people."

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

## NINTH SEDERUNT.

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, on Tuesday, the 1st October, 1918, at 7.30 p.m.*

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

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

Foreign  
Missions.

**81.** According to arrangement, addresses by the Rev. David Ross, M.A., on "Our Foreign Missions," the Rev. C. A. White, B.A., on "Our Indian Missions," Mr. R. H. Wilson, on "Our Mission to the Aborigines," and the Revs. F. J. L. Macrae, B.A., and R. D. Watson, on "Our Mission to Korea," were delivered.

**82.** The Convener of the Board of Missions presented the Misses Moore and McPhee, Missionaries from Korea, and Miss Pye, Missionary to the Chinese of Melbourne, who were welcomed by the Moderator.

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

## TENTH SEDERUNT.

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, on Wednesday, the 2nd October, 1918, at 10 a.m.*

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

**85.** The Minutes of the previous day were confirmed.

Foreign  
Missions.

**86.** The Report on Foreign Missions and a Supplementary Report were submitted by the Rev. T. Watt Leggatt.

The Rev. D. Ross moved, and the Rev. C. A. White seconded—

“That the Assembly—1. Receive the Report. Give thanks to God for the measure of prosperity at all our Stations, and for the spirit of liberality displayed by the Church in response to special appeals.

“2. Congratulate those missionaries who have attained their semi-jubilee in the service of the Church.

“3. Congratulate the Church in New South Wales on its forward movement, and on the generous gift received for extension of its work in India.

“4. Express its deep sorrow at the tragic death of our devoted Missionary, Rev. R. Hall, on Mornington Island, and the serious wounding of his colleague, Mr. W. Owen.

“5. Commend Mrs. Hall and her children to the loving care of our Heavenly Father; convey its sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Owen in their sufferings, and record its thankfulness to God for their preservation from death.

“6. Convey the thanks of the Assembly to the Bishop of Carpentaria for his kindness in releasing Mr. Cyril Grant Lane, and to Mr. Lane himself for his invaluable and long continued services to our Mission in Mornington Island in its time of need.

“7. Express its appreciation of the prompt action of Mr. Norman Paull, in volunteering to carry on the work at Mornington Island until the arrival of a new Missionary.

“8. Approve of the Board's action in regard to the termination of the Rev. E. Brown's engagement, of its adjustment of the Rev. A. Richter's financial claims, and of its provision for extra rations for the natives at Port George, and authorise it to continue this arrangement if necessary.

“9. Direct the Board to keep in view the matters remitted to it by last Assembly, namely, the issue of Missionary literature, the facilities for higher educational work as a Christian vocation in China, and our Church's share of responsibility towards the new situation in non-Christian lands.

"10. Approve of the Board's proposals regarding—

"(1) The arrangement as to agency at Broome.

"(2) The salary of Mr. T. W. Holmes.

"(3) The supervision of Weipa from either Mapoon or Aurukun, as may be more convenient.

"11. Instruct the Board — (1) To draw up a Beneficiary scheme for its agents, and submit it to next Assembly.

"(2) To arrange for more frequent meetings of the full Board, making the travelling expenses of members a charge on the Assessment.

"(3) To return the unexpended balances of Messrs. Richter and Brown's salaries to the Churches.

"12. Fix the Assessment for the year intervening between the termination of the present Assessment and the next Assembly, viz., from 1st October, 1919, to September 30th, 1920, at £2131, allocated as follows:—Victoria, £958; New South Wales, £635; Queensland, £263; South Australia, £67; Tasmania, £58; Western Australia, £150; Total, £2131.

"13. Thank the Office Staffs at Brisbane and Melbourne, the Honorary Treasurer, Accountant, and Auditor, for their valuable services; record its hearty thanks to the Convener for his great services during his two years of office, and accept his resignation, wishing him all blessing in his work as Acting Foreign Mission Secretary of Victoria, and appoint Rev. William Fraser, B.A., as Convener.

"14. Lay upon the hearts of our people the duty of earnest and unceasing prayer that the Lord of the Harvest would send forth workers to our Mission Fields, and that a spirit of zeal for the extension of Christ's Kingdom and of liberality toward it may be promoted among our Churches at home.

"15. Receive the Supplementary Report, and direct that the legacy of the late Mr. Nathaniel Lyle, of Prahran, Victoria, be allo-



cated to the Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church of Australia under the control of the Presbyterian Church in Victoria."

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. A. Stewart, and seconded by Mr. L. K. McNab—

"That all the words after 'allocated,' in Clause 15 be omitted with the view of inserting the words 'on the existing assessment rate to the four churches which are doing Foreign Mission work.'"

The amendment was approved.

The Rev. A. Stewart moved, and Mr. L. K. McNab seconded—

"That the proposed words be inserted."

It was moved as a further amendment by Mr. A. H. Campbell, and seconded by the Rev. H. O'Sullivan—

"That the words 'the existing' in the words proposed to be inserted be omitted with the view of inserting the word 'an,' and the words 'estimated on the total income for Foreign Missions' be inserted after the word 'rate.'"

The amendment was approved, and the proposed words as amended by Mr. Campbell's amendment inserted.

(Clause 15 is as follows:—Receive the Supplementary Report and direct the legacy of the late Mr. Nathaniel Lyle, of Prahran, Victoria, be allocated on an assessment rate estimated on the total income for Foreign Missions, to the four Churches which are doing Foreign Mission work.)

It was moved as an amendment by Mr. A. L. Pryde, and seconded by Mr. R. K. Gillespie—

"That the Board be directed to pay to the Board of Finance of the Victorian Church the sum of £50 annually for the responsibility and office work connected with the keeping of the accounts of the Board."

The amendment was approved.

The motion as amended was approved.

Home  
Missions.

**87.** The Report on Home Missions was submitted by the Rev. A. J. Wade, who moved:—

“1. That the Assembly receive the Report, and thank the Committee, and especially the Convener, the Superintendent of the A.I.M., the members of the Inland Councils, and their helpers.

“2. Express thankfulness at the measure of success attending the work in the several States, notwithstanding the general shortage of men owing to the claims of the war.

“3. Record satisfaction at the steady development of the Inland Mission and the support accorded it.

“4. Note with pleasure the result of the negotiations with the Congregational Union of Western Australia, for transfer of the work and property at Carnarvon, and the establishment of the nursing home at Maranboy.

“5. Express the hope that it may be possible to place the Transcontinental Railway United Mission on a permanent basis.

“6. Place on record the Assembly's appreciation of the self-denying labours of the staffs of Home, Smith of Dunesk, and Inland Missions, and commend them to the prayerful support of our people.

“7. That the Home Mission Committees of the various States, with power to add to their number, be asked to act as Commissions of this Assembly to study the unnecessary poverty in the congested areas of the capital cities of Australia, to inform themselves regarding the conditions of human life in the sections that are non-churchgoing though adjacent to long-established congregations and churches, and to gather facts and tabulate information as to the extent of drift from church connection of the different classes in the community, and to suggest plans of congregational, Presbyterial, and general evangelistic and community service for all Christian people.

“8. Authorise the Executive to provide secretarial assistance adequate to cope with the expanding work, especially having regard to the absence of the Superintendent from headquarters.

"9. Direct the Committee to bring under the notice of Home Mission Committees and State Assemblies the matter of obtaining Ministers from the Homeland after the war, in order to secure concerted action under the direction of this Committee.

"10. Appoint the following as members of the Inland Councils, with power to add to their number:—Queensland:—Rev. F. W. Gresham (Convener), Revs. E. Fox, W. Duffy, Messrs. N. McLeod, Lloyd, Campbell; New South Wales:—Rev. J. H. G. Auld, B.A. (Convener), Revs. W. G. Forsyth, J. B. Galloway, A. J. Wade, T. Morgan, Hon. T. Brown, Messrs. W. Wood, J. H. Beatson, W. S. Park, J. Inglis; Victoria:—Rev. F. W. Rolland (Convener), Rev. John Mackenzie (Acting-Convener), Revs. Dr. Adam, J. Walker, J. Barnaby, D. A. Cameron, G. S. Brodie, F. H. L. Paton, T. J. Smith, J. K. Robertson, F. L. Heriot, A. Irving Davidson, E. E. Baldwin, Tulloch Yuille, J. A. Barber, P. L. Forster, Messrs. F. J. Evans, Alex. Mathieson, G. King, R. B. Plowman, W. P. Shaw, D. Macmillan, D. Steel, W. Gray, A. M. Fergusson, Lieut.-Col. T. H. Steel, O.B.E.; South Australia:—Rev. W. Gray (Convener), Revs. Dr. Seymour, F. S. Souter, R. Mitchell; Western Australia:—Rev. Alex. Crow (Convener), John Shaw."

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

**88.** The House sat in private.

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

"That the Assembly receive the Report."

The motion was duly seconded, and approved.

**90.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of the Rev. John J. Hastie be granted. Rev. J.  
Hastie.

The recommendation was approved.

**91.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of the Rev. Robert Hitch be not granted. Rev. Robt.  
Hitch.

The recommendation was approved.

Rev. S. A.  
Faulkner.

**92.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of the Rev. S. A. Faulkner be not granted.

The recommendation was approved.

Rev. F. W.  
Hewlett.

**93.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of the Rev. F. W. Hewlett be granted on Mr. Hewlett's completion of the course undertaken in 1917, viz., (a) the second and third year in the Theological Hall, omitting Hebrew, Pastoral Theology and English Bible; (b) passing the Exit Examination in all subjects except English Bible and Hebrew Language, substituting for the latter the Old Testament subjects in the Home Mission course, and with the further recommendation that Mr. Hewlett's work already done in connection with our Church be regarded as the fulfilment of his year of probation.

The recommendation was approved.

Rev. Victor  
C. Bell.

**94.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of the Rev. Victor C. Bell be granted, and that his year of service under the Home Mission Committee of New South Wales be counted as his year of probation.

The recommendation was approved.

Rev. J. J.  
Willings.

**95.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of the Rev. J. J. Willings be not granted.

It was moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved.

It was moved as an amendment, and seconded:—

“That the prayer of the Petition be granted on condition that Mr. Willings take the ordinary three years' course at one of the Theological Halls, exclusive of languages, and pass the Exit Examination.”

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved.

Rev. J. G.  
Hughes.

**96.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of the Rev. J. Graham Hughes be not granted.

The recommendation was approved.

**97.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of the Rev. Ernest Hope Hume be not granted. Rev. E. H. Hume.

The recommendation was approved.

**98.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of Mr. E. J. Thrum be not granted. Mr. E. J. Thrum.

The recommendation was approved.

**99.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of Mr. Frank Lyall Hume be not granted. Mr. F. L. Hume.

It was moved, and seconded:—

“That the recommendation be approved.”

It was moved, as an amendment, and seconded:—

“That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and Presbyteries authorised to take Mr. Hume on trial for license.”

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved.

**100.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of Mr. J. A. Irvine be not granted. Mr. J. A. Irvine.

The recommendation was approved.

**101.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of Mr. C. J. Graham be granted. Mr. C. J. Graham.

It was moved, and seconded:—

“That the recommendation be approved.”

It was moved, as an amendment, and seconded:—

“That the prayer of the Petition be not granted.”

The amendment was approved, and a motion, "That the prayer of the Petition be not granted," was approved.

Mr. T. C.  
Luke.

**102.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of Mr. T. C. Luke be granted, provided he agrees to serve the Church of South Australia for seven years.

It was moved and seconded:—

"That the recommendation be approved; and Presbyteries authorised to take him on trial for license and ordination."

It was moved as an amendment, and seconded:—

"That the prayer of the Petition be not granted."

The amendment was approved, and a motion, "That the prayer of the Petition be not granted," was approved.

**103.** The House resumed in open court.

Hymnal.

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

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Authorise the Committee to continue negotiations with the publisher for the rearrangement of the pieces in the Hymnal, as recommended in the Report, and also for the incorporation of a few kindergarten pieces, the work to be done when the prices for printing are considered favourable, and the cost to be charged to the Hymnal Royalty Account, the publisher to be wholly responsible, but the Assembly undertaking to do all it can to bring the book into general use throughout our Australian Church.

"3. Authorise the Committee to approach the Australian Methodist Conference and the Australian Congregational Union, and make enquiries on the lines suggested.

"4. Re-appoint the Committee as follows:—Revs. W. S. Rolland, J. Mathew, W. Goyen, J. T. Robertson, J. R. Fiddian, C. H.

Talbot, C. Crane, F. Darling, G. R. S. Reid, W. H. Ash, Messrs. L. Fraser, L. K. McNab, W. Gray, R. J. Oehr; Rev. W. H. Ash (Con-  
vener)."

The motion was seconded, and approved.

**105.** The Rev. J. Mackenzie gave notice of his intention at a future Sederunt to move:— Welfare of  
Youth.

"That the Welfare of Youth Committee be appointed as follows:—Revs. W. S. Rolland, J. T. Lawton, C. H. Talbot, W. Goyen, J. Walker, J. Sinclair, J. Barnaby, F. A. Darling, J. B. Galloway, Jas. Gibson, D. McK. Barnet, R. H. Roberts, Ivo E. Bertram, W. Gray, R. J. H. McGowan, A. Sims, G. R. S. Reid, J. R. Fiddian, W. F. Turton, F. E. Ozer, W. F. Shannon, F. S. Souter, Professor Smyth, Messrs. W. A. Sanderson, W. Gillanders, J. I. Forsyth, T. W. Wilson, H. B. Thompson, W. Gray; the Rev. John Mackenzie, Con-  
vener."

**106.** The Rev. Professor Angus gave notice of his intention, at a future Sederunt, to move:— Jewish  
Mission.

"That the following be appointed a Jewish Mission Committee, with directions to report to the next Assembly on the work being done among the Jews in Australia:—

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

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#### ELEVENTH SEDERUNT.

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*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, on Wednesday, the  
2nd October, 1918, at 8 p.m.*

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

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

Mrs. Lowther  
Clarke.

**110.** The death of Mrs. Lowther Clarke having been reported, it was unanimously resolved to convey the Assembly's deep regret and sympathy to the Archbishop and the Church of England in their loss, and to appoint the Moderator-General and the Moderator of the Church of Victoria to represent the Assembly at the funeral.

Home  
Missions.

**111.** According to arrangements, addresses by the Rev. D. A. Cameron on "Educational and Philanthropic Institutions of Our Church," the Rev. Robert Millar on "Our Home Mission Work," the Rev. Robert Mitchell on "The Smith of Dunesk Mission," the Rev. Thomas Brown on "Facing Social Problems," and the Rev. John Flynn on "The Australian Inland Mission," were delivered.

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

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#### TWELTH SEDERUNT.

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*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins-street, on  
Thursday, 3rd October, at 10 a.m.*

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

**114.** The House sat in private.

Reception of  
Ministers.

**115.** The consideration of the Report on the Reception of Ministers was resumed.

Mr. P. E.  
Wylde.

**116.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of Mr. P. E. Wylde be not granted.

It was moved and seconded:—

"That the Petition be not received."

The motion was rejected.



It was moved and seconded:—

“That the recommendation be approved.”

It was moved, as an amendment, and seconded:—

“That the word ‘not’ be inserted before the word ‘approved.’”

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved.

**117.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of <sup>Mr. A. H. Ballinger.</sup> Mr. A. H. Ballinger be granted; and that his time of service in the Church be counted for his year of service.

It was moved and seconded:—

“That the recommendation be approved.”

The motion was rejected.

It was agreed that the prayer of the Petition be not granted.

**118.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of <sup>Rev. John Thomas.</sup> the Rev. John Thomas be not granted.

It was moved and seconded:—

“That the recommendation be approved.”

It was moved and seconded:—

“That the word ‘not’ be inserted before the word ‘approved.’”

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved.

**119.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of <sup>Rev. W. R. Elvery.</sup> the Rev. W. R. Elvery be not granted.

It was moved and seconded:—

“That the recommendation be approved.”

It was moved and seconded, as an amendment:—

“That the word ‘not’ be inserted before the word ‘approved.’”

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved.

Mr. A.  
Richardson.

**120.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of Mr. A. Richardson be not granted.

It was moved and seconded:—

“That the recommendation be approved.”

It was moved and seconded:—

“That all the words after the word ‘that’ be omitted, and the following words inserted:—‘In the case of Mr. Alex. Richardson, he be required to attend the Theological Hall (St. Andrew’s College) for two Sessions, and pass the Exit Examinations in all subjects, exclusive of languages.’”

The amendment was approved.

The Moderator ruled that the amendment was to be treated as a substantive motion.

It was moved and seconded, as an amendment:—

“That all the words after ‘that’ be omitted with a view to inserting the following words: “That Mr. Richardson be required to take the Home Mission course in the ordinary way, and that his case be referred to the College Committee for grading.’”

The amendment was approved.

The motion, as amended, was approved.

Rev. H. C.  
Childs.

**121.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of the Rev. H. C. Childs be granted, on condition that he attend two years in the Theological Hall, and pass the Exit Examination in all subjects.

The recommendation was approved.

**122.** The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of <sup>Rev. Hugh Paton.</sup> the Rev. Hugh Paton be granted.

The recommendation was approved.

**123.** By leave of the House, the following dissent was received:— <sup>Dissent.</sup>

We dissent from the finding of the House in the case of Mr. Ballinger, for the following reasons:—

(1) That statements were made regarding Mr. Ballinger's treatment by and relation to the Methodist Church, which greatly influenced the vote, but for which no evidence was before the House.

(2) That if the certificate received from the President of the Methodist Conference by the Moderator of our Assembly, declaring that, in the judgment of the Victorian and Tasmanian Conference, the penalty imposed upon Mr. Ballinger has been discharged, and that, as far as his past association with our Church is concerned, there is no embargo upon him in any offer of himself he may desire to make, to the ministry of a sister Church, was not considered sufficiently plain and satisfactory, there should have been further communication with the Methodist Church before Mr. Ballinger's case was decided, mainly on this issue.

D. S. ADAM.  
E. F. CAMERON.  
JOHN MATHEW.  
J. BARTLETT.  
JOHN BARNABY.  
H. O'SULLIVAN.  
ALAN W. TOCHER.  
DONALD A. CAMERON.  
A. LANG.  
JAMES T. ROBERTSON.

**124.** The House resumed in open court.

**125.** The Report of the College Committee, and the Supplementary Report, were submitted by the Rev. J. Mathew, who moved:— <sup>College Committee.</sup>

"That the Assembly receive the Report, and thank the Committee, and especially the Convener, Secretary, Examiners, and Supervisors; approve the proposal for co-operation by means of a Joint Theological Faculty in St. Andrew's College, Sydney, for a period of five years; clothe the Committee with Assembly powers in its own sphere until next meeting of the General Assembly; express sorrow at the loss sustained by the Committee and the Church through the death of the Rev. J. Kemp Bruce, and express sympathy with his family, and also with the relatives of students who have suffered or died through the War."

The competency of the clause relative to a Joint Theological faculty was challenged; the Moderator ruled it incompetent, and the clause was struck out of the motion.

It was moved by Professor Macintyre, and seconded by Dr. Rentoul:—

"That the following words be added to the motion:—'That the Committee be clothed with power to deal with the cases of students who have served with the A.I.F., and to make such concessions as they deem wise.'"

The amendment was approved.

The motion, as amended, was approved.

Overture  
Anent H.M.  
Studies.

**126.** The Report of the College Committee on the Overture, anent Home Missionaries' course of studies, was submitted by the Rev. J. Mathew, who moved:—

"That the Report be received.

"(1) That henceforth married men be not received in to the H.M. course of training.

"(2) That the maximum age of admission be 35 years.

"(3) That H.M. students who have completed their fourth year be examined at the February Entrance Examination in Hebrew or English Literature, Greek, English and Mental Philosophy, and

that the Home Mission Examination of the fourth year in Bible, Catechism, and History, and of the third year in Moral Philosophy, be the Entrance Examination in these subjects.

“(4) That sub-committees of the College Committee be instructed to confer with the Home Mission Committees of the several States with regard to Home Missionaries who have not yet proceeded with the course of training, and report to the Executive.

“(5) That inasmuch as the General Assembly, in the Basis of Union with other Churches, has endorsed the view that the standard of University Matriculation should be reached by all candidates contemplating entering the Hall through the H.M. course, that course be adjusted so as to secure this desirable object, one of the languages to be Greek.”

The motion was seconded.

It was moved and seconded, as an amendment, that clauses (1) and (2) be remitted to State Assemblies and Presbyteries, with instructions to report to next General Assembly.

The amendment was approved.

It was moved and seconded, as an amendment:—

“That the words ‘Hebrew or’ be omitted from clause 3.”

The amendment was rejected.

The Deliverance, as amended, was approved.

**127.** The Report of the College Committee on Petitions was submitted. Petitions.

The Report recommended that the Petitions of Messrs. W. E. Waller-Jones, W. P. Brunton, and W. Owen be not granted.

The recommendations were approved.

**128.** Mr. A. G. Proudfoot moved the motion relative to an Overture Overture  
anent B.F. anent the Beneficiary Funds (Minute 44).

The motion was seconded and approved.

**War Motion.** **129.** The Rev. Dr. Rentoul moved the war motion of which he had given notice (Minute 77).

The motion was seconded by the Rev. W. Borland, and approved.

**130.** It was agreed that a table containing the substance of the motion, signed by the Moderator and the Clerk, be sent through the Governor-General to His Majesty the King.

**Book of  
Common  
Order.**

**131.** The Report on the Book of Common Order was submitted by the Rev. W. Borland, who moved:—

“That the Assembly receive the Report, and thank the Convener and the Committee; resolve that the name of the book be ‘Book of Common Order of the Presbyterian Church of Australia;’ authorise the Committee to arrange for the publication in book form of the above Orders, and the Order for the baptism of adults, when completed; appoint the following Committee:—New South Wales: Revs. George A. Gordon, Thomas Tait, George Cranston, R. Scott West (Convener); Victoria: Revs. W. Borland, J. Mathew, D. Millar, A.E. Macdonald, J. C. Coutie; Queensland: Rev. J. B. Galloway; South Australia: Rev. George Davidson, D.D.; West Australia; Rev. W. H. Steele; Tasmania: Rev. J. Heyer.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. J. Mathew.

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

“That all the words after the word ‘Committee,’ in the first paragraph, be omitted, with the view of inserting the words, ‘resolve to remit the Book to the Committee for fuller and final consideration, and add to the Committee the following names: Revs. Dr. Rentoul, Dr. Angus, P. J. Murdoch, D. Macrae Stewart.’”

The amendment was approved, and the proposed words inserted in the motion.

The motion, as amended, was approved.

**132.** By leave of the House, it was moved by the Rev. J. B. Galloway, Rev. Dr. Hay. and seconded by Rev. Professor Macintyre:—

“That it is desirable to have in our official records a suitable memorial minute regarding the Rev. Dr. Hay, and that the Revs. Jas. Walker, W. C. Radcliffe, and J. B. Galloway be appointed to draw up such minute, and forward the same to the Clerk of the Assembly, to be incorporated in the records of this present Session of the Assembly.”

The motion was approved.

**133.** The Rev. Professor Macintyre gave notice of his intention to Churches in Scotland. move:—

“That this Assembly, remembering with gratitude what the Church in Australia owes to the Churches in Scotland, and being itself engaged in negotiations for union of various branches of Christ’s Church in this land, desire to respectfully and affectionately express to the Church of Scotland, and the United Free Church of Scotland, its profound interest in the proposals for union in Scotland, and its earnest prayer that the time may soon come when Presbyterianism may be united in Scotland as it is to-day in Australia; that this resolution be conveyed to the Churches concerned.”

**134.** The Rev. R. W. Macaulay gave notice of his intention to Limiting Speeches. move:—

“That in view of the continuous growth of business to be dealt with by the General Assembly, the Business Committee be instructed to consider the question of limiting the time allotted to each report, the length of speeches, and the omission of public demonstrations at evening meetings, and report to next Assembly.”

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

## THIRTEENTH SEDERUNT.

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins-street, on Thursday, the 3rd October, 1918, at 8 p.m.*

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

League of Nations.

**137.** The Rev. E. F. Cameron moved the motion of which he had given notice (Minute 64).

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

**138.** It was agreed that all speeches be limited to five minutes, except those on the Overture from South Australia, relative to a Theological Hall.

Federation of Churches.

**139.** The Rev. Dr. Davidson moved the motion of which he had given notice (Minute 63).

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

Churches in Scotland.

**140.** The Rev. Professor Macintyre moved the motion of which he had given notice (Minute 133).

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

Repatriation.

**141.** The motion, of which the Rev. D. Macrae Stewart had given notice (Minute 22), was moved by the Rev. Professor Macintyre, with a change of the Convenership of the Committee, viz., Rev. D. Macrae Stewart as Convener.

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

Limiting Speeches.

**142.** The Rev. R. M. Macaulay moved the motion of which he had given notice (Minute 134).



The motion was seconded by Dr. Seymour, and approved.

**143.** It was agreed to send a letter to the Rev. J. Smiley, expressing the sympathy of the Assembly with him in his serious illness. Rev. J. Smiley.

At the request of the Moderator, the Rev. Dr. Rentoul led the House in prayer for Mr. Smiley.

**144.** The Overture from the New South Wales General Assembly, relative to the Reception of Ministers, was introduced by the Rev. Professor Angus. Overture  
Anent  
Reception of  
Ministers.

The Rev. Professor Angus moved:—

“That the Assembly sustain the Overture, and instruct the Reception of Ministers’ Committee, and all Presbyteries to act accordingly.”

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

**145.** The Overture from the South Australian State Assembly, relative to a Theological Hall, was introduced by the Rev. Dr. Seymour. Overture  
Anent  
Theological  
Hall in S.A.

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

“That the Assembly sustain the Overture, in so far as it brings the question of a Theological Hall in South Australia before the Assembly, but inasmuch as evidence is lacking to show that a Theological Hall can be established in Adelaide in connection with the Presbyterian Church, and no definite scheme is submitted for the establishment of a union college in co-operation with the Methodists and Congregationalists, the Assembly does not see its way to give authority to the State Assembly to establish a Theological Hall in Adelaide.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Professor Adam.

It was moved, as an amendment, by the Rev. J. T. Robertson, and seconded by the Rev. E. E. Baldwin:—

“That all the words after the words ‘before the Assembly’ be omitted, with the view of inserting the words, ‘and authorise the

State Assembly of South Australia to formulate a practical scheme for the establishment of a Theological Hall to train students for the Holy Ministry, and to report to next Assembly.' "

The amendment was approved, and the proposed words inserted in the motion.

The motion, as amended, was approved.

**Year Book.** **146.** The Deliverance on the Report of the Year Book was moved by the Rev. J. Mackenzie in the following form, seconded, and approved:—

"That the Assembly receive the Report; express appreciation of the gratuitous services given by Rev. J. R. Fiddian, as Editor, during the past four years; approve of the experiment of placing the books with the booksellers, instead of sending directly to each minister and missionary; instruct the Committee to continue to publish along the same lines, and, if need be, to increase the price, and again urge ministers and missionaries to co-operate with the Committee heartily in getting the book into the hands of our people."

**Sites.** **147.** The Report on Sites was submitted by the Rev. Professor Macintyre, who moved:—

"1. That the Report be received; (2) that the Committee be reappointed, with the Moderator as Convener."

The motion was seconded and approved.

**Official Organ.** **148.** The Report on the Official Organ was submitted by the Rev. J. R. Fiddian,

The Report was adopted.

**H.M. Deputations.** **149.** The Report on Home Mission Deputations was submitted by the Rev. A. McCarlie, who moved:—

"That the Assembly receive the Report; re-appoint the Committee, substituting Rev. D. Millar for Rev. W. H. Cooper, and Dr. Seymour for Rev. J. C. McPhee."

The motion was seconded, and approved.

**150.** The Report on Religion in the Home was submitted by the Religion in the Home. Rev. Professor Macintyre, who moved:—

“That the Assembly receive the Report, and re-appoint the Committee and Conveners, with instructions to continue the work on similar lines.”

The motion was seconded, and approved.

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

“That the Assembly receive and adopt the Report; resolve to re-appoint the Committee, with Mr. D. Macmillan and the Rev. F. L. G. Schhoffel as Joint Conveners; appoint the Executive as follows:—Mr. D. Macmillan (Convener), the Revs. W. Thomson (Corresponding Secretary), Hugh Jones, and Mr. C. Mackinnon.”

The motion was seconded, and approved.

**152.** The Rev. Professor Angus moved the motion of which he Jewish Mission. had given notice, relative to a Jewish Missionary Committee (Minute 106).

The motion was seconded and approved, and the following Committee appointed:—Revs. A. Yule (Convener), J. McKenzie, W. S. Rolland, D. Ross, B. W. Smith, J. G. Sterling; Messrs. R. K. Gillespie, L. K. McNab, J. S. Walker. *Sydney*—Rev. R. McGowan (Convener of Sydney Committee), Revs. A. Williams, J. Muir, C. H. Talbot, T. Morgan; Messrs. Clifton, G. Lewis, J. Sheddem Adams, A. B. Wilson.

**153.** The Rev. J. Mackenzie moved the motion of which he had Welfare of Youth. given notice, relative to the Welfare of Youth Committee (Minute 105).

The motion was seconded, and approved.

**154.** It was agreed that the cordial thanks of the Assembly be Thanks. given to the Hospitality Committee of the Church of Victoria; to

the members of the Women's Missionary Union; and to all others who have generously exercised hospitality to the members of Assembly.

Next  
Assembly.

**155.** It was agreed that the next General Assembly meet in St. Stephen's Church, Sydney, on the fourth Wednesday of September, 1920, at 7.30 p.m.; that the Committees meet on the preceding Tuesday and on Wednesday morning and afternoon, and hand their proposed Deliverances to the Clerk not later than Wednesday night.

Board of  
Missions.

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

Business  
Committee.

**157.** The following were appointed a Committee to arrange for the business of the next Assembly, so far as it should be dealt with before the Assembly meets:—Revs. Prof. Macintyre (Convener), Dr. Burgess, C. A. White, A. J. Wade, J. Edwards, and J. J. Gilmore, and Messrs. W. Wood, W. G. Crane, and J. Kirkland.

Dr. Hay.

**158.** The following memorial minute was approved:—

The Rev. Alex. Hay, D.D., who passed away at Sydney on 9th September, 1918, was for long one of the leading figures of our Church.

He came to Queensland in 1871, a physical wreck, his medical adviser having scarcely expected that he would survive the voyage. Had he lived till November, he would have been 88 years of age. A native of Perth in Scotland, he had been already minister of two Charges, at Leitholm and Cupar, in connection with the United Presbyterian Church, and shortly after his arrival he was called to the pastoral charge of South Brisbane.

In the year 1876 he was translated to St. Andrew's, Rockhampton, where the great work of his life was done. In Rockhampton he threw himself into the whole life of the community. A Master of Arts of St. Andrew's University, he interested himself specially in educational matters, and was himself a student to the end of his days. His brethren in Queensland chose him to write the history of the Church, and his own University conferred upon him the honorary degree of D.D. He took a prominent part in the deliberations of the Courts of the Church, and his services to the Presbyterian Church of

Australia were recognised by his appointment as Moderator of the Second General Assembly.

He had been living in well-earned retirement since 1913, and passed quietly to his rest after a short illness. The Assembly desires to express its sincere sympathy with the bereaved family and relatives.

**159.** The Minutes of the 11th, 12th, and 13th Sederunts were con- Minutes.  
firmed.

**160.** The business of the General Assembly now being concluded, Close.  
the Moderator delivered a brief address. The Assembly joined in singing the last 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 Sydney, in St. Stephen's Church, on the fourth Wednesday of September, 1920, at 7.30 p.m., the Session was closed with the Benediction.

JOHN WALKER, Moderator.

GEORGE TAIT, Clerk.

**APPENDIX.**

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**COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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**STANDING COMMITTEES.**

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1.—JUDICIAL COMMISSION.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. John Burgess, D.D.	Hon. T. Brown, M.L.A.
J. Edwards, M.A.	Mr. J. H. Balfour
J. C. McDonald, M.A.	John Kirkland
Professor Macintyre, B.D.	J. H. Beatson

VICTORIA.

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

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.

Mr. T. W. Fleming	Professor Rennie
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TASMANIA.

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

Rev. R. Hanlin	Dr. S. Macaulay
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ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Right Rev. the Moderator	Rev. Dr. Seymour
Rev. D. Smith	C. A. White, B.A.
J. B. Galloway	Mr. P. R. Henry
D. M. Stewart	W. G. Geikie
J. B. Rentoul	A. S. Lang, F.A.I.Q.
A. Crow	Dr. J. H. MacFarland

Chairman: Right Rev. the Moderator.

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. Paterson	G. A. Clifton

## 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.	Rev. G. H. Kirke
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## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. Dr. Davidson

## TASMANIA.

Rev. J. Heyer

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Rev. W. F. Turton

## ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. W. Fraser	Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.
W. S. Rolland	Mr. W. Wood
H. M. Burns, B.D.	W. Watt

Convener: Rev. W. Fraser.

## 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. S. Martin, M.A.	Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.
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## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. W. Gray

## TASMANIA.

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

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Mr. Henry Scott

## ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. James Walker	Mr. A. G. Proudfoot
F. A. Hagenauer, M.A.	P. R. Henry
Mr. S. J. Carruthers	W. A. Sanderson, LL.M.

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

## IV.—COLLEGE.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. J. Ferguson	Rev. J. Edwards, M.A.
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.	Mr. D. K. Picken

## QUEENSLAND.

Rev. J. B. Galloway	Rev. J. Lundie, B.A.
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## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. Dr. Seymour

## TASMANIA.

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

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

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

## ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. W. Borland, B.D.	Rev. W. Borland, B.D.
P. J. Murdoch, M.A.	J. Mackenzie
T. Yuille	Professor Rennie
F. Milne, M.A., B.D.	— Smyth

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

## V.—HOME MISSIONS.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. W. G. Forsyth	Rev. T. Morgan
A. J. Wade	Mr. W. Wood



## VICTORIA.

Rev. D. A. Cameron, M.A.                      Rev. D. Millar  
     J. Barnaby, M.A., B.D.                  Mr. J. R. Crowther

## QUEENSLAND.

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

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. J. C. McPhee

## TASMANIA.

Rev. A. D. Leckie

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Rev. A. Crow

## ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. W. G. Forsyth                              Mr. J. H. Beatson  
     Professor Angus                              W. S. Park  
     F. W. Rolland                                  D. MacMillan  
     R. G. Macintyre

Convener: Rev. A. J. Wade

## VI.—FINANCE.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

Mr. S. J. Carruthers                              Mr. J. H. Beatson  
     John Kirkland                                  W. Wood

## VICTORIA.

Dr. J. H. MacFarland                              Mr. R. K. Gillespie  
     Mr. D. MacMillan                              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. A. E. Black

## ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Hon. J. T. Walker	Mr. W. G. Crane
Mr. J. P. Muir	W. O. Montgomery
H. Perdriau	J. K. Stewart
	W. G. Geikie

Convener: Mr. W. G. Crane

## VII.—RECEPTION OF MINISTERS.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

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

## VICTORIA.

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

## QUEENSLAND.

Rev. George Ewan	Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, 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.

Right Rev. the Moderator	Rev. John Edwards, M.A.
Rev. C. H. Talbot	T. Morgan
A. J. Wade	Mr. W. Wood

Convener: Rev. A. McKinlay.

## VIII.—STATISTICS AND YEAR BOOK.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. F. A. Darling	Mr. W. Wood
J. B. V. Steel	S. J. Carruthers

## VICTORIA.

Rev. J. C. Contie, B.A.	Rev. R. A. Green
R. W. Macaulay, B.A.	Mr. L. K. McNab

## 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.

Rev. John Shaw

## ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. J. R. Fiddian

Mr. W. B. House

A. D. Leckie

A. L. Pryde

J. A. Lee

J. H. Beatson

Mr. H. H. Kemp

Convener: Rev. R. W. Macaulay.

## IX.—YEAR BOOK.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

Rev. F. A. Darling

Rev. D. McK. Barnet, B.A.

Jas. Steele

Mr. S. J. Carruthers

## VICTORIA.

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

Mr. L. K. McNab

J. A. Lee

J. Birchnell

## 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.

## ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY.

Rev. D. F. Brandt

Mr. A. W. Glencross

A. D. Leckie

W. B. House

W. Huey Steele, M.A.

J. H. Beatson

Mr. A. L. Pryde

Convener: Rev. J. R. Fiddian.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

### I.—FEDERATION OF PROTESTANT CHURCHES.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>Rev. Angus King<br/>           John Edwards, M.A.<br/>           Dr. Harper<br/>           Dr. Burgess<br/>           John Paterson<br/>           G. A. Gordon<br/>           John Walker<br/>           G. R. S. Reid ✓<br/>           R. Scott West<br/>           C. A. White, B.A.<br/>           C. H. Talbot<br/>           R. G. Macintyre ✓<br/>           J. H. Auld ✓</p> <p>Mr. John Kirkland<br/>           W. G. Crane</p> <p>Dr. Robertson<br/>           Mr. W. Wood<br/>           J. H. Beatson</p> <p>Rev. Professor Adam, D.D.<br/>           W. Fraser, B.A.<br/>           Dr. Rentoul<br/>           J. Mathew, M.A., B.D.<br/>           J. T. Robertson<br/>           P. J. Murdoch, M.A.<br/>           J. McKenzie<br/>           Tulloch Yuille ✓<br/>           A. Stewart, M.A.<br/>           D. Ross<br/>           W. Goyen<br/>           W. Borland<br/>           J. Gray<br/>           R. W. Macaulay ✓<br/>           D. Millar ✓</p> <p>Rev. D. McLennan<br/>           S. Martin, M.A., B.D.</p> <p>Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.<br/>           J. B. Galloway</p> | <p>Dr. Merrington<br/>           Principal Glaister<br/>           Mr. Jas. Allen<br/>           A. S. Lang<br/>           Rev. G. Davidson, M.A., D.D.<br/>           G. C. Love, M.A., B.D.<br/>           J. A. Seymour ✓</p> <p>Mr. A. H. Bryson<br/>           T. W. Fleming<br/>           H. B. Thompson</p> <p>Professor Rennie<br/>           Mr. T. W. Tassie<br/>           Rev. G. N. Dods ✓<br/>           W. H. Steele ✓<br/>           A. Crow ✓<br/>           F. E. Oxeer, M.A., B.D.<br/>           J. G. Millar<br/>           I. Heyer<br/>           W. J. Holt ✓</p> <p>Mr. F. Burbury<br/>           D. McKinnon<br/>           Hon. J. Murdoch<br/>           Mr. J. K. Reid<br/>           F. Williams<br/>           J. Wright</p> <p>Rev. A. McCaigie<br/>           Dr. S. Macaulay<br/>           Mr. R. Bracks<br/>           F. A. Mosely ✓<br/>           A. G. Baxter ✓<br/>           S. J. Carruthers ✓<br/>           H. Perdriau ✓<br/>           W. Gray ✓<br/>           H. H. Kemp ✓<br/>           Dr. MacFarland ✓</p> |
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The Moderator, Clerk, and Law Officers, members *ex officio*.

Rev. PROFESSOR ADAM, Convener.

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

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|--|---|
| <p>The Right Rev. the Modera-<br/>           tor<br/>           Rev. Dr. Rentoul<br/>           Professor Macintyre<br/>           Rev. W. S. Rolland<br/>           David Ross, M.A.<br/>           Alex. Stewart, M.A.<br/>           John Barnaby, M.A.,<br/>           B.D.<br/>           C. E. James<br/>           R. W. Macaulay, B.A.</p> | <p>Rev. J. A. Crockett<br/>           A. Yule, M.A.<br/>           A. J. Wade<br/>           J. T. Lawton, M.A.<br/>           C. A. White, B.A.<br/>           J. T. Robertson<br/>           T. Tait, M.A., B.D.<br/>           J. H. Angus<br/>           J. Heyer<br/>           Wm. Gray<br/>           J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.</p> |
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Rev. W. H. Steele, M.A.  
 Richard Kerr  
 James Gibson, M.A.  
 (Q.)  
 W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.  
 Professor Rennie  
 Dr. MacFarland  
 Mr. D. K. Picken  
 R. K. Gilespie

Mr. W. S. Greenwood  
 K. McNab  
 D. Macmillan  
 Wm. Gray  
 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  
 Rev. 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

Rev. A. J. Wade  
 Mr. Wm. Affleck  
 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  
 F. Darling  
 G. R. S. Reid  
 C. H. Talbot  
 J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.  
 J. T. Robertson

Rev. J. Mathew, B.D.  
 W. S. Rolland  
 W. Goyen  
 Mr. L. Fraser  
 L. K. McNab  
 W. Grey  
 R. J. Ochr

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. J. H. G. Auld, B.A.  
 (Chairman).  
 W. G. Forsyth  
 A. J. Wade  
 T. Morgan

Hon. T. Brown  
 Mr. J. H. Beatson  
 J. Inglis  
 W. Wood  
 W. S. Park

## VICTORIA.

Rev. F. W. Rolland, M.A. (Chairman)	Rev. Tulloch Yuille, M.A., B.D.
Professor Adam, D.D.	A. I. Davidson
John Walker	J. A. Barber
D. A. Cameron, M.A.	P. L. Foster
J. Barnaby, M.A., B.D.	Mr. T. H. Steel
G. S. Brodie	W. P. Shaw
J. MacKenzie (Acting Chairman)	D. MacMillan
F. H. L. Paton, M.A., B.D.	F. J. Evans
E. E. Baldwin, M.A.	W. Gray, M.A., B.Sc.
T. J. Smith, M.A.	D. Steel
J. K. Robertson	A. Mathieson
F. L. Heriot	G. King
	R. B. Plowman
	A. M. Ferguson

## QUEENSLAND.

Rev. F. W. Gresham (Chair- man)	Mr. N. McLeod
E. Fox	— Campbell
W. Duffy	F. R. Lloyd
J. B. Galloway	

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rev. F. S. Souter	Mr. T. W. Fleming
R. Mitchell	J. G. Balfour
W. Gray (Chairman)	J. Drennan
Dr. Seymour	

## WEST AUSTRALIA.

Rev. Alex. Crow (Chairman)	Mr. John Shaw
With power to add to their number.	

## VII.—BOOK OF COMMON ORDER.

Rev. George Cranston	Rev. J. Mathew, M.A., B.D.
J. B. Galloway	G. A. Gordon
W. Borland	Dr. Davidson
Æ. McDonald	T. Tait, M.A., B.D.
J. C. Coutie	W. H. Steele
Dr. Rentoul	D. Millar
P. J. Murdoch	R. Scott-West
D. M. Stewart	J. Heyer
Dr. Angus	

The Rev. R. SCOTT-WEST, Convener.

## VIII.—BUSINESS COMMITTEE.

Rev. Professor Macintyre	Rev. J. Edwards
Dr. Burgess	J. J. Gilmore
C. A. White	Mr. W. Wood
A. J. Wade	W. G. Crane
	J. Kirkland

## IX.—BENEFICIARY FUNDS.

Rev. W. H. Steele, M.A.	Rev. J. Lundie, B.A.
George Carson	Mr. T. W. Fleming
W. Tait, M.A., B.D.	W. Wood
J. Ferguson	A. L. Pryde
W. F. Turton	John Kirkland
J. Heyer, M.A.	Hon. John Murdoch
W. C. Radcliffe, B.D.	Mr. A. G. Proudfoot
Dr. Burgess	J. H. Beatson
G. A. Gordon	

Mr. A. G. PROUDFOOT, Convener.

The Executive: The Victorian Members.

## X.—WELFARE OF YOUTH.

Rev. W. S. Rolland	Rev. W. Gray
J. T. Lawton, M.A.	A. Sims
C. H. Talbot	G. R. S. Reid
Wm. Goyen	J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.
John Walker	W. F. Turton
John Sinclair, B.A.	F. E. Oxer, M.A., B.D.
John Barnaby, M.A., B.D.	W. F. Shannon, B.A.
F. A. Darling	F. S. Souter
J. B. Galloway	Dr. Smyth
James Gibson, M.A.	Mr. W. A. Sanderson
R. H. Roberts	W. Gillanders
D. McK. Barnet, B.A.	J. L. Forsyth
Ivo E. Berham	T. W. Wilson
R. J. H. McGowan	H. B. Thompson
	W. Gray

The Rev. J. MACKENZIE, Convener.

## XI.—OFFICIAL ORGAN.

Rev. R. Miller	Rev. J. Heyer
J. Walker	R. W. Macaulay
W. C. Radcliffe	W. W. Watts
J. Mackenzie	W. H. Ash
W. W. Watts	D. Smith
W. Goyen	J. Waugh
J. T. Lawton	G. Tulloch
J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.	R. Scott-West
W. Gray	D. M. Barnett
J. A. Seymour	Mr. A. S. Lang
J. A. Lee	A. Campbell
A. Crow	W. A. Sanderson
E. F. Cameron	J. Drennan
F. Souter	A. W. Tocher
W. Gray	D. Storrer
J. B. Rentoul	J. H. Balfour
W. J. Ham	W. Wood

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

## XII.—NAVAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS.

The Naval and Military Committees in the various States

The Rev. Dr. RENTOUL, Convener and Chaplain-General.

The Victorian Committee, the Executive: Rev. W. Borland, Vice-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	Rev. G. S. Brodie
J. Barnaby	D. Millar
D. A. Cameron	Mr. D. MacMillan
E. E. Baldwin	H. H. Kemp
J. Sinclair	

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

Rev. A. McCARLIE, Convener.

### XV.—RELIGION IN THE HOME.

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

### XVI.—IMMIGRATION.

Rev. W. Thomson	Rev. J. G. Scarfe
G. A. Gordon, B.A.	Mr. D. MacMillan
J. S. Macdonald, M.A.	Chas. McKinnon
W. Gray	Wm. Wood
R. Hanlin	A. S. Barr
E. G. Petherwick	J. Drennan
J. Heyer, M.A.	John Macfarlane
R. W. Macaulay, B.A.	H. F. Haynes
L. A. Schloffel	Captain Craig
H. Jones	

Mr. D. MACMILLAN and Rev. I. G. SCHHOFFEL, Joint Conveners.

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

### XVII.—REPATRIATION.

Rev. Professor Macintyre	Rev. J. B. Rentoul
G. Cranston	W. Borland
J. B. Galloway	D. Macrae Stewart
W. E. Radcliffe, B.A.	W. Thomson
Dr. J. A. Seymour	Mr. W. Wood
Wm. Grey	A. S. Lang
	Dr. Macaulay

Rev. D. MACRAE STEWART, Convener.



# REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

AND OTHER PAPERS

PRESENTED TO THE

General Assembly of Australia.



MELBOURNE, SEPTEMBER, 1918.

## OVERTURES.

## I.—ANENT HOME MISSIONARIES' COURSE OF STUDIES.

Whereas the present scheme for the training of Home Missionaries has disclosed certain defects, and whereas it is desirable that more definite instructions should be given for the guidance of Home Mission Committees, it is hereby humbly overtured by the Presbytery of Sydney unto the venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to consider at its next meeting the advisability of revising the Home Mission scheme, with special reference to the following:—

1. The reception of married men.
2. A maximum age limit.
3. The course of study, especially that of the fourth year.
4. Regulations as to those Home Missionaries who fail to attempt or to pass the examinations prescribed.

Further, that the Home Mission scheme be revised every six years, or to deal with the matter otherwise as the Assembly may deem best.

The Rev. Professor Angus and the Rev. W. Grant Forsyth were appointed to support the overture in the General Assembly.

JOHN EDWARDS,

Clerk of the Presbytery of Sydney.

19th August, 1918.

## II.—ANENT ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS.

At Brisbane, and within St. Andrew's Church, the 23rd day of May, 1918, which day the General Assembly being duly constituted.

Inter alia, the Rev. R. Millar, on behalf of the Special Committee appointed thereanent, submitted the following overture anent administration of the sacraments:—

Whereas the resolution of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia (Minute No. 61, 1914, and Minute No. 71, 1916) authorises certain Home Mission agents to administer the Sacrament of Baptism, but not the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper; and

Whereas a large number of our faithful people is thereby prevented from enjoying an opportunity of observing the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and, in effect, Home Mission agents also are deprived of the privilege of communicating;

It is therefore hereby humbly overtured to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in the State of Queensland,

That the resolution contained in Minute No. 61 of the General Assembly of 1914, authorising Home Mission agents to administer the Sacrament of Baptism, be amended by inserting the following words, viz., "and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper" after the words "the Sacrament of Baptism" in the ninth line of the resolution, or to do otherwise as to the Assembly may seem wise.

On the motion of the Rev. R. Millar, duly seconded, it was resolved that the overture be adopted and transmitted in accordance therewith.

The Revs. Wm. C. Radcliffe, B.A., and Joseph Lundie, B.A., were appointed to support the overture at the bar of the General Assembly.

Closed with prayer.

Extracted from the records of the General Assembly by me,

S. MARTIN,

Clerk.

7th June, 1918.

### III.—ANENT RECEPTION OF MINISTERS.

(Transmitted by the New South Wales Assembly, 11th May, 1918.)

The New South Wales General Assembly hereby humbly overtures the General Assembly of Australia to enact as follows:—

In order to secure a definite and equal standard for admission to the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, applicants from other Churches shall not be received into the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia who have not, inter alia, completed a minimum course equivalent to that required of our Home Mission students; and that all admission committees be instructed to observe this enactment.

Professor Angus was appointed to support the overture in the Assembly.

JOHN BURGESS, D.D.,

Clerk of Assembly.

### IV.—ANENT A THEOLOGICAL HALL IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

1. Whereas under existing regulations students from South Australia entering the ministry of the Church are required to attend a Theological Hall outside this State;

2. Whereas there are suitable men offering as students for the ministry in South Australia, who in many cases find it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to attend a Hall in another State;

3. Whereas the needs of the Church in South Australia are such that students cannot easily be spared to complete their studies elsewhere;

4. Whereas there is a university in this State open to all students for necessary subjects of the arts course;

5. Whereas the non-existence of a Theological Hall in this State leaves the Church here without the object lesson and stimulus such an institution would provide;

6. Whereas the South Australian State Assembly, being seized with the importance of these considerations set forth, is prepared to provide a regular course of instruction by competent lecturers in accordance with the requirements set forth in Article VIII. of the articles of agreement in the Deed of Union, and also to arrange for students, after they have passed the entrance examination, giving regular attendance thereat during three full sessions, as is done in other Theological Halls of the Church;

It is therefore humbly overtured to the Venerable the General Assembly by the South Australian State Assembly that the General Assembly will take these premises into consideration, and authorise the said State Assembly to establish a Theological Hall in Adelaide, and give the right

to train students therein for the Holy Ministry, or deal otherwise with these premises as the Assembly in its wisdom may see fit.

The Revs. Dr. Seymour and W. Gray were appointed to support this overture before the General Assembly.

Extracted by

J. HALL ANGUS,

Clerk of Assembly.

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## PETITIONS.

u

MR. WALTER OWEN.

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

The prayer of the undersigned, Walter Owen, humbly sheweth:—

That he is the son of an elder of the Presbyterian Church.

That he became a member of the Church at the age of 16, under the Rev. J. G. Sterling, then of Maryborough, Victoria.

That he began lay preaching in Tasmania in 1910.

That he was accepted for work under the Presbyterian Board of Heathen Missions in 1911, and sent to Aurukun, North Queensland, as assistant to Rev. A. Richter.

That he was accepted at the same time as a first year student in the Home Mission Course.

That for health reasons he was not able to sit for the first year's examination in 1912.

That in 1913 Mr. Richter went on furlough, leaving your petitioner in full charge of the station, which position he occupied for two years, and was unable, by stress of work and responsibility, to continue his course of study.

That in 1916 your petitioner was appointed assistant to Rev. E. Brown, of Weipa, in which position he remained a few months.

That for health and other reasons he was compelled to return to Brisbane, but in three months' time he was again accepted for work by the Board of Heathen Missions, and was sent to Mornington Island as assistant to the late Rev. Robert Hall, leaving the island after Mr. Hall's death.

That owing to effects of shock and injury received, your petitioner feels it impossible to look forward to many years of study, and, therefore, prays that he be exempted from the Home Missionaries' Preliminary Course of Study, and

That he be allowed to sit for the entrance examination for the Theological Hall of New South Wales, Hebrew and Greek being omitted.

And your petitioner will ever pray.

(Signed) WALTER OWEN.

Assembly Hall, 156 Collins-street,  
Melbourne, 12th August, 1918.

The Convener General Assembly of Australia's Business Committee,  
Camberwell.

Dear Mr. Murdoch,—

I have to forward to you the enclosed Petition from Mr. Walter Owen, who was one of our missionaries in the Gulf of Carpentaria. You will remember that Mr. Owen was severely wounded by the natives at the time that his colleague (Rev. R. Hall) was murdered.

I am directed also by the Board of Missions to forward you the following minute:—

“The Executive of the Board of Missions met on the 9th August, 1918, and was duly constituted with prayer. Inter alia, Mr. W. Owen forwarded a Petition to the General Assembly, asking exemption from the Home Mission course, and to be allowed to sit for the entrance examination to the Hall in New South Wales, requesting its endorsement by the Board. The Board resolved to send on the Petition, and on the ground of his faithful service as a missionary, ask the Assembly to consider it favourably.”

If there is any other information that you require in regard to the Petition, I will be glad to forward it to you.

Yours sincerely,

T. WATT LEGGATT,  
Convener Board of Missions.

THE REV. HUGH PATON.

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

The Petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth:—

1. That the General Assembly of Australia, sitting in Sydney in 1910, empowered the Presbytery of Sydney to ordain him as an evangelist, “but that he be not entitled to receive a call to a settled charge, nor to be inducted into such charge, without fresh reference to, and sanction from, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia” (Minutes 107 and 114).

2. That he was duly ordained and has worked successfully in the State of New South Wales since his ordination.

3. His relations with the New South Wales Assembly have been harmonious and satisfactory. The Assembly gave proof of its confidence in him in unanimously choosing him as its Chaplain to the Forces in the camp at Liverpool, which is the largest in Australia. He has filled that position now for three years.

4. He took charge of the Crows' Nest Church for ten months, in the absence of the minister on chaplaincy duty.

Your petitioner therefore prays the Assembly to remove the condition, and to grant him all the rights and privileges that pertain to the pastoral office, and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

HUGH PATON.

Sydney, 20th May, 1918.

Re Petition of the Rev. Hugh Paton.

It is hereby certified, in the name and by the authority of the Presbytery of Sydney, that on the 11th June, 1918, the Presbytery resolved that the Petition of the Rev. Hugh Paton, praying for the removal of the limitation imposed by the General Assembly in connection with his ordination (Blue Book 1910, Mins. 107 and 114) be forwarded to the General Assembly, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted.

Certified this 17th day of June, 1918, by me.

JOHN EDWARDS,  
Presbytery Clerk.

MR. W. P. BRUNTON.

The Petition of the undersigned humbly showeth:—

1. That your petitioner was born in Scotland in 1851.
2. That, after serving as a pupil teacher in Dalkeith Academy, he entered Aberdeen University, with the view of becoming a minister in the (then) Free Church of Scotland.
3. That at the University he held a Forfarshire and Kincardineshire bursary, gained by examination.
4. That in the report of the examiners for this bursary he was classed as "a very superior student."
5. That after two years at the University he was told by the doctors that his lungs showed signs of consumption, that he must stop his studies, and that he must go to a drier climate.
6. That a residence in South Africa for three years made him fairly right, but that he considered it prudent not to resume his studies.
7. That, therefore, he has been engaged in teaching until, a few years ago, he became a Home Missionary in New South Wales.
8. That there are some papers annexed to this Petition, which may help, perhaps, to commend it to the members of the Assembly.
9. That your petitioner bases his Petition partly on his advanced age, his liberal education, his success as a Home Missionary, the certificate of Dr. Lyttle and other certificates annexed, and the fact that esteemed members of the Assembly have advised him to take this course.
10. That in consideration of the above statements your petitioner asks permission to take some theological reading instead of attending the classes at the Divinity Hall, as a step towards ordination.
11. That from experience your petitioner is persuaded that the fact that he was ordained would materially add to his influence, and therefore to the effectiveness of his work.

And your petitioner will ever pray.

WM. PRINGLE BRUNTON.

Documents:—

Mr. Brunton adds in a letter that he studied two years in Aberdeen University, taking English, Latin, Greek, and Mathematics. Credentials from Mr. W. Wood, Rev. J. H. Robertson, Mr. J. Bee, Mr. D. J. Aitken, Mr. D. McDonald; Doctor's certificate; letter from College Convener, stating that the Presbytery of Sydney forward the Petition, with recommendation that it be granted, and transmitting the Petition without recommendation.

## RESOLUTION.

## REGARDING INLAND MISSION.

This is to certify that at a meeting of the New South Wales General Assembly on 12th May, 1917—

The remit from the General Assembly of Australia anent presbyterial connection of those working in the Australian Inland Mission, and their relation to Beneficiary Funds (1916, Minutes 110 and 138), was read.

It was moved, seconded, and agreed:—

That the following reply be forwarded to the General Assembly of Australia:—

1. In regard to placing the Home Missionaries of the Australian Inland Mission under certain Presbyteries, Home Missionaries are under the jurisdiction of whatever Presbytery holds their license, but it might be well that the licenses of all Home Missionaries under the Australian Inland Mission should be held by one of the Metropolitan Presbyteries. They would thus be recognised by the Presbytery, and whenever they were present at such Presbytery meeting they would be welcomed to a place in the Presbytery.

2. As regards giving such Home Missionaries an interest in Beneficiary Funds, at present that can only be done in so far as such Home Missionaries are entitled to this privilege under existing regulations. A State Assembly has not power to include anyone in a Beneficiary Fund who is not thus entitled, and the regulations cannot be altered by a State Assembly without the consent of all present members of the Fund, if such admission might affect the interests of existing or prospective beneficiaries. The only solution of the difficulty is the formation of a Beneficiary Fund for the whole Commonwealth, including Home Missionaries of the Australian Inland Mission.

3. The request that the Superintendent of the Mission should be attached to a Metropolitan Presbytery depends upon the meaning of the word "attached." If it is intended that he should have an ex officio seat in the Presbytery, this raises the question of ex officio members, which is now under discussion by this Church.

Certified by me this second day of April, 1918.

JOHN BURGESS,

Clerk of Assembly.

## REPORTS.

## REPORT OF BUSINESS COMMITTEE.

1. The Business Committee propose that the hours of sitting be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with an interval from 1 to 2, and from 7.30 to 10 p.m.

2. It has been arranged that the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper be observed on the day of meeting, at noon, in the Scots Church.

3. The Committee propose that the business for Thursday, the first day of sitting, be as follows:—

## Morning—

1. Appointment of Business Committee.
2. Appointment of Selection Committee.
3. Appointment of Scrutineers.
4. Report Official Organ.
5. Report Finance Committee.
6. Report Statistics.
7. Report Beneficiary Funds.
8. Petitions.
9. Overtures.

## Evening—

1. Report Welfare of Youth.
2. Business left over.

4. The Committee think it very desirable that the Assembly should, at its first sitting, decide when it will take up certain other matters, and they propose the following arrangements:—

## Friday, 27th September—

Report on Federation of Churches.

## Saturday, 28th September—

1. Report Public Questions.
2. Report Year Book.
3. Report Book of Common Order.
4. Report "Record."

## Monday, 30th September—

Evening—Report Naval and Military Committee.

## Tuesday, 1st October—

Morning—Report Reception of Ministers.  
Evening—Report Board of Missions.

## Wednesday, 2nd October—

Evening—Report Inland Mission.

P. J. MURDOCH, Convener.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SITES IN FEDERAL CAPITAL.

Owing to war conditions, the Government has not done much work towards the laying out and building of the Federal Capital. The Moderator, as Convener of your Committee, visited the Federal Territory, and conferred with officials on the spot. The exact "lay-out" of the future capital of Australia was not then finally settled, and so far as known this is the position still. In these circumstances it was not deemed advisable to apply for any special location for ecclesiastical buildings on behalf of our Church, but a formal application, without specifying location, has been for-



warded to the Minister for Home and Territories, intimating that our Church desired that a suitable site for Presbyterian buildings be allotted in the final plans for the capital.

RONALD G. MACINTYRE,

Convener.

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#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATION OF MODERATOR.

On behalf of the above Committee I have to report that in accordance with the regulations prescribed the Committee has decided to nominate as Moderator of the General Assembly of 1918 and Moderator-General of the Church the Rev. John Walker, Minister of St. Andrew's Church, Ballarat, Victoria.

RONALD G. MACINTYRE,

Moderator.

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#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC QUESTIONS.

The Moderator has had the opportunity in all the States of conferring with representatives of our Church on matters of public interest in which the Church is concerned. These mostly relate to questions of moral interest arising out of or intensified by war conditions.

In all the States except Queensland there has been some measure of limitation of the hours for the sale of intoxicating liquor. In New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, and South Australia the hour of closing is 6 p.m.; in Tasmania and South Australia this is a permanent measure; in New South Wales and Victoria it is for the period of the war; in Western Australia the hour of closing is 9 p.m., except in the Goldfields district, where it is still 11 p.m.; Queensland stands alone in retaining the privilege of the publicans as in pre-war days, but the Commonwealth Government has, under the War Precautions Act, prohibited the sale of liquor to soldiers in Queensland after 6 p.m. This limitation in the various States has undoubtedly been of great advantage to the efficiency of our army, as well as for the benefit of the community as a whole. The Government has also forbidden any person to supply intoxicating liquor to undischarged convalescent soldiers, and this regulation, so necessary in itself, is heartily commended. There is another class, however, who receive weekly maintenance from the Repatriation Department, whose fitness for full work is retarded through drink, but it is difficult to frame any regulation applicable to such men, who are technically civilians. It is manifest that while the Government has been moving in the right direction something much more drastic is needed to meet the gravity of the situation, and it is not proper that civilians, many of whom ought to be fighting for their country, should have privileges, if they can be so called, which are denied to our soldiers. The fact is that national efficiency for the purposes of war, and, after war, for the recovery from its effects and future progress, demands that prohibition of intoxicating liquor be the policy of the nation. The liquor interest is unquestionably a strong one, both politically and financially,

and the recognition of this calls for united, persistent, and earnest effort in the cause of righteousness. Owing to the peculiarities of our Australian Constitution, national prohibition can only be accomplished, so far as the Commonwealth Government is concerned, under the War Precautions Act, and for the period of the war, and if we are to have a permanent measure for the whole Commonwealth there would need first to be an amendment of the Constitution. It is, however, within the special powers of the Commonwealth Government to pass such a regulation for the period of the war. In our opinion such a measure would meet with approval from the majority of the people, though we do not blind ourselves to the strength of the opposition. But if this is not meantime obtainable, we should certainly have at once an anti-shouting regulation applicable to every State, and to civilians as well as soldiers. The Moderator recently appeared before the Senate's Parliamentary Commission on this whole subject, and, while declaring that the policy the Church favoured was national prohibition, he urgently pressed for an immediate regulation prohibiting "shouting." He has continued to urge such a regulation upon the members of the Government, and there is good hope that this will very shortly be done.

Another matter which deeply concerned our Church was the approval given by the Government to the institution of lotteries in connection with war loans. The practice was objectionable in itself, and even more so in the encouragement thus given to every form of gambling. The Moderator at once made emphatic protest to the Prime Minister, and later followed this up with personal interviews. In this action he was strongly supported by State Moderators. The outcome is that the Acting-Prime Minister has intimated that no lotteries will be sanctioned in connection with the new war loan, and for this decision we are duly grateful. Interviews have also taken place with the Minister for Repatriation, and we are glad to say that he has absolutely forbidden the use of "Fortune" wheels and similar gambling devices in connection with patriotic funds. There is an unfortunate impression in the minds of very many in the community that any method of raising money is justifiable so long as the object is patriotic. We believe that the community will supply all money needed in connection with the war without this appeal to gambling instincts, and we rejoice in the attitude the Government has now taken up.

The subject of Repatriation has not so far come prominently before us, but we recognise that it is a matter of the highest public importance, and that the Church cannot fail to be interested in the wise and generous provision being made for our returned soldiers, so many of whom have gone forth from the midst of our own Church. It is right and proper that the members of our Church, each in their own localities, should interest themselves in caring for the men to whose self-sacrifice we all owe so much.

It must be recognised that the Commonwealth is up against a most difficult problem in the alarming prevalence of venereal diseases. The seriousness of the situation is widely acknowledged, but the best method of dealing with it, involving as it does medical and moral problems, is hard to come at. A comprehensive measure has recently been passed by the Parliament of Western Australia, and this is likely to be the basis of legislation in other States. Our Church in Western Australia gave valuable support to the Government in the legislation enacted, and the Acting-Premier of that State expressed to your Moderator his appreciation of the assistance afforded by our Church.

A proposal was made by the Commonwealth Government to introduce a Bill to legalise marriage by proxy for soldiers serving abroad. The proposed Bill was forwarded for the opinion of the Moderator, who consulted with representatives in New South Wales and in Victoria. It was our opinion that such legislation was, for a variety of reasons, undesirable, and we understand that the Anglican and Roman Churches came to a

similar conclusion. As, however, the Government decided not to proceed any further with the matter, the Moderator did not feel called to express any opinion on behalf of the Church.

RONALD G. MACINTYRE,

Convener.

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"BOOK OF COMMON ORDER."

Your Committee begs to report that since last Assembly a considerable amount of work has been overtaken towards the completion of the Book of Order. The Committee submits for the approval of the Assembly the following Orders:—The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, Baptism, Admission of Catechumens, Celebration of Marriage, Visitation of the Sick, Burial of the Dead, Burial of a Child. As these Orders are more or less in constant use, the Committee asks for authority to publish them in book form. This may be done on terms advantageous to the Church. Proposed Orders of Service for morning and evening worship are submitted for approval.

The Committee suggests that the title of the book be "Book of Common Order of the Presbyterian Church of Australia."

R. SCOTT WEST,

Convener.

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HOME MISSION DEPUTATIONS.

The Committee was appointed 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 different States.

Owing to present circumstances, it has not been found possible to accomplish very much in either of those directions. The Home Mission Committee of South Australia, through its Convener, approached your Committee about the numerous vacancies in that State. The Committee carefully considered the matter, and made inquiry, but was unable at the time to hear of reserves in other States that could be drawn on for South Australia's needs. Since then, however, communications have been opened with the New South Wales Church, and there is a prospect of the situation being relieved for the present by getting ministers for Clare and Murray Bridge.

The Home Mission Committee of Victoria has been approached regarding the release of one or more exit students for service in South Australia and Western Australia.

An offer was made to send a deputation to visit South Australia, but the State Home Missions Committee, after considering the matter, declined it.

The shortage of ministers and missionaries in all the States has precluded the possibility of the Committee's taking action to devise measures for the freer interchange of ministers between the different States.

ALEXANDER McCARLIE, Convener.

## COMMITTEE ANENT AN OFFICIAL ORGAN.

The question of creating an Australian Presbyterian Official Organ was raised in 1912, but owing to conditions that prevailed in regard to the then existing official organs in the various States, and especially owing to the outbreak of war, it has not been possible to take any steps to carry out the idea, though the matter has created a good deal of interest, and has received considerable attention.

The 1914 Assembly recognised the desirability of such an organ. It suggested that State Assemblies not bound by contracts which made action impossible should make a beginning by producing a monthly Australian "inset," to which additional pages of State news could be added as required. However, nothing has been done. But now that most of the States have a free hand with their own official organs, it is much more possible that a general co-operative effort would be successful. And as the official organs of Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria, and Queensland have adopted practically the same size and form which is adopted also by the "Witness" in New South Wales, the idea might be immediately put in force.

If the idea were approved by the Assembly, the bulk of the paper, which was all of Continental interest, would be produced in one central place. This would consist of articles that dealt with the great national, human, and religious interests, together with advertisements appropriate to the whole Commonwealth. It would be sent in bulk to the chosen printers in each State, where such additional pages as were necessary would be added. These would set out the news the chief value of which lay within the particular State, and the advertisements of local State interest. A summary of the State news could appear in the next issue of the Australian inset.

This method would have certain decided advantages in the way of economy and efficiency. As compared with the method followed by the Baptists of Australia, who have one paper for Australia, all printed in one place, it would enable news to be published with more freshness. As all local "proofs" would be corrected by men well acquainted with local conditions, there would be greater accuracy. It would seem also an advantage to the smaller branches of the Church by enabling them to have a larger and stronger paper than their own resources alone would make possible.

Such a favourable opportunity for action as the present offers may never occur again, and the Committee has asked that the general question shall be discussed early in the sessions of Assembly, so that if there shall be a likelihood of agreement questions of detail may be referred back to it for report to a future sederunt of Assembly.

On behalf of the Committee,

J. R. FIDDIAN.

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 THE YEAR BOOK.

The instructions of last Assembly have been carried out, and the Year Book made its appearance duly, a little larger each year. It has been received with gratifying appreciation. The method of assisting the finance by asking ministers who received copies to pay the small sum of sixpence, somewhat less than the bare cost of printing, was characterised by one who appreciates the Year Book very warmly as "humiliating," but he did not indicate the incidence of that unhappy quality, whether it lay on editor, recipient, Committee, or Assembly. However, acting on his suggestion, the books were placed with the booksellers as an experiment, so that the real worth of the Year Book to the Church might be better gauged. A very

modest sum was spent in advertising it. The proceeds of sales for this year have not yet been collected, as the demand keeps up till the new book comes in. The sales in Victoria have been better than last year, and when some settlements for advertisements are made, it is hoped to be able to refund the bulk of the £37 advanced by the treasurer.

It is desired to express appreciation of the deep interest taken in the Year Book and the work done for it by the late Rev. James Steele, who for several years collected the information about New South Wales with great care.

A financial statement appended shows the total cost of the last two issues.

On behalf of the Committee,

J. R. FIDDIAN, Convener.

#### Financial Statement.

Receipts.	
Balance . . . . .	£0 16 8
Sales—	
1917 . . . . .	19 0 10
1918 . . . . .	6 8 11
Advertisements—	
1917 . . . . .	14 11 0
1918 . . . . .	7 0 0
Victorian Theological Hall (2 years) . . . . .	10 0 0
Finance Board—	
1917 . . . . .	18 0 0
1918 . . . . .	27 9 0
A.I.M. Photo. Block . . . . .	0 4 6
	<hr/>
	£113 1 11
Expenditure.	
Printing, etc.—	
1917 . . . . .	£41 10 10
1918 . . . . .	49 11 4
Editor's Out-of-Pocket Expenses—	
1917 . . . . .	6 8 6
1918 . . . . .	3 11 2
Advertising . . . . .	0 15 0
Cash Remitted to Sydney, 1917 . . . . .	8 16 6
Cash in Hand . . . . .	2 8 7
	<hr/>
	£113 1 11

23rd August, 1918.

#### REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE, 1918.

The Committee herewith submits the audited Balance-sheets and Report.

The position in connection with the funds of the General Assembly has been a matter of considerable anxiety to your Committee from time to time, as the amounts which have hitherto been made available for the Assembly expenses, and for the travelling expenses of members, have not been adequate. This year, with the increased price of printing and paper, your Committee is somewhat at a loss to be able to estimate the out-

goings for the printing of the Blue Book and other papers, and it is to be hoped that the expenditure for these will be kept down to the lowest limit by making the reports as brief as possible.

The amount realised from the Hymnary Royalty Account seems to be a gradually diminishing quantity, and the amount which has been realised for the two years is only £137/11/4, which, after providing for the deficit in the Travelling Expenses Account for the last Assembly (£79/1/6), leaves only £78/6/4 now at credit, while the estimated expenditure for the travelling of members is about £250, leaving the difference between that sum and £78/6/4 to be provided otherwise.

In the General Assembly Expenses Fund the amount at credit is £282/19/1, with £25 outstanding, i.e., £12/10/- due by Western Australia and £12/10/- due by Tasmania. The expenditure in this account since last Assembly has been £591/4/11, including the amount for the Year Book for 1916 and 1917 (£55/17/6), and £100, which was transferred to Travelling Expenses Account by instruction of last Assembly. The assessment paid by the various States for the two years, including the assessment for the honorarium of the College Secretary and the arrears which were due at the time of last Assembly, has been £526, the total revenue with other items set forth in the account being £576/3/2, of which the sum of £14/7/10 was for Year Book sales and advertisements.

In terms of the instructions given by last Assembly, page 22. Minute 18, Clause 4, your Committee has resolved to recommend that the assessment be increased, the proportions per State to be as follows:—

Victoria . . . . .	£130	1	0
New South Wales . . . . .	130	1	0
Queensland . . . . .	38	5	0
South Australia . . . . .	21	5	0
Tasmania . . . . .	21	5	0
Western Australia . . . . .	21	5	0

making a total of £362/2/- per annum, which would produce a revenue of £724/4/- for the two years, and this your Committee believes would be sufficient to cover what is required. At the same time it would be much more satisfactory if by some means an adequate Capital Fund could be provided, the interest of which would permanently provide for the expenses of the Assembly. The present amount at credit in that Fund is the meagre sum of £34/17/8.

While your Committee cannot regard the Hymnary Royalty as a permanent source of revenue for travelling expenses, still they recommend the basis to be adopted by the General Assembly the same as formerly, namely:—That members attending the General Assembly in September, 1918, 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 transfer the amount necessary from the General Assembly Expenses Fund.

The accounts in the Home Mission Department, included in which is the working of the Australian Inland Mission, continue to provide an ever-increasing amount of labour, and the minutiae of detail in connection with this work has become very great, and is likely to become still more extensive. The total revenue evolved from all sources for the two years is £6639/17/10,

and the expenditure, including transfer to Reserve, is £6918/17/7, leaving a credit balance as at the 30th June last of £714/3/2, with a sum of £500 at credit of the Reserve Fund, which by direction of the Committee was transferred from Ordinary Revenue Account to Reserve. The sum in hand, even including the Reserve, is not by any means too great, having regard to the present and prospective liabilities in this Department. The credit in the account for mission work in the bush of Australia stands at £35, and your Committee recommends that this be transferred, as hitherto, to the credit of the Home Mission Account proper.

The investment of the £1000 held to the credit of the John Fraser Foreign Missions Endowment Fund stands as formerly, i.e., invested in New South Wales Government stock at 3¼ per cent. The interest is paid to the credit of the Board of Missions every half-year, and has been paid up to the 30th June, 1918.

A representation has been made by the Treasurership Committee of the New South Wales Church, who act as treasurers for your Assembly, to the effect that the amount allowed for the work done in the Home Mission Department is quite inadequate for the service rendered and the accommodation provided, and they have asked that a larger sum be allowed in this department, and having regard to the fact that a good room in the Church Offices is permanently occupied by the Rev. Mr. Flynn and the A.I.M. section, and also that a shorthand writer is put at Mr. Flynn's disposal whenever required, the sums paid are quite out of proportion, i.e., £68/16/9 for 1916-17 and £52/16/9 for 1917-18, being an average of only £60/16/9, which includes rent of room and salary of typiste. This sum, in the opinion of the treasurers of the New South Wales Church, would require to be put on a different basis, say a definite allowance for rent of room of £26 per annum; for the service of typiste, £39 per annum; and 2 per cent, on the revenue. This would mean a charge of about £125 per annum, which, in the opinion of your Committee, is not excessive, having regard to the service rendered. It may be well to state that a forecast was made of this possibility in the report of the Committee to the 1916 Assembly. The New South Wales Committee is quite prepared to accept the two per cent. as the basis of the charge to be made on all other revenue.

As an interesting item of finance, it may be mentioned that in the Home Mission section alone, while the payment for service rendered amounted only to £121/13/6, the interest allowed by the New South Wales Treasurers to the same department amounted to £86/11/10, so that the margin of outgoing as between expenditure and interest was only £35/1/8.

In connection with the Year Book the payments for the two years were £55/17/6, while the revenue sent to the Treasurers has been £14/7/10, leaving a shortage of £41/9/8. It is possible that there may be some revenue in the hands of the department which has not been remitted.

On behalf of the Committee,

WALTER G. CRANE,

Chairman.

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#### COLLEGE COMMITTEE.

The College Committee reports as under:—

At the request of the Commission of the State Assembly of Victoria, a consultation was held with the Victorian Theological Hall Committee in regard to the following recommendations of the Commission appointed to conduct the Quinquennial Visitation of the Hall:—

1. That the lectures of the regular course which each student is required to attend shall not exceed 15 hours per week.

2. That the session shall be lengthened to 26 teaching weeks, to be arranged in three terms, with suitable vacation between, and that in the third year the last term shall be shortened to allow three full weeks' preparation for the Exit Exam.

It was reported at the Conference that the Theological Hall Committee had already conferred with the Home Mission Committee, and that they had both agreed that some reduction of hours of attendance at lectures was desirable, but were not in agreement in regard to lengthening the session, the Home Mission Committee being opposed to this course.

The Conference resolved that the College Committee be requested to communicate with the Theological Halls of New South Wales and Queensland, with a view of obtaining an expression of opinion regarding both proposals. The College Committee complied with this request, and replies were received from the Faculties of St. Andrew's College, Sydney, and Emmanuel College, Brisbane. The Faculty of St. Andrew's College intimated that it wholly disapproved of the recommendations of the Visiting Commission of the Victorian Assembly; and the N.S.W. Theological Hall Committee forwarded an intimation, stating that it strongly disapproved of the recommendations. The reply of the Faculty of Emmanuel College with regard to one was that at present the lecture hours at Emmanuel College do not exceed 15 hours per week, and have never exceeded 16; and with regard to two that the Faculty had passed a resolution of disagreement with the proposal.

Matters remitted to the College Committee by the last General Assembly were duly considered. Sub-Committees were appointed to deal with the revision of the subjects of the Entrance and Exit Examinations, and the decision of the Committee in each case will be intimated to the Assembly in the Committee's Supplementary Report. It is desired to give still further consideration to the matter of affording facilities for specialisation in certain subjects, and the result in this case also will be embodied in the Supplementary Report. With regard to the proposal to add another term to each session, or to extend the course by one year, the College Committee is of opinion that while it is desirable to add another year to the course, it is not at present practicable to do so. In the matter of making special arrangements for Theological Hall and Home Mission students on their return from active service abroad, it was resolved to inform the Assembly that the Committee would deal with such students in a thoroughly sympathetic way.

An application, forwarded through the Home Mission Committee, State of New South Wales, was received from Mr. Alfred Sealey Hutchings to be admitted as a student of the first year under the Home Missionary Course of Training. The Committee resolved that in view of the applicant's age (50 years) the request be not complied with, unless approved by the General Assembly.

The various examinations under the control of the Committee were held on the appointed dates, and the syllabuses and pass lists appear in the Assembly's Year Books, 1917 and 1918. The following is a summary of the results:—

At the 1916 Exit Examination 13 passed (Ormond College 8, St. Andrew's College 4, Emmanuel College 1).

At the 1917 Exit Examination 18 passed (Ormond College 10, St. Andrew's College 6, Emmanuel College 1, Extra-Mural 1).

At the 1916 Entrance Examination 16 passed.

At the 1917 Entrance Examination 16 passed.

At the 1918 Entrance Examination 21 passed.



At the 1917 Home Mission Agents' Examination 37 passed.

At the 1918 Home Mission Agents' Examination 28 passed, and 6 have received a supplementary examination.

The number of Home Mission Agents admitted to the course of training since last Assembly is 33 (Victoria and Tasmania 16, New South Wales 10, Queensland 5, Western Australia 1, South Australia 1).

The following are the changes in the list of examiners since last Assembly:—

Exit Examination.—The Rev. H. S. Legge, M.A., in place of Rev. H. M. Burns, M.A., B.D. (resigned), Hebrew.

Entrance Examination.—The Rev. J. R. Blanchard, B.A., in place of Rev. W. Grant Forsyth, M.A. (resigned), Mental Philosophy.

Home Mission Agents' Examination.—The Rev. K. D. McDonald, B.A., takes the place of the Rev. W. Grant Forsyth, M.A. (resigned), English.

The Rev. H. G. Jones, M.A., has resigned the co-examinership of Scripture and Catechism at the Entrance Examination, and the lamented death of the Rev. J. Kemp Bruce, while acting as military chaplain abroad, has rendered vacant the co-examinership in Church History at the Exit Examination. Mr. Bruce acted as examiner in this subject with much efficiency for many years, and the Committee greatly deplores his loss.

The hearty thanks of the Assembly are due to the examiners for the able and conscientious way in which they have discharged their duties, and the College Committee specially desires to acknowledge the kindness of those examiners who acted for their colleagues during the absence of the latter on chaplaincy duty. Thanks are also due to the Rev. S. R. W. Richardson, M.A., B.D., who acted as examiner in Entrance Hebrew in the absence of both examiners at the Front.

The Committee expresses its deep sympathy with the parents of Theological Hall and Home Mission students who have suffered in consequence of the Great War, and commends them to the loving care of the Great Healer.

JOHN MATHEW, Convener.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF COLLEGE COMMITTEE.

With respect to the Entrance Examination, the Committee recommend that Home Mission students who have completed the Course of Training, and passed all its examinations, be examined only in Hebrew or English Literature, Greek, English, and Mental Philosophy, that the minimum for a pass in English and Greek be 50 per cent., and that in English History the work be spread over four years and confined to Chaps. v. to viii. (Green's Shorter History of the English People).

As regards the Exit Examination, no change in the subjects is recommended at present, except that the subject of Comparative Religion be made an alternative to Apologetics, but the Committee has resolved that at least one-half of each draft examination paper be composed of questions submitted by the professors or lecturers.

The Committee has decided that at the March-April Entrance Examination candidates must apply for special leave from the College Committee before they are permitted to present themselves for examination.

The General Assembly is recommended to approve the co-operation of

the proposed Joint Theological Faculty in St. Andrew's College, Sydney, for a period of five years.

As regards the question of specialisation of study referred to the Committee again by last Assembly, the Committee are of opinion that, if feasible, it would be an advantage for all students to take the same course for two years, and that an option of subjects be allowed in the third year, such as has been recommended above (viz., Comparative Religion optional as an alternative to Apologetics).

The following have passed the Exit Examination:—

*Emmanuel College.*—James Allan, (without Hebrew language).

*Ormond College.*—E. C. Day, B.A., 2nd Class Honours; A. R. Urean (without Hebrew language), S. C. Hadley, J. Armour, S. A. Eastman, W. G. Fitzgerald, G. D. Phillips, J. A. Souter, P. Schussler; and the following, subject to their passing a Supplementary Examination in Hebrew:—H. J. Saw, J. M. Taylor.

*St. Andrew's College.*—C. N. Button, M.A., G. Nesbitt (without Hebrew language), A. J. Barrett.

D. McDiarmid has successfully completed his Course of Study under the College Committee, and F. W. Hewlett sat for examination in five subjects, and obtained an average of 75 per cent.

JOHN MATHEW,

Convener.

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#### REPORT OF COLLEGE COMMITTEE ON OVERTURE ANENT HOME MISSIONARIES' COURSE OF STUDIES.

The College Committee recommend in respect of—

(1) That henceforth married men be not received into the H.M. course of training.

(2) That the maximum age of admission be 35 years.

(3) That H.M. students who have completed their fourth year be examined at the Entrance Examination in Hebrew or English Literature, Greek, English and Mental Philosophy, and that the Home Mission Examination of the fourth year in Bible and Catechism be the entrance examination in this subject.

(4) That sub-committees of the College Committee be appointed to confer with the Home Mission Committees of the several States with regard to Home Missionaries, who have not yet proceeded with the course of training, and report to the Executive.

(5) That inasmuch as the General Assembly, in the Basis of Union with other Churches, has endorsed the view that the standard of University Matriculation should be reached by all candidates contemplating entering the Hall through the H.M. course, that course be adjusted so as to secure this desirable object, and that in the meantime Home Mission students be urged to qualify themselves for matriculation by two years' study.

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#### WELFARE OF YOUTH REPORT.

It is now six years since the General Assembly instructed the Welfare of Youth Committee to confer with State Committees, with a view to the

preparation of a scheme of graded lessons that might be used throughout the Commonwealth. Your Committee has to report with regret that in this matter finality has not yet been reached. Some progress, however, has been made.

The report submitted to the Assembly in 1916 showed that the graded principle had been accepted in all the States, but that there was no unanimity as to the scheme of lessons recommended. Three of the States—Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia—favoured the course published jointly by the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches in Victoria, and two States—West Australia and New South Wales—preferred the American Westminster Scheme.

Immediately after last Assembly an informal conference of representatives of the Welfare of Youth Committees of the various States (Queensland accepted) was held in Sydney, when the question of an Australasian scheme of graded lessons was considered. It was agreed to convene a representative meeting in Melbourne in September, 1917, to consider the whole question, and in order that business complications might not arise it was further recommended that State Committees should not enter into financial engagements concerning lesson schemes extending beyond September, 1919. It was found impracticable to carry out the first part of the resolution, but your Committee has kept in touch with State Conveners as far as possible. The recommendation re business engagements has been observed by all the Committees represented.

The present situation, so far as the lessons sanctioned by the various State Assemblies are concerned, may be summarised as follows:—

1. Queensland (State Committee's Report, 1918).—"Three years ago Assembly decided, after careful consideration, to recommend our schools to adopt the new Australasian series of graded lessons. The wisdom of this step was warmly debated both in and outside the Assembly. Events have proved that the right course was then taken. A few schools, conservative and sceptical, declined to follow the Assembly lead. They have now, however, fallen into line."

2. New South Wales (State Committee's Report, 1918).—"The elaborate Westminster course was tried with success in a few schools, but it is generally felt that a simpler scheme must be evolved to meet the needs of the average congregation. The departmental method, with right regard to selection and presentation of lessons for different ages, is now winning favour, and a definite recommendation will be made after further consideration. In obedience to the Assembly's decision, your Council in the meantime adopted the British lessons, which have given general satisfaction, though certain difficulties will always remain during the war in obtaining lesson helps from outside Australia." Resolution of N.S.W. General Assembly, May, 1918.—"That the Assembly authorise the Council to continue negotiations with a view to the adoption of the Australasian scheme of lessons, provided proper representation be secured on Interstate Council controlling this scheme."

3. Victoria and Tasmania.—Under an arrangement between the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches, a joint board has been constituted for the publication of an Australasian scheme of lessons. Reference is made to the functions of this Board below. This scheme is the basis of the examinations held in connection with the Allan Bequest, and the lessons are used by the great majority of the schools under the Assembly's jurisdiction.

4. South Australia (State Committee's Report, 1918).—"The Australian graded lessons are in vogue in practically all our schools, and are giving every satisfaction."

5. West Australia.—The General Assembly of May, 1918, approved of the constitution of the West Australian Sunday School Council, which is to be representative of the Churches, and to take the place of the existing

S.S. Union. The Assembly made the proviso that the scheme of lessons be laid upon the table each year. It is stated in the report that the proposal is to accept the British standard graded lessons.

6. New Zealand (included for purposes of reference).—Statement of Convener of Sabbath Schools Committee, August, 1918:—"In November, 1916, the General Assembly decided 'that the Australasian Graded Lesson Course be adopted for use in all our schools after 1917.' We trust that we will be able to report to the Assembly in November that the bulk of our schools, in loyalty to its carefully considered decision, have adopted the Australasian Graded Lessons for future use."

The situation, may, therefore, be summarised as follows:—Queensland, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia, and New Zealand have adopted the present Australasian Graded Lessons, and find them satisfactory. New South Wales is continuing negotiations, with a view to adopting the Australasian scheme. It, therefore, appears reasonable to expect that before the Assembly of 1920 all the General Assemblies in Australia and New Zealand, with the possible exception of West Australia, will have adopted the Australasian Graded Scheme. This is a fact in the development of young people's work in this Commonwealth of the greatest significance.

#### The Australasian Graded Lessons.

In order that the Assembly may understand the position it is desirable that the main facts concerning the ownership and control of these lessons should be clearly set out. The lessons are at present the property of the General Assembly and the Methodist Conference of Victoria. Under the existing agreement they are controlled until 1st October, 1919, by a joint Board representing the Youth Department of each Church. The lessons are chosen by an Interstate Council representing all the Churches in Australia and New Zealand which have adopted the lessons. The joint Board accepts the recommendations of this Council. The present business arrangement must, obviously, stand until October, 1919. The policy of the Board, however, is to recommend that as soon as practicable Presbyterian Assemblies and Methodist Conferences agreeing to accept the scheme should come into it on the basis of a joint proprietary and controlling interest. The joint Board regards itself as a trustee, in no narrow sense, for the youth work of the Churches it represents, and has no desire to create another trade monopoly. The existing agreement ends on 1st October, 1919, and rearrangements are at present not difficult of achievement. It should be pointed out, however, that a valuable vested interest is likely to be created, and that readjustments may be more difficult in the future.

The extent to which this Lesson Scheme has developed under the control of the joint Board may be judged from the following official statement of circulation supplied in August, 1918:—"The Graded Teacher," 15,800; "The Scholar," 52,500; leaflets (packets of 15), 1,490. Of these totals Presbyterian schools took 7,400 "Teachers" and 30,000 "Scholars," and Methodist schools 8,400 "Teachers" and 23,000 "Scholars." For the senior grade a special text-book is used, 11,500 being sold this year. "The Front Line," a magazine for Bible classes, has a monthly circulation of 2,150.

In view of the situation disclosed by the State Assembly reports, it is evident that this scheme has already had a wide and favourable reception throughout the Commonwealth. As, in addition, it is under the control of the Churches, it is easily capable of readjustments to meet local needs. In view of these facts, it is recommended that the Assembly's Committee be instructed to continue negotiations with State Committees, with the object of making this scheme the basis of an Australasian Graded Lesson Course, acceptable to all parties concerned.

### Statistics.

The difficulty of securing complete and reliable statistics continues, and the form of the schedule of statistics varies in different States. In consequence it is practically impossible to obtain a Commonwealth view of the situation or to estimate with any confidence the actual condition of different sections of our youth work. It is recommended that your Committee be authorised to communicate with State Conveners as to the possibility of securing greater accuracy and uniformity in the statistics collected. A comparison between the General Assembly's Year Book of 1916 and State Year Books of 1918 reveals the following facts:—

Queensland reports:—162 schools, 1232 teachers, 9898 scholars, 226 Bible Class members. The corresponding figures for 1915 were:—187 schools, 1290 teachers, 9980 scholars, 249 Bible Class members.

New South Wales reports 363 schools, 2525 teachers, 23,455 scholars. The corresponding figures for 1915 were 351 schools, 2368 teachers, 21,222 scholars.

Victoria is at present endeavouring to secure accurate returns from all its schools. So far as returns have come to hand, they show a slight increase in the number of scholars and teachers.

South Australia reports 42 schools, 313 teachers, and 2359 scholars. The figures for 1913 were 41 schools, 313 teachers, and 2288 scholars.

West Australia, with incomplete returns, reports 38 schools, 345 teachers, and 3209 scholars. The figures for 1915 were 43 schools, 360 teachers, and 3132 scholars.

So far as it is possible to compare the above statistics, they give no cause for self-congratulation; on the contrary, they seem to indicate that at best our work amongst the young is doing no more than hold its own. It is obvious that there is urgent need for a much more aggressive effort on the part of the Church as a whole than has hitherto been made.

### The Problem of the Adolescent.

Especially is the weakness apparent in the higher grades of our young people's work. The problem of Australia is the problem of its adolescents, and it is painfully apparent that under present conditions the Church has no effective hold upon this class. There is need here for a thorough inquiry as to the causes that have led to the practical breakdown of our S.S. system, so far as the adolescent life of the Commonwealth is concerned. The present situation is fraught with moral and spiritual dangers that threaten the highest national interests of our people. There is a clamant need that the Church should inquire into and revise its methods, and that the whole subject should be approached from a Commonwealth point of view. At present there is little more than a State outlook upon these vast problems.

### The Primary Department.

In one direction there has been evident progress in most States. The well-established principles of kindergarten work have been given effect to in the lower grades of many of our schools, with most encouraging results. A new enthusiasm has been kindled amongst many teachers, and it has been abundantly proved that a well-conducted primary department is not only a splendid recruiting agency for a school, but is also the best foundation upon which all subsequent effort to win and train the child can be built.

### Teacher Training.

So far as any general scheme of teacher-training is concerned, it is

evident that we are still in the initial stages, and that until agreement has been reached in the matter of an Australian Lesson Course for the scholars concerted action in reference to teacher training is not to be expected. The problem is one, however, that increases in urgency every year.

#### General.

The Assembly's Welfare of Youth Committee is at present able to do little more than report the findings of the various State Committees. These Committees, under existing circumstances, are united to each other by the slenderest of ties, and they pursue in consequence quite independent policies. It appears to your Committee that unless there is a radical change of outlook in this respect we shall perpetuate in our church life some of the manifest defects of our political organism. In the most important sphere of religious education we shall be confronted at every point with a "break in the gauge."

It is obviously of the greatest importance that agreement should be sought first of all in the matter of the graded lessons. Upon the basis of such an agreement a united and progressive policy could be adopted for the whole Church, and it would not be impossible, in a few years, to create and finance a Publications Department of the General Assembly, through which the greatest practical assistance could be given to State Departments. In particular, the weaker States could be helped in the development of their work. This is surely a consummation devoutly to be wished. In these days Australia is being born into a new consciousness of nationhood, and here as elsewhere the Church should lead the way in the effort to substitute a larger ideal for the various provincialisms of the past.

JOHN MACKENZIE,

Convener.

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#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE RECEPTION OF MINISTERS.

The Committee recommends that the prayer of the petitions of the Rev. John J. Hastie, Rev. Hugh Paton, Rev. Victor C. Bell, and Mr. C. J. Graham be granted.

That the prayer of the petition of the Rev. F. W. Hewlett be granted on his completion of the course undertaken in 1917, viz.:—(a) The second and third year in the Theological Hall, omitting Hebrew, Pastoral Theology and English Bible; (b) passing the Exit Exam. in all subjects except English Bible and Hebrew, substituting for the latter the Old Testament subjects in the Home Mission course, and with the further recommendation that Mr. Hewlett's work already done in connection with the Church be regarded on the fulfilment of his year of probation.

That the prayer of the petition of Mr. T. P. Luke be granted, provided he agrees to serve the Church in South Australia for seven years.

That the prayer of the petition of Mr. A. H. Ballinger be granted, and that his time of service in the Church be counted for his year of probation.

That the prayer of the petition of the Rev. Henry C. Childs be granted, on condition that he attend one year in the Theological Hall, and pass the Exit Exam. in all subjects.

That the prayer of the petitions of the following be not granted:—  
 Rev. Robert Hitch, Rev. S. A. Faulkner, Rev. John Joseph Willings,  
 Rev. J. Graham Hughes, Rev. Ernest Hope Hume, Rev. John Thomas,  
 Rev. W. R. Elvery, Messrs. E. J. Thrum, F. Lyall Hume, J. A. Irvine,  
 P. E. Wylde, and A. Richardson.

ALEX. MCKINLAY,  
 Convener.

PETITIONS TO BE RECEIVED.

(1)

REV. JOHN J. HASTIE.

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

The Petition of the undersigned humbly showeth:—

1. That he was born in 1862 in Ayr, Ontario, Canada, and is a subject  
 of the British Empire.

2. That he holds a diploma from Knox College, Toronto, showing that  
 he completed in April, 1901, the prescribed course of study for the Pres-  
 byterian Ministry. (Diploma shown to Presbytery.)

3. That he has held two pastorates, viz., Belgrave, Ontario (Presby-  
 tery Maitland), and Ladner, British Columbia (Presbytery Westminster),  
 the former from 1901-1908, the latter from 1909-1917. In the intervening  
 months he was assistant to Rev. R. G. Macintyre, D.D., then minister of  
 Woollahra, Sydney, N.S.W.

4. That he was accepted by the Committee then, but withdrew, return-  
 ing to Canada owing to personal matters, and now climatic conditions have  
 determined his return to Australia.

5. That he now desires to be received as a minister of the Presbyterian  
 Church of Australia, and has been in charge of St. George's Church, Gee-  
 long, since 8th June, 1917, as locum tenens (testimonial enclosed). He  
 therefore petitions to be received.

Your petitioner humbly prays your Venerable Assembly to take these  
 premises into consideration, and to grant his request.

And he, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JOHN J. HASTIE.

Geelong, 1st May, 1918.

The Geelong Presbytery.

At the meeting of Geelong Presbytery to-day, a Petition from the Rev.  
 J. J. Hastie for admission as a minister of the Presbyterian Church of  
 Australia was submitted.

It was agreed that the Petition be transmitted, with the recommendation  
 that its prayer be granted.

W. H. ASH, Presbytery Clerk.

Documents accompanying:—

1. Certificate of Clerk of Westminster Presbytery, Canada.
2. Certificates from St. George's Church, Geelong.

(2)

REV. ROBERT HITCH.

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

The Petition of the undersigned respectfully showeth that he was  
 born in England, is 56 years of age, and is not married. He was on the  
 staff of the London Evangelisation Society for a short time. He studied at

Harley College for two years and at Cheshunt College for two more years, when he was head of the list in the Hebrew examination. On leaving Cheshunt College he received an honours certificate for distinguishing himself in Hebrew, Exegesis of New Testament, in Theology, Ecclesiastical History, and Homiletics.

He then went to Edinburgh for one year to get some knowledge of Medicine and Surgery, and was ordained to the Christian Ministry in 1889 as a missionary of the London Missionary Society to Madagascar.

In 1894 he sat again for the examination of the *Senatus Academicus*, and passed in the second division for the Diploma of A.T.S.

He lectured on Christian Evidence for the London Christian Evidence Society for a period of seven years.

He came out to New Zealand in 1912, and joined the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand. His reason for doing this was: He was told the Presbyterian Church was needing men, and also there was ample scope for work in the Presbyterian Church, and your Petitioner has always had a leaning towards the Presbyterian Church, knowing that the organisation for work and support was very much more complete than in the Congregational.

He accepted work under the Rev. A. C. Wedderspoon at the Presbyterian Church, Tauranga, and then supplied in and around Auckland. He took up church extension work at Dargaville, North Auckland, for over two years, and was succeeded there by the Rev. W. J. Yarnall, as in a fully sanctioned charge.

He was then appointed to a new charge in Hawkes Bay District, and then to Gonville, Wanganui.

He begs to state that he accepts the rules of the Westminster Confession as to Christian Doctrine, and that he was made an elder of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand at Gonville in 1916. He made application for the status of Minister to that Church, but was not accepted. He was not informed why, only that his age was against him.

Your Petitioner wishes frankly to say that he is not expecting anything from the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. He has some private means of his own. But he feels he has another ten years or more of useful work before him, and he prays for the opportunity and honour of doing that divine and gracious work as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

He came to Australia last October, and after preaching at Rockdale, Bexley, and Waratah, he took up the work at the last place as *locum tenens* for the Rev. W. J. Gray, B.A., now on chaplaincy duty at the front, from 1st December to date.

Your Petitioner now humbly 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.

ROBERT HITCH.

P.S.—I enclose originals and copies:—

Certificate of Honour from Cheshunt College.

Ordination Certificate.

Certificate of *Senatus Academicus* of the Associated Colleges, British and Colonial.

Letter from the Chairman and Foreign Secretary of the London Missionary Society.

Letter from Session of Presbyterian Church, Tauranga, N.Z.

Letter from Church Te Puke, N.Z.

Letter from Ministers' Association, Wanganui, N.Z.

Letter from Rev. Isaac Jolly, Auckland, N.Z.

Letter from Session Clerk, Waratah, N.S.W.



## Extract Minute of the Presbytery of the Hunter.

This is to certify, in the name and by the authority of the Presbytery of the Hunter, that on the 11th June, 1918, the Presbytery resolved that the Petition of the Rev. Robert Hitch, A.T.S., to be received as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, be transmitted to the General Assembly of Australia simpliciter.

Certified this 18th day of June, 1918, by me,

ALEXANDER FRASER,

Clerk of the Presbytery of the Hunter.

(3)

REV. S. A. FAULKNER.

*no*

Petition to be Received as a Presbyterian Minister.

The Clerk of the Sydney Presbytery in the State of New South Wales.

Dear Sir,—

This Petition is from the Rev. Sydney Archibald Faulkner, of McLaren Vale and Semaphore (South Australia) and Orange (N.S.W.). You are aware that I am at present working under direction from the Pulpit Supply Committee, and am in charge of the church at Rozelle, as locum tenens for the Minister of the Church, Rev. T. McVittic, M.A., who is away on chaplaincy duty at the seat of war.

1. It is my Petition and desire to be received into the Presbyterian Ministry upon the following grounds:—

- (a) I am convinced that there is a greater scope for usefulness in the Lord's service in the Presbyterian Church;
- (b) And of the superior gubernative polity of the Presbyterian Church;
- (c) That I was ordained in 1910 into the Ministry of the Congregational Church, that Church being, of course, Protestant and Evangelical and non-Episcopal.

2. I have been actively engaged for 20 years past in various branches of Christian service, in Sabbath School, Christian Endeavour, Lay Preaching, etc., and for the last ten years have been in the active work of the Ministry, having had charges at McLaren Vale, Port Noarlunga, Towitta, and Semaphore (South Australia), and at Orange (New South Wales).

3. I was educated at the Marrickville Superior Public School, and after gaining the Qualifying Certificate I learned shorthand and typewriting (the practice of which I have kept up), together with several years of business training in a Sydney warehouse.

Later I attended studies under Rev. J. G. Middleton in Theology and Homiletics, and was licensed as a Lay Preacher in 1903.

For 20 years I was mainly under the excellent Ministry of Dr. Roseby, at Marrickville, and was called to South Australia in 1907.

I enclose Ordination Certificate from the Adelaide Congregational College.

My studies have been in the following books:—

English Bible.—O.T.: Genesis to Psalms.

N.T.: Matthew to Timothy.

(Inclusive, A.V. and R.V. compared, with Notes and Variable Readings.)

Theology.—W. Newton Clarke, D.D.

A. A. Hodge.

- R. W. Dale—The Atonement; Living Christ and the Four Gospels.  
 Campbell Morgan—The Spirit of God.  
 Kennedy—Christian Evidences.  
 Pearson—Many Infallible Proofs.  
 History.—I. Burns—History of the Church of Christ.  
 Farrar—Early Days of Christianity.  
 B. Scott—The Catacombs at Rome.  
 Biography.—Stalker—Life of Christ.  
 Farrar—Life of Christ.  
 Stalker—Life of St. Paul.  
 Ramsay—St. Paul, the Traveller and Roman Citizen.  
 Gordon—Quiet Talks About Jesus.

I may mention I have read in the following Presbyterian manuals:—

- Westminster Confession of Faith.  
 "Presbyterianism" (Prof. Adam, M.A., D.D.).  
 The Shorter Catechism, with Notes (Dr. Burgess).

My work has been, in addition to preaching and pastoral labours, to found three separate Missions at Port Noarlunga, Coomandook, and Peterhead, in South Australia, with Sabbath Schools in each of these places, and I had the pleasure of building a stone Church at the Port Noarlunga Mission, which is a live Church to-day.

It has also been my joy to add many new members to the Churches, and in things temporal Church buildings are now better lighted, and trees have been planted, etc. (But enough of this.)

As to my three months' work at Rozelle, that is, of course, for others to say, though I may say that things are lifting somewhat, and there were 68 communicants at the Lord's Table on Sabbath morning last, with five additions to the roll of communicants.

I enclose a series of testimonials from those who have known me for years past.

My age is 38. I am married, and have two boys. My health is good. I shall feel freer to push on in the work of the Presbyterian Denomination as soon as this Petition shall be granted.

Yours sincerely,

SYDNEY A. FAULKNER.

Documents:—

1. Certificate of Ordination.
2. Reference from the Rev. Dr. Roseby.
3. Reference from the Rev. Arthur Castleman, M.A.
4. Reference from the Rev. Percival Watson.
5. Reference from Mr. J. C. Kirby.
6. Reference from the Session of St. Paul's, Rozelle.

Presbytery of Sydney.

Anent the Petition of the Rev. S. A. Faulkner.

This is to certify in the name and by the authority of the Presbytery of Sydney that on the 11th September, 1917, the Presbytery resolved that the petition of the Rev. S. A. Faulkner to be received into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church be forwarded to the General Assembly, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be not granted.

Certified this 21st day of June, 1918, by me,

JOHN EDWARDS.

Clerk of the Presbytery of Sydney.

(4)

REV. F. W. HEWLETT.

*Yes and  
2 years in the Hall &  
para 10.*

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

The Petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth:—

1. That he is thirty-two (32) years of age, being born in Wollongong, in which town he attended the public school till about the age of sixteen (16) years. From there he went into commercial life, serving there approximately six (6) years.

2. Being unable to turn a deaf ear to the call of the Christian Ministry, he spent a few months with the Congregational Union of New South Wales as a Home Missionary, after which he entered the Congregational Union of Queensland, and served that denomination as a "Student Pastor" in the Ipswich District, Kent-street (Brisbane) Church, and Moorooka (Brisbane) District for a period of over five (5) years.

3. During the last-mentioned period he was a student of the Congregational College of Queensland, as shown by the enclosed certificate.

4. Having completed the College course, he was ordained to the Christian Ministry in the year 1912, and since served the before-mentioned Union in the churches at Maryborough and Southport, having resigned the latter charge on 30th September of this year.

5. That he is a married man with one child.

6. That he is enclosing a copy of a "Certificate of Status," received from "The Congregational Church of Queensland."

7. That he now petitions your Venerable Court to admit him to the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

FREDERICK WILLIAM HEWLETT.

10th November, 1916.

Documents:—

1. Copy of certificate of status from the Congregational Union of Queensland.
2. Reference from the Rev. M. Kirkpatrick.
3. List of some books studied by Mr. Hewlett before becoming a Congregational Minister.
4. List of names for personal reference.

Presbytery of Sydney.

Re Rev. F. W. Hewlett.

This is to certify, in the name and by the authority of the Presbytery of Sydney to the Committee on Reception of Ministers, that on the 9th July, 1918, the Presbytery resolved that the petition of the Rev. F. W. Hewlett to be received into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church be transmitted to the General Assembly with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted on Mr. Hewlett's completion of the course undertaken in 1917, viz.:—(a) The second and third year in the Theological Hall, omitting Hebrew, Pastoral Theology and English Bible; (b) passing the Exit Exam. in all subjects except English Bible and Hebrew Language, substituting for the latter the Old Testament subjects in the Home Mission course, and with the further recommendation that Mr. Hewlett's work already done in connection with our Church be regarded as the fulfilment of his year of probation.

Certified this 13th day of July, 1918, by me,

JOHN EDWARDS,

Clerk of the Presbytery of Sydney.

## REV. VICTOR C. BELL.

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

The Petition of the undersigned, Victor Clarence Bell, late Methodist Minister, of William-street, Sydney, humbly sheweth:—

1. That he is 39 years of age, a married man, with one daughter, who is two years of age.

2. That he has been connected with the Methodist Church for eighteen years, as the accompanying document will indicate, two of which were spent in Home Mission work, two in the Theological Institution, and fourteen as a Minister of the Church. From his childhood upwards he received a Christian training, and in the course of time regularly attended the Sabbath School and the Church services, ultimately becoming a teacher in the former, and a lay preacher of twelve months' standing before entering the Home Mission work.

3. That, after receiving the regular public school training, he was engaged in business with his father until the age of 20 years, when he became a Home Missionary. During this period he studied for and passed the entrance examination to the Theological College at Sydney, taking the New South Wales junior standard in arithmetic, history, etc., and the course of theology set by the Church. At the Theological College he was instructed in Hebrew, Greek, Homiletics, Theology, Exegesis, Christian Evidences and Elocution. He preached about every second Sunday in and around Sydney, and had to submit written and preached sermons for criticism to duly appointed judges.

During his probationary course of study, after leaving the College, he sat for three examinations, which included the following subjects:—

First Year.—Through Christ to God, J. A. Bett, D.D.; Samuel I. and II., O.T., Cambridge Bible; Mark, N.T., Cambridge Bible; Church History (Part), Fisher; Wesley's Sermons (53).

Second Year.—Exempt on account of overwork on the Tweed River.

Third Year.—Theology, Vol. II., Pope's Compendium; Hebrew, Portions of Isaiah, Texts and Notes; Greek, St. James, Mayor; Biblical Introduction, O.T., Bennett and Adeney; Christian Ethics (First half), Newman Smythe; Homiletics (First half), Shedd.

Fourth Year.—Theology, Vol. III., Pope's Compendium; Hebrew, Selected Psalms, with Notes; Greek, Epistles of St. John, Westcott; Biblical Introduction, N.T., Bennett and Adeney; Christian Ethics (Second half), Smythe; Homiletics (Second half), Shedd.

The applicant took his first year of probation at Mudgee before entering College, and hence the Old and New Testament subjects were taken in the English text. He has passed the London matriculation standard, and is now finishing the Arts course at the Sydney University.

4. That his resignation from the Methodist Church was purely voluntary, mainly owing to his dislike of the itinerant system. His moral character was examined in the presence of each Synod of which he was a member, and during the 18 years of his service there was no fault found with his character or his work. At the time of his resignation he was a lecturer in Biblical Introduction and English at the Evangelists' Institute, a member of the N.S.W. Conference Examining Committee, the Foreign Mission, the Christian Endeavour and Sunday School Committees respectively. He forwards herewith a letter of recommendation from the President of the Conference, under whose rule his resignation was received, together with others.

5. That he has laboured in Lockhart, Mudgee, Murwillumbah, Camden, Lindfield, Quirindi, and William-street, Sydney. He has spent one year in London, where he was a member of the Brotherhood of Whitefields, under the late Rev. Sylvester Horne, M.A., M.P., and had many opportunities of hearing the leading preachers of the English pulpits.

6. That he has read the Westminster Confession of Faith, and in the light of the Declaratory Statement he can accept it. He believes the Scriptures to be the supreme rule of faith.

7. That he now petitions your Venerable Court to accept him into the Presbyterian Ministry, fully realising the importance of the step he is taking, and resolved to devote his life to the Presbyterian Church should his petition be granted.

And your petitioner will ever pray,

VICTOR CLARENCE BELL.

Documents:—

Letters commendatory from Revs. J. W. Holden, H. C. Foreman, Geo. Laverty, P. J. Stephens, Will A. S. Andersen, and John Ferguson.

The North Sydney Presbytery.

It is hereby certified that, at a meeting of the above Presbytery, held on the 25th inst., and duly constituted, it was resolved:—

“That, having examined the Petition of Rev. Victor C. Bell, and commendatory documents relative thereto, the Presbytery orders that they be forwarded to the Committee on the Reception of Ministers, with a favourable recommendation.”

—Extracted from minutes of Presbytery this 26th day of September, 1917, by me,

J. J. GILMORE, Presbytery Clerk.

(6)

REV. JOHN JOSEPH WILLINGS.

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

The Petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth:—

I hereby make application to be permitted to enter the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, believing, as I do, that I can better and more effectively serve my Lord and Master in the larger communion than it is now possible for me to do in the Congregational Union,

Moreover, anticipating that organic union of the two denominations which must sooner or later be brought into effect, I earnestly appeal to the Venerable the General Assembly to permit me at this early stage of the negotiations to enter upon service as a minister of the Presbyterian body, and to consider my long, strenuous, and unblemished record as entitling me to their thoughtful and prayerful consideration.

I was born in London on 8th April, 1874, and am now 44 years of age. I was educated at an English Public School, after which I received a brief commercial training. I was brought up in the Congregational denomination, receiving my earliest religious impressions in a Congregational Church and Sabbath School. I had the inestimable privilege and advantage of a Christian home and Godly parentage. At the age of 21, and after a brief period of special training, I became a parish missionary,

and laboured in East Greenwich, London, for two years. At the end of my engagement I sailed for Queensland, arriving in that State on 6th May, 1897. For two years I was engaged in evangelistic work in and around the city of Brisbane, subsequently accepting the task of reopening a church at Gympie, under the direction of the Queensland Congregational Union. Whilst doing this work I studied and passed the "Extra-Mural Course," and was ordained to the full ministry, after three years of study, on 2nd December, 1902.

I have since held charges at Gympie, Gatton, and Brisbane in Queensland, and Manly and Newtown in New South Wales. I am now in temporary charge of the Presbyterian Churches of Cootamundra and district, pending the return of the minister of the charge from the front.

I have held a number of official positions, amongst them being the Home Mission secretaryship of the Queensland Congregational Union, and the secretaryship of the Evangelical Council of New South Wales.

My full ministerial service as a Congregational pastor extends without a break over a period of 19 years. My last charge at Newtown is the second largest church of the Congregational Order in New South Wales.

Your petitioner therefore prays your Venerable Court to receive him as a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

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

JOHN JOSEPH WILLINGS.

8th July, 1918.

Presbytery of Sydney.

Re Rev. John Joseph Willings.

This is to certify, in the name and by the authority of the Presbytery of Sydney, to the Committee on the Reception of Ministers, that, on the 9th July, 1918, the Presbytery resolved to transmit the petition of the Rev. John Joseph Willings to the General Assembly, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted.

Certified this 12th day of July, 1918, by me,

JOHN EDWARDS,

Clerk of the Presbytery of Sydney.

Documents:—

Certificate of Ordination from Congregational Union Queensland.

Letters of commendation from Revs. N. J. Cocks, J. Henwood Toms, A. J. Griffith, W. R. S. Anderson, J. Macaulay, A. Sims, D. Galloway, Hugh Paton, G. Tulloch.

(7)

REV. J. GRAHAM HUGHES.

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

The Petition of the undersigned, being a minister of the Baptist Church, respectfully sheweth:—

1. That the petitioner was born at Auckland, New Zealand, on 7th August, 1876. That he has been twice married, his former wife having died in America, leaving four children, who are with their grandparents in America. By his present wife he has no children.

2. That he began his studies for the ministry under the private tuition of Rev. J. F. Jones, B.D., of Auckland, New Zealand. He proceeded to

London in 1899, and there pursued his studies in the Evening Sessions of the Pastors' College (Spurgeon's College).

3. That, during his two years' residence in London, he supplied churches and missions in and around London, under the auspices of the Metropolitan Tabernacle Evangelists' Association.

4. That he assumed charge of the Baptist Church at Kelso, Scotland, in 1901, under the appointment of the Pioneer Mission Board of the Baptist Union of Great Britain.

5. That, feeling his need of further training for the ministry, he proceeded to America, and entered the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Kentucky, in the fall of 1902. At the end of his second year in the Seminary he obtained the degree of Bachelor in Theology, with the title Th.B. At the end of his third year he completed the full course, graduating with the degree of Master in Theology, with the title Th.M.

6. That he was examined by a Presbytery, and ordained to the full work of the Gospel Ministry by prayer and the laying on of hands in Louisville, Kentucky. Among those officiating were the late Rev. J. N. Prestridge, D.D., editor of the "Baptist World," and Rev. George B. Eager, D.D., Professor of Pastoral Theology in the Louisville Seminary.

7. That, after a year's pastoral work at the First Baptist Church of Laurel, Maryland, he returned to the Theological Seminary at Louisville, and took a year's post-graduate studies, obtaining the degree of Doctor in Theology, with the title Th.D. In this course he took Practical Theology as his major study, and Graduate Homiletics and Sociology as his two minor studies. The subject of his thesis was "The American Contribution to Homiletic Theory."

8. That he assumed the pastorate of the First Baptist Church of Hendersonville, North Carolina, in 1908, and in 1910 he accepted a call to the Berhampore Baptist Church in Wellington, New Zealand. This charge he accepted for two years, and then returned to his former charge in Rome, Georgia.

9. That, feeling dissatisfied with America's attitude of neutrality in regard to the war, and feeling that his native land had prior claim upon him in its time of struggle and sorrow, he returned to New Zealand in 1916, and there engaged in supply work. The Baptist Churches of Whangarei, New Zealand, and Burwood, Sydney, approached him with regard to calls to the pastorate. These were declined. But, in 1917, a call to the Baptist Tabernacle in Rockhampton, Queensland, was accepted.

10. That the petitioner's reasons for wishing to leave the Baptist Ministry and enter the Presbyterian Ministry are that he regards the polity and doctrine of Presbyterians more in keeping with Scripture than that of those among whom he has been working. He has had the matter of seeking admission to the Presbyterian Ministry under consideration for some years past, and has advised with prominent Presbyterian ministers on the subject, both in America and New Zealand, and he now makes this petition feeling perfectly satisfied that in so doing he is acting under Divine leading.

11. That the petitioner is now serving the Presbyterian charge at Warialda, New South Wales, as locum tenens.

12. That your petitioner, being under no censure, or liability to censure, from the Baptist Church, accordingly prays your Venerable Court to receive him as an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

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

J. GRAHAM HUGHES.

St. Stephen's Manse, Warialda, N.S.W.,  
3rd May, 1918.

## Documents accompanying Petition:—

1. Baptist Association of Queensland, Annual Reports, 1916-1917, p. 7; and Official Programme, 1917.
2. Letter from Mr. W. D. Grimes, secretary Queensland Baptist Association.
3. Resolutions adopted by the South Broad-street Baptist Church of Rome, Georgia, U.S.A.
4. Letter from Rev. E. Y. Mullins, D.D., LL.D., president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.
5. Letter from Rev. Hugh S. Wallace, Pastor South-Side Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia.
6. Letter from Rev. W. H. Hinton, president Wellington Ministers' Association.
7. Letter from Rev. E. A. Kirwood, president Baptist Union of New Zealand.

Documents to follow in a few days upon their arrival from New Zealand:—

- (1) Certificate of Ordination (Copy).
- (2) Doctor in Theology (Th.D.) Diploma (Copy).

## Extract Minute.

At Inverell, the 10th day of July, 1918, the Presbytery of Moree met, and was constituted with prayer.

Inter alia:—The Presbytery resumed consideration of the Rev. John Graham Hughes' Petition for Admission to the Ministry of the Church, which had been adjourned for the production of original documents re his Theological Training and Ordination. The clerk reported that these documents had not been produced, and that he had received a verbal statement from Mr. Hughes to the effect that he had given instructions to have the documents forwarded from New Zealand; that he had not so far received them; and that he feared that they had been lost in the mails on the s.s. Wimmera.

It was resolved:—

1. That the Petition and relative documents be forwarded to the Committee on Reception of Ministers, to be considered by the committee when originals of Diploma and Certificate of Ordination are produced to the committee, or evidence of their existence, satisfactory to the committee, is forthcoming.

2. That the Presbytery recommend that the Prayer of the Petition be then granted, conditionally on the Petitioner completing a three years' course in one of the Theological Halls of the Church, and passing the prescribed examinations.

Closed with prayer.

Extracted from the Records of the Presbytery of Moree this twelfth day of July, 1918, by me,

A. C. GRIEVE, Presbytery Clerk.

(8)

REV. ERNEST HOPE HUME.

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

The Petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth:—

1. He has been for some three years a fully accredited minister of the Congregational Church, having full standing as a ministerial member of



the Victorian Congregational Union. His last charge was the pastorate (branch of Kew) of Deepdene and Kooyong, Victoria, where he spent two years and a half. Previous churches worked by him while a student pastor were North Fremantle, W.A., and Lake Rowan, Victoria.

He is thirty-six years of age and married, with four children.

After receiving education up to the public school standard at schools in Torquay (Eng.), Melbourne and Brisbane, he filled various business positions till the age of twenty-six. During this time education, other than business, was not neglected altogether, and music, composition, and general reading of a useful sort received attention. He commenced to preach at the age of nineteen, and continued as a lay preacher and Endeavour and Sunday School worker for Congregational and Methodist Churches in Queensland, Victoria, and Western Australia up to the time of entering upon his first student pastorate. After completing, with an average of eighty per cent. for every subject, two-thirds of the Congregational Extra-Mural Course, he entered the Victorian Congregational College in 1913, and gained the College Certificate two years later. While in college he gained an exegetical prize of five pounds stg., and won an elocution contest arranged by the principal, being awarded a prize for the best recital of a poem. He also received special praise for his Church History papers.

Your petitioner therefore prays your Venerable Court to admit him as a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

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

ERNEST HOPE HUME.

Documents:—

Certificates from Rev. W. J. L. Closs, hon. secretary Congregational Union of Victoria; M. Devenish, of Congregational College, Victoria.

Presbytery of Sydney.

This is to certify, in the name and by the authority of the Presbytery of Sydney, to the Committee on the Reception of Ministers, that, on the 9th July, 1918, the Presbytery of Sydney resolved to transmit the petition of the Rev. Ernest Hope Hume to the General Assembly with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be not granted.

Certified this 12th day of July, 1918, by me,

JOHN EDWARDS,

Clerk of the Presbytery of Sydney.

(9)

MR. E. J. THRUM.

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

The Petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth:—

1. That your petitioner is a Home Missionary, now stationed at Sorrento, in the 18th year of his active service in the Church, and is now 62 years of age.

2. That your petitioner was formerly in the Church of England, and studied under the late Professor Wall, of Hamilton College, also with the late Bishop Cooper, passing several examinations, but through ill health

from a very serious nervous breakdown he was laid by for seven years, that he then took service in the Presbyterian Church, but was unable to continue the studies necessary for License and Ordination on account of nervous weakness.

3. That your petitioner now prays the General Assembly to consider the above studies and experience sufficient, and that he may now be considered eligible for License and Ordination.

4. The reasons for this request are as follows:—The difficulty in maintaining myself and family, at an expensive age, on the salary I am now receiving as a Home Missionary; the great disadvantages I am labouring under as a Home Missionary, especially in an isolated place like the present, when the only other Protestant minister (Church of England) is a fully ordained clergyman.

Trusting that your Venerable Court will grant the request, and your petitioner will ever pray.

EDWARD JAMES THRUM.

Documents:—

1. Extract minute.
2. Petition.
3. Letter from Bishop Cooper, 1st November, 1898.
4. Certificate from Bishop Cooper, 1st November, 1898.
5. Certificate from C. J. Chambers, 20th August, 1900.
6. Certificate from Revs. John Barnaby and D. A. Cameron, 17th May, 1918.

Assembly Hall, 156 Collins-street,  
Melbourne, 29th May, 1918.

The Presbytery of Geelong met at the above time and place, and was duly constituted, the Moderator presiding.

Inter alia:—A letter was received from Mr. E. J. Thrum, Home Missionary at Sorrento, covering a Petition to the General Assembly of Australia, in which he asked that he be admitted to License and Ordination.

It was resolved—"That, while recognising the good work petitioner has done as Home Missionary in the service of the Church, the Presbytery, considering the petitioner's age and the nature of his education, regrets that it cannot recommend that the prayer of the Petition be granted."

Certified by me,

W. H. ASH,

Clerk of Geelong Presbytery.

(10)

MR. FRANK LYALL HUME.

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

The Petition of the undersigned, Frank Lyall Hume, respectfully showeth:—

That your petitioner was born in Edinburgh; is 50 years of age; married, and has two children.

Is an Elder of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

In 1895 he was offered, and accepted, the position of assistant to Rev. Frank Paton, who was then making preparations to proceed to Tanna, New Hebrides. In April, 1896, he sailed from Melbourne on mission steamer Dayspring, after attending the Synod at Aneityum landed, with Mr. and Mrs. Paton, on the beach at Lenakel. He worked there for over

four years, working with hands, preaching, teaching, and doing all in his power to spread the gospel. He landed at a place utterly heathen, but had the joy of knowing that his work, under God, had not been in vain. He suffered severely from malaria, and had to resign for that reason.

When he entered the mission field, and for some time after, your petitioner had no thought that he had a call to enter the ministry, but as time went on and he was drawn more and more into the direct evangelistic work of the Gospel, Mr. Paton strongly advised him to study, with a view to enter the Theological Hall. To that end he began to study under Mr. Paton's direction. Later on, arrangements having been made, he carried on the work of Home Mission course of study, sitting for exams. supervised by Mr. Paton, who received the papers from Melbourne.

At the Synod of 1900 he was appointed to take charge, later in that year, of Port Resolution, during the absence of Rev. Wm. Watt on furlough. Before the time came for him to take up his new duties he was again stricken with severe attacks of fever, which brought him to a state of collapse; consequently, in September, 1900, he resigned and returned to Australia. He was offered, and accepted, a position as assistant master in a private school in Sydney. It was a splendid opportunity for carrying on his studies, but owing to the state of his health he had to resign in quite a short time. Consulting the late Dr. Lamb, formerly of Ambrim, he was informed that, in addition to malaria, there were indications of lung disease, acquired, no doubt, through dealing with so many natives dying of the complaint. Further medical opinion confirmed this.

He went to live in the country for two years or more. Part of that time he was bookkeeper at "Kinross," near Holbrook, New South Wales. While living at Henty he was superintendent of a Union Sunday School, which was at the time in a languishing state. He worked it up, secured more teachers, and started a young men's Bible Class. Occasionally he preached, but not very often, owing to the state of his health. Being assured by medical examination that his lungs were sound again, he offered his services to the Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, and was appointed assistant to Rev. S. H. McGowan, of the Merino and Dartmoor charge, in February, 1903. He was there for three years; then 14 months at Lakes' Entrance. He was sent to Sea Lake, where he found what had been an extension charge utterly disorganised, and the town and district the most drunken he had ever known in a wide experience. When he left, three years later, the charge was in good working order, and in a short time was raised to the status of a full charge. Also, the efforts in regard to temperance had some effect, a decided improvement being apparent. A letter was received from the Bendigo Presbytery, expressing the appreciation of that body in regard to the work carried on. Removal to Kaniva followed, which district, formerly a full charge, had fallen very low. The convener, Rev. J. Barnaby, in a letter to your petitioner, wrote that the move to Kaniva was a mark of the committee's confidence in your petitioner's ability to work the place up. In the course of two years there was a decided improvement, financially, and in attendances at services. At Broughton, one of the preaching places, the church was abandoned as being too small, the services being held in the Public Hall. Leaving Kaniva, he was three years and four months assistant to Rev. R. J. Houston, of Branxholme, during that time living at Macarthur, 20 miles away. Appointed to Willaura in November, 1915, your petitioner worked till March, 1917, when it was formed into a new full charge by adding on the former Tatyoon charge. When the proposed alteration was discussed at a meeting of the Tatyoon congregation—it was vacant at the time—a unanimous request was made that your petitioner be appointed minister of the new charge. He was not aware of this until the Interim Moderator (Rev. E. A. Forbes) mentioned it at a meeting of the Western Plains Presbytery, called to ratify the new arrangement.

Your petitioner is now at Cowes. He came simply for a seaside change during three Sundays, but the congregation requested him to remain to work it up, the Home Mission Committee agreeing thereto.

During all the years of service your petitioner has suffered from malaria, and the medical verdict is that he is unfit to stand the strain of studies necessary for entrance to the ministry in the regular course.

Your petitioner respectfully prays your Venerable Court to take these premises into consideration, and that the prayer of his petition be granted.

Your petitioner will ever pray.

F. LYALL HUME.

Presbytery of Melbourne South.

Extract Minute.

Assembly Hall, Melbourne, 10th June, 1918, which day the Presbytery of Melbourne South met, and was constituted with prayer. Sederunt: Revs. F. McQueen, Moderator pro tempore, etc.

Inter alia:—A Petition from Mr. Frank Lyall Hume, praying the General Assembly of Australia to receive him as a minister, with relative documents, was laid on the table. Mr. A. L. Pryde moved—"That the Presbytery forward the Petition to the Reception of Ministers Committee with a recommendation that it be granted." The motion was seconded by the Rev. J. Sinclair, and adopted.

Extracted by

P. J. MURDOCH, Clerk of Presbytery.

Documents:—

Letters commendatory: Revs. Frank H. L. Paton, R. J. Houston, R. C. Foyster, John Barnaby, and Donald A. Cameron; Session of Echuca; Presbytery of Western Plains; and Medical Certificate.

(11)

MR. J. A. IRVINE.

Petition of J. A. Irvine to be admitted to the full status of the Ministry. Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Petition of the undersigned, J. A. Irvine, Presbyterian Missioner at Woomelang, Victoria, humbly sheweth:—

That he is 48 years of age, is married, and has one daughter.

That he passed through the State school course of education, attended evening classes for special courses for a year and six months at Mr. Lockwood's College, Warracknabeal, and for two years studied Logic, Ethics, and English through Zercho's College.

That your petitioner in 1902 was received as a Home Missionary, and appointed to Beech Forest. After nine months he was removed to Kewell (Warracknabeal). In both those missions his services were much blessed, but after one year and nine months at Kewell, through a severe attack of typhoid fever, he was compelled to resign.

Afterwards he supplied at Elmore, Portarlinton, Heytesbury, and Wodonga. Later he spent four months in opening up the Warburton Mission, and was subsequently appointed to Mirboo North, where, after two years and six months, £70 of debt had been paid off, and the Mission was able to take an exit student.

Your petitioner next spent two years and ten months at Trafalgar, during which time a church was built at Trafalgar, and preparations were being made for the erection of a church at Yarragon and at Moe. This charge also was able to take an exit student.

Your petitioner was removed from Trafalgar to Tungamah, where, after nine months' service, he broke down in health, and again had to withdraw temporarily.

After a year and nine months he was appointed the second time to Beech Forest, where, after eight months' work, his horse fell on him, crushing his ankle so that he was unable to ride.

Your petitioner was next appointed to Ouyen, at the beginning of the 1914-15 drought. Under the most adverse and distressing circumstances, under God, he was able to keep the people together, and at the end of two and a half years had the satisfaction of leaving the Mission in a healthy condition, and a considerable sum deposited in the bank towards the erection of a church.

Your petitioner has now been two years at Woomelang, where, again, God has blessed the work. Financially, in addition to paying all expenses, £100 has been raised for the reduction of debt and the renovation of church buildings. Through the scarcity of men, owing to the war, the Home Mission Committee has not, for some time past, been able to send a missionary to Ouyen. Though Woomelang and Ouyen are 48 miles apart, your petitioner has used his best endeavours to supply the lack. Since April, 1917, he has held 20 Sabbath and week night services, and paid numerous visits to the homes of the people.

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.

JOHN ALEXANDER IRVINE.

Woomelang, 24th May, 1918.

Documents:—

Certificates from Zercho's Correspondence College; Committee of Management, Ouyen; Letters of Commendation, Revs. J. Millar Smith, Æneas Macdonald, R. Mitchell, H. A. Erskine, John Barnaby.

Presbytery of Maryborough.

I certify that at the Presbytery meeting, held at Newstead on the 27th May, at 2 p.m., the petition of Mr. J. A. Irvine to the General Assembly of Australia for admittance to the ministry was unanimously approved and recommended.

The minutes of said meeting are not yet confirmed, and will not be until our next regular meeting in July, hence I cannot send the certified extract.

HENRY A. ERSKINE,

Clerk Maryborough Presbytery.

(12)

MR. C. J. GRAHAM.

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

The Petition of the undersigned, Charles James Graham, respectfully sheweth:—

1. That your petitioner was born at Ballan, in the State of Victoria, on 30th October, 1862, and is married.

2. That in the year 1898 he was ordained an elder of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, and in 1901 he was accepted as a missionary by the Home Mission Committee of that State.

3. That in 1901 your petitioner was appointed to the Heywood Mission, and intended to continue his theological studies, but realising the needs in this widely-scattered district, he devoted his whole energy to reorganising the congregations, with the result that they soon outgrew the buildings used for worship, and during his five years' labour in that mission four churches and a manse were built, and left practically free from debt. During this time many names were added to the communion roll, and on more than one occasion the Hamilton Presbytery wrote complimenting your petitioner on the work done.

4. That in 1906 your petitioner was appointed assistant to the Rev. S. H. McGowan in the Korumburra charge, where, under his supervision, there were built a large school hall and church.

5. That in 1909 he was transferred to Melbourne, where for over seven years he carried on the work of the Church, to the satisfaction of the Home Mission Committee, first at Montague, and then at Young-street, Fitzroy.

6. That, after the strenuous work in these congested suburbs, your petitioner was in 1916 appointed to Stanley in Tasmania, where he laboured for sixteen months. At present he is assistant to the Rev. John Walker at St. Andrew's Church, Ballarat.

Your petitioner attaches letters bearing on his work and character, and respectfully prays your Venerable Court to take these premises into favourable consideration, and raise him to the status of a minister in full standing.

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

CHARLES JAMES GRAHAM.

Documents:—

Letters commendatory from Revs. John T. Lawton, D. Miller, C. Jones, W. Goyen, and John Barnaby.

Presbytery of Ballarat.

On 30th May, 1918, and within the Assembly Hall, Melbourne, the Presbytery of Ballarat met, and was duly constituted.

Inter alia:—It was agreed that the application of Mr. C. J. Graham to be received as a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia be endorsed, seeing that, though Mr. Graham's work within the bounds of the Presbytery has only begun, his record as a Home Missionary is favourably known to several members of the Presbytery.

Extracted from the minutes of the Presbytery of Ballarat.

A. H. MOORE, Clerk.

(13)

MR. T. C. LUKE.

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

The Petition of the undersigned, Thomas Caw Luke, of Pinnaroo, Home Missionary of the Presbyterian Church of South Australia, humbly sheweth:—

1. That petitioner was born at Burrumbeet, in the State of Victoria, on the 4th day of November, 1867, was married at Blantyre, in Nyassaland, Central Africa, on the 3rd day of October, 1900, and has two children, aged 14 and 12 years respectively.

2. That petitioner was educated at Mortchup State school, near Ballarat, in the State of Victoria, and at Hope Lodge Missionary Training Home, Belair, South Australia.

3. That petitioner has been engaged as follows:—

- (a) Six years in Victorian Railways Service, acting respectively as porter, guard, telegraph assistant, goods shed foreman, and assistant stationmaster.
- (b) Two years in evangelical work in Victoria and South Australia.
- (c) Home Missionary in the State of Victoria (under the late Rev. J. H. Meek at Yackandandah), for three months, leaving there to go as a Foreign Missionary to Central Africa.
- (d) Foreign Missionary at Nyassaland in Central Africa for ten years, in connection with the Zambesi Industrial Mission, during which time he acquired a knowledge of two native languages, in both of which he regularly preached at the various mission centres.
- (e) Three years as Home Missionary in Koolunga and Hart, South Australia, conducting services in those places.
- (f) Seven years in Pinnaroo, during which period services have been regularly conducted at thirteen centres, lying up to a hundred miles apart, and necessitating holding as many as four services on the one Sabbath.

Therefore your petitioner respectfully begs leave to apply to be admitted into the Presbyterian Church as a duly qualified, licensed, and ordained minister.

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

THOMAS C. LUKE.

Pinnaroo, 12th March, 1918.

List of Subjects Studied during my Terms 1895-97 (two years) at Hope Lodge Missionary Training Home.

Logic, English, Church History, Bible Exegesis, Homiletics, Christian Evidences, History of Missions; various lectures on different subjects by prominent Adelaide ministers.

Private studies (inter alia) in later years.

Natural Philosophy, Psychology, Matter and Energy, Astronomy, Elocution, etc.

THOMAS C. LUKE.

The above Petition is supported by the following documents:—

1. Certificate of Public School education.
2. Certificates of railway examinations.
3. Certificate of Church membership.
4. Certificate of position in Hope Lodge.
5. Certificate ancient work in Zambesi Industrial Mission.
6. Five personal testimonials.
7. Three testimonials as to his work as preacher.
8. Petitions signed by 146 members, managers and adherents from congregations in Pinnaroo charge.

South Australian State Assembly.

At Adelaide, the eighth day of May, 1918, which day the South Australian State Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia being met

and constituted, inter alia, the Petition from Mr. T. C. Luke, transmitted by the Presbytery of Onkaparinga, was laid upon the table, and it was agreed that the same be received. After very full consideration it was moved by Rev. Dr. Davidson, seconded by Rev. R. Mitchell, and agreed—“That this Petition be transmitted to the General Assembly with the recommendation that its prayer be granted.”

It was further moved by the Rev. G. C. Love that the following addition be made to the motion just agreed to:—“And, further, this Assembly asks the General Assembly to give effect to the Petition, because the congregations desire to have Mr. Luke settled as their minister.” Rev. J. A. Ford seconded. Agreed.

Rev. G. C. Love further moved that the Revs. Dr. J. A. Seymour and J. A. Ford be appointed to support the Petition in the Assembly. Agreed.

Extracted from the records of the South Australian State Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, this fifteenth day of May, 1918, by me,

J. HALL ANGUS, Clerk of Assembly.

At Woodside, and within St. John's Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery of Onkaparinga met on Tuesday, the 9th day of April, 1918, and was constituted with the reading of the Word and prayer.

Inter alia:—The Presbytery resumed consideration of the Petition of Mr. Thomas C. Luke for admission into the Presbyterian Church as a fully qualified and ordained minister.

On the motion of the Rev. G. Love, M.A., B.D., seconded by Mr. G. Patterson, the Presbytery resolved to transmit the Petition with relative documents to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of South Australia with the full endorsement and approval of the Presbytery of Onkaparinga, and with the earnest hope that the State Assembly of South Australia would add their Petition to the above effect to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Extracted from the records of the Presbytery of Onkaparinga this 11th day of April, 1918, by me,

JAS. A. FORD,

Clerk, Presbytery of Onkaparinga.

No

(14)

MR. P. E. WYLDE.

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

The Petition of the Presbytery of Belalie, in the State of South Australia, humbly sheweth:—

That the Presbytery respectfully asks the General Assembly to take the following premises into consideration, with a view to the ordination of Mr. P. E. Wylde, presently Home Missionary in charge of Spalding, in the State of South Australia:—

Mr. Wylde was born in Sussex, England, in June, 1866, and is therefore, now 52 years of age.

Mr. Wylde is married, and has one son, who is now on active service with the Australian Forces.

Mr. Wylde received his education at the Military College, Chatham, England.



After his arrival in Australia Mr. Wylde was coached by the Rev. E. Masterman, of Sydney, in order that he might engage in missionary work.

Mr. Wylde has been engaged in Christian work in Australia for 20 years.

He assisted the Revs. Northcott and Green, Methodist ministers, in New South Wales, and was for a time assistant to the Rev. Dr. Johnson, of the Armidale Presbyterian Church, New South Wales.

In 1902 Mr. Wylde was missionary of the N.S.W. Bush Missionary Association, and rendered excellent service therein.

Mr. Wylde in 1904 became a Home Missionary of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, in the State of South Australia. He has laboured in the following charges:—Murray Bridge, Koolunga, Pinnaroo (where he pioneered the Mission), Iron Knob, and Spalding. In each and all of these places he has done excellent work for the Church.

For two separated periods Mr. Wylde has held the Spalding Mission Charge. After having served for three years he was appointed to Iron Knob, where he remained for 12 months. He was then reappointed to Spalding at the wish of the people there. This fact speaks for itself.

In February, 1917, Mr. Wylde opened up a new preaching station at North Bungaree. Here progress has been very marked, and the people this year are endeavouring to raise their contributions to the missionary's stipend.

Mr. Wylde, while at Murray Bridge, met with a serious accident in the course of his duty, which incapacitated him for continuous study. His medical adviser informed him that it would be harmful to him to study hard.

The members and adherents of the three congregations in the charge are desirous that Mr. Wylde may be ordained.

Your petitioners ask that the General Assembly will take these premises into consideration, and authorise that Mr. Wylde be ordained to the office of the Holy Ministry, or otherwise deal with the said premises as may seem to it just and wise.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

For the Presbytery of Belalie,

J. ANDREW PAWSON, Clerk.

The Manse, Spalding, South Australia,  
8th June, 1918.

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

Reverend Sirs,—

I can testify to the facts set out in the Presbytery's Petition, and am willing to accept ordination should the General Assembly in its wisdom and kindness grant it to me.

I am, Reverend Sirs, yours obediently,

PERCY E. WYLDE.

Documents:—

Petition signed by 69 members and adherents at Spalding in support; letters commendatory from Revs. Matthew Johnson and J. Andrew Pawson.

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## South Australian State Assembly.

At Adelaide, the 8th day of May, 1918.

Which day the South Australian State Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia being met and constituted, inter alia, Rev. J. A. Pawson laid upon the table the Petition of Mr. P. E. Wylde. Objection was raised to its not being in print, but this having been explained, Rev. J. A. Ford moved—That the Petition from the Presbytery of Belalie re Mr. P. E. Wylde be heard. Rev. G. C. Love seconded. Agreed. The Petition was then read by Rev. J. A. Pawson, who moved—That this Assembly transmits to the General Assembly the Petition for the ordination of Mr. P. E. Wylde, with prayer that the same may be granted. Rev. H. Morris seconded. Agreed. Rev. J. A. Pawson then moved—That the Rev. Geo. Anderson be appointed to support the Petition in the General Assembly. The Clerk seconded, and it was agreed.

Extracted from the Records of the South Australian State Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, this 15th day of May, 1918, by me,

J. HALL ANGUS, Clerk of Assembly.

At Adelaide, and within the Flinders Street Church, the 7th day of May, 1918, the Presbytery of Belalie, being duly met and constituted with prayer,

Inter alia, the Presbytery resolved that the Petition for the ordination of Mr. P. E. Wylde, drawn up by a sub-committee appointed at a previous meeting, be approved and transmitted to the General Assembly of Australia through the State Assembly of South Australia.

Closed with prayer.

Extracted from the records of the Presbytery of Belalie, this 17th day of May, 1918, by me,

J. ANDREW PAWSON, Clerk.

(15)

MR. A. H. BALLINGER.

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

The Petition of the undersigned, Arthur Henry Ballinger, supplying for the Maylands Presbyterian Church, Perth, W.A., respectfully sheweth—

1. That your petitioner was born at Nurrabiel, via Horsham, in the State of Victoria, on 17th June, 1886, and is unmarried.
2. That his early education was acquired through the medium of State School; that at the age of sixteen he was admitted into membership of the Methodist Church, and thence onward took an active part in the various office-bearing positions of that Church, becoming an accredited Lay Preacher on full plan at the age of nineteen.
3. That, recognising a call to consecrate his life to the ministry, he entered, in the year 1909, as a private student, the Theological Hall, Queen's College, University, Carlton, Melbourne. At the same time he received private tuition in general matters of education from Mr. Herbert Hewitt, M.A.
4. That, having passed the Synodal and Central Committees' Examinations, he was accepted as a candidate for the Methodist Ministry, and in 1910 was received into the Theological Hall for further training.

He continued under the tuition of Mr. Hewitt.

5. That in the years 1911-12 he was in charge as a minister on probation of the Woodbridge Circuit, Tasmania.

6. That in the years 1913-14 he entered upon the duties of assistant in the Forth-Ulverstone Circuit, Tasmania. While thus engaged he completed and passed the Fourth Year's (Final) Examinations of the Methodist Conference.

7. That your petitioner came under the Discipline of his Conference owing to the severance of a matrimonial engagement. The finding of the Discipline Committee was adverse to his continuance as a Minister on Probation.

8. That he thereupon made Petition through the Presbytery of Launceston, Tasmania, to your Venerable Assembly for acceptance into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, full particulars of the nature of the charge brought against him being stated to the Presbytery.

9. That, pending the reception of the prayer of his Petition, he was recommended by the Tasmanian H.M. Committee to the Victorian H.M. Committee for work in that State. The said Committee appointed him to the position of assistant in the Wangaratta Charge—1915-16. Of this Church he holds a Certificate of Membership, dated April, 1915. He was admitted to membership by Certificate of Disjunction from the Methodist Church.

10. That, by arrangement with the Committee of the Victorian Theological Hall and the sanction of the Victorian State Assembly, he entered that Hall as a private student. The Victorian Theological Hall Committee treated his status as that of one who has done two years of the Victorian Theological Course. He proceeded to the Exit Examination in 1916, and passed with an average of 67 per cent. He was granted exemption from Hebrew owing to a severe illness overtaking him during the course of that year.

11. That, finding that the prayer of his Petition had not been granted by your Venerable Court, owing to the fact that no official recommendation of the Methodist Conference of Victoria and Tasmania had accompanied the said prayer, your petitioner sought by Petition to the Methodist Conference of 1917 for a remission of the embargo laid upon him, and a recommendation to your Venerable Court.

12. That the Methodist Conference graciously granted the prayer of the Petition, and made direct communication of their judgment to the Right Rev. the Moderator-General of your Assembly.

13. That in the meanwhile the Victorian H.M. Committee made an offer of work in the State of Victoria, and an opening also presented itself for work in the Maylands Presbyterian Charge, Perth, W.A.

14. That he entered upon work in Maylands on the 1st of November, 1916, and has continued therein up to the present time.

15. That certificates as to his scholarship, character, and work are hereto appended. He, therefore, prays your Venerable Court to receive him as eligible to apply to the Presbytery of Perth, W.A., for license to preach the Gospel. Your Petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Signed) A. H. BALLINGER.

Papers accompanying the Petition:—

Certificate of Membership.

Sessional Certificate of the Exit Examination.

Extract from the Minute-Book of the Kirk Session, Maylands Presbyterian Church.

Extracts from the Agenda Paper and Minute-Book of results of Final Probationary Examinations of the Methodist Conference.

Official Recommendation from the Methodist Conference of Victoria and Tasmania.

Recommendation of the Perth Presbytery, Perth, W.A.

Recommendation of the General Assembly of the State of Western Australia.

Letters of commendation from the Launceston Presbytery, and from the Revs. L. I. Fielding, F. S. Woods, Farquhar Chisholm, G. Nisbet Dods, M.A., Mr. A. C. Solomon.

#### Assembly of Western Australia.

At Perth, the 15th day of May, 1918, which day the Western Australian Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, being met and duly constituted, inter alia—

The Petition of Mr. Arthur Henry Ballinger was taken up, when the Rev. G. Nisbet Dods, M.A., moved:—

“That the Assembly transmits to the General Assembly of Australia the Petition of Mr. Arthur Henry Ballinger, with relative documents, and with the respectful and cordial recommendation of this Assembly that the prayer of the Petition be granted.” The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Extracted from the records of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Western Australia this 27th day of May, 1918, by me,

E. F. CAMERON, Clerk of Assembly.

Within St. Andrew's Vestry on Wednesday, 24th April, the Presbytery of Perth met and was constituted with prayer.

A Petition was received from Mr. A. H. Ballinger asking for admission and ordination to the ministry of the Presbyterian Church. It was moved by the Rev. G. Nisbet Dods, seconded by Mr. A. W. Tocher—That the Petition be transmitted to the State Assembly, with the cordial recommendation that the prayer of the petitioner be granted.

Extracted from the records of the Presbytery by me, this 15th day of May, 1918,

HENRY SCOTT, Presbytery Clerk.

Bendigo, 14th March, 1917.

To the Moderator of the Federal Assembly of Australia.

Dear Sir,—Mr. A. H. Ballinger, of Maylands, Perth, Western Australia, has intimated to me his desire to present himself for admission into the ministry of the Presbyterian Church. In connection therewith he has made request for a statement concerning his past relationship to the Methodist Church. It is with pleasure I communicate to you the information that I am authorised to say that in the judgment of this the Victoria and Tasmania Conference, the penalty imposed upon Mr. Ballinger has been discharged, and that, as far as his past association with our Church is concerned, there is no embargo upon him in any offer of himself he may desire to make to the ministry of a sister Church.—With kind regards, very sincerely yours,

To Professor McIntyre,  
Assembly Hall, N.S.W.

SAMUEL SCHOLLES,  
President of Conference.

REV. JOHN THOMAS.

*no*

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

The Petition of the undersigned, John Thomas, of Brisbane, in the State of Queensland, respectfully sheweth:—

1. That your petitioner was born in Wales on 13th July, 1854, is married, and has one son.
2. That he received his early education at a National School, and afterwards at a Grammar School, in which schools he received a thorough grounding in English, Latin, Arithmetic, Geography, and History.
3. That he found Christ in his eighteenth year and began to preach about two years after.
4. That he was accepted as a candidate for the ministry of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, England, in 1880, and received two and a half years' training at the Wesleyan Methodist Theological College, Leeds, and that the subjects of the curriculum were—English Bible, Systematic and Pastoral Theology, Church History, Moral Philosophy, Psychology, Physiology, Logic, Exegesis, Elocution.
5. That after leaving college his probationary course of subjects were—Dr. Pope's Compendium of Theology, Vol. II., page 1-451; Westcott's Introduction to the Study of the Gospels, 2 Samuel in English, Butler's Analogy, Church History, Galatians in English.
6. That having passed his College and Probationary Examinations satisfactorily, he was duly ordained at the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of 1884.
7. That his ministerial labours continued without intermission till 1890, when he came to Australia to recruit his health.
8. That soon after his arrival in New South Wales he was engaged as Ministerial Supply by the Methodist Conference in that State.
9. That he resigned his connection with the Wesleyan Methodist Conference of England in 1890.
10. That he sought admission into the ministry of the New South Wales Methodist Conference, but his application was declined solely on the ground that his medical certificate was not wholly satisfactory.
11. That he continued to labour in connection with the Methodist Church.
12. That he paid a visit to Wales in 1902, and returned in 1903 and settled in Queensland.
13. That he was admitted into the ministry of the Congregational Union of Queensland in 1905, and was pastor of a Church at Blackstone, in that State.
14. That owing to the unfavourable effect of the climate of the district upon his health, he resigned the said pastorate.
15. That having gone to Cunnamulla, a town far beyond the sphere of the Congregational Churches, in the State of Queensland, he was requested to take charge of the Methodist Church there, which he did.
16. That after prolonged sojourn in Western Queensland, his health was so far established as to enable him to return to the more settled districts, and to resume full ministerial work there.

17. That having returned within reach of the Congregational Churches he was offered the pastoral charge of several of them, but declined the offers.

18. That for over five years he has laboured without intermission in Home Mission Charges, and as ministerial supply in connection with the Presbyterian Church in this State of Queensland.

19. That he has resigned from the ministry of the Congregational Union of Queensland.

20. That having carefully examined the doctrine and polity of the Presbyterian Church, he is satisfied that it is founded on the Word of God, and is agreeable thereto; that he is in full sympathy with the spirit of Presbyterianism, and that he believes he can serve the Church's interest better in the full status of a minister than as temporary supply.

21. Certificates, including medical certificate, in support of the foregoing statements are hereto appended.

Your petitioner, therefore, humbly prays your Venerable Court to take these premises into consideration, and to admit him into the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, and to declare him to be eligible for a call at once.

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

JOHN THOMAS,

5th March, 1918.

Taringa, Queensland.

Documents:—Letters commendatory—Revs. J. Griffiths, John Roberts, J. E. Moulton, George Lane, Wm. H. George, John Clifton, R. Sellors, E. H. Sugden, W. H. Beale, W. A. Gann, W. H. Waters, J. Lundie, J. B. Galloway, R. Kerr, George Ewan, etc.

#### Presbytery of Brisbane.

##### The Convener Committee Reception of Ministers.

Dear Sir,—I hereby certify that the enclosed Petition, with 23 credentials attached, from the Rev. John Thomas, addressed to the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, was considered by above Presbytery at a properly constituted meeting, held on 26th April, 1918. After due consideration it was resolved, unanimously, that same be forwarded to Assembly Meeting in Melbourne on the fourth Thursday of September, 1918, with a favourable recommendation from the Presbytery, and I have much pleasure in advising you accordingly.—Yours sincerely,

A. S. LANG, Clerk of Presbytery.

(17)

REV. W. R. ELVERY.

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

The Petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth:—

That he was born in Geelong, Victoria, in 1862, and is now 54 years of age, and is married.

That he attended school for a period of nearly ten years from 1868 to December, 1877. At Christ's College he gained a special prize for

Euclid, being first in a class of forty boys taught by Dr. Corfe. At the Scotch College he received a first prize for science. After leaving college he began to study Science (especially Spectrum Analysis) and Theology *con amore*. He joined classes for adults taught by Dr. Samuel Robinson (Presbyterian minister, St. Kilda), Rev. Allan Webb, and the Rev. Digby Berry (who lectured on the views of Strauss and Baur and other writers of the Tubingen School). At the Presbyterian Sabbath School, St. Kilda, he won a special prize, gaining 330 marks out of a possible 350. The minister, the late Dr. S. Robinson, then urged the petitioner's father to allow him to study for the ministry of the Presbyterian Church. Dr. Mercer also suggested to another relative that he should be allowed to choose the same vocation.

After some years the petitioner decided to study for the ministry of the Church of God, and an uncle, the late Sir Matthew Davies, generously offered to pay his expenses at the University to enable him to take a degree before his ordination. This kind offer was declined. The petitioner preferred to study privately while engaged in pioneer work as a Home Missionary in the Gippsland bush. He, with other students, received valuable assistance from the Rev. Carey Ward, M.A. (minister of St. Columb's, Hawthorn), Canon Digby Berry, M.A., and others, who assisted Archdeacon Langley in the training of the Stipendiary Readers of the Archdeaconry of Gippsland. During this period (about four years) he was enabled to pass the half-yearly examinations without difficulty. The papers on Christian Doctrine were set by the late Bishop Goe, who stated that your petitioner had a special gift for the Science of Dogmatics.

Your petitioner regrets that, owing to the death of several of his esteemed teachers he cannot furnish the certificates asked for, but would gladly undertake to write a dissertation on Christology or Eschatology, or any thesis belonging to thetic theology, as a test of his theological attainments.

That he was ordained deacon by Bishop Goe in the Melbourne Cathedral in 1892, and presbyter in the following year.

That he served in the ministry of the Church of England for the period of 25 years under the jurisdiction of Bishops Goe, H. A. Langley, J. D. Langley, and the present Archbishop of Brisbane.

That he belonged to the evangelical section of the Anglican Church, and by precept and example sought to uphold the principle enunciated by the Bishop of Durham:—"The true unity of the true Church is in its inmost essence spiritual. Each true member . . . the man may be an Episcopalian . . . yet he will heartily recognise and honour the Church position of his Presbyterian or Baptist or Methodist brethren." (Outlines of Christian Doctrine, p. 210.)

That he defended in writing the Church position of his Presbyterian brethren when that position (together with the validity of their ministry and sacraments) was criticised and disowned by the Editor of the official organ of the diocese; that he at the same time frankly made known to the Archbishop that he was unable to assent to Anglo-Catholic teachings in general, and the practice of auricular confession in particular; that as a result of the foregoing he finally severed his connection with the Church of England, and immediately became a member of the Presbyterian Church, and has since conducted services in seven parishes and two mission districts in the Toowoomba Presbytery.

That at the time of his resignation the applicant was under no censure on any moral or doctrinal grounds. The dignitary who accepted his resignation said—"If your conscience leads you that way, I have nothing more to say. Nothing must stand in the way of that imperative call when it sounds clear in our ears."

That he has ever been a diligent student, and during the last seven

years has studied many recent works on Dogmatics and New Test. Theology, Christian Ethics, Biblical Psychology, Eschatology, and Assyriology.

Your petitioner asks to be received into the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

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

W. R. ELVERY.

Stanthorpe, Queensland,  
9th March, 1917.

Documents accompanying the Petition:—

(1) Letters of commendation from Captain-Chaplain Moorhead Legate, the Archbishop of Brisbane, the Bishop of Bendigo, Canon Watson, Th.Soc., Rev. R. Kerr, Rev. R. Bardon.

(2) Year-book of the Diocese of Brisbane (date of ordination, etc.)

Presbytery of Toowoomba.

Extract Minute.

At Brisbane and within St. Andrew's Church, there on Friday, 17th May, 1918, the Presbytery of Toowoomba met by leave of the General Assembly, and was duly constituted with prayer,

Inter alia—The Presbytery proceeded to consider a Petition from the Rev. William R. Elvery.

The Petition was addressed to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. Its prayer was that the Venerable Assembly would admit the petitioner to the ministry of the Church.

The Petition was accompanied by a number of testimonials as to character, general learning, and work.

After discussion the Presbytery resolved that the Petition be transmitted to the General Assembly of Australia, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted.

Closed with prayer.

Extracted from the records of the Presbytery of Toowoomba, this 18th day of May, 1918, by me,

ROBT. MILLAR, Presbytery Clerk.

*To be granted by Gen. Assembly.*

(18)

MR. A. RICHARDSON.

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

The Petition of the undersigned, Alexander Richardson, Presbyterian Missionary of Crookwell Charge, in the Presbytery of Goulburn, in the State of New South Wales, humbly sheweth:—

1. That your petitioner was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, and is in his 46th year, is married, with wife, but no family.
2. That your petitioner was trained in the Free Church of Scotland, and is a thorough Presbyterian.



3. That your petitioner was converted to God at the age of 23, and began Christian work in connection with Hurlford Free Church.

4. That your petitioner entered the Bible Training Institute, Glasgow, in 1900, where he took the full course of training (two years), and received the diploma with 2720 marks out of a possible 3000.

5. That on completion of above course petitioner was appointed missionary at Saltcoats, under Landsborough, U.F. Church, where he laboured with much blessing for two years. He was then appointed missionary under Saltcoats Y.M.C.A., where he laboured for a period of 5½ years, with much acceptance and great blessing in the gathering in of the people, as references covering this period show.

6. That in 1908 your petitioner was appointed to the important position of missionary at Finneston U.F. Church, Glasgow, where he laboured with much blessing for a period of 7½ years. This is borne out by the testimony of Rev. Mr. McIntyre, minister of Finneston U.F. Church, and now Principal of the Bible Training Institute; Rev. Wm. Simpton, assistant minister; the Session Clerk, and others. Your petitioner was ordained an elder of the Church in 1909. During your petitioner's term in charge of the mission he preached, not only in Finneston Church, but also in leading churches in city and country, and the work of the mission prospered in every department. A men's Bible Class was formed by your petitioner, composed of working men who were brought to Christ. This class numbered about 80, many of whom became honoured workers and office-bearers in the Church. The attendance so increased that at the Sunday evening service the average was over 300, and the mission was a hive of Christian activity. A large number of the members of the Church were received from the mission, which is verified by the Session Clerk.

7. That your petitioner for five years in succession was selected, in view of his work in Glasgow, to labour among the berry pickers at Auchterarder, where God gave seals to petitioner's ministry, as is also shown by letter of Clerk of Presbytery of Auchterarder.

8. That your petitioner having known Rev. George Tulloch before he went to Queensland, and having heard of his arrival in the United Kingdom in 1915, commissioned by this Assembly to secure workers for the needy fields of this Commonwealth, your petitioner interviewed him, volunteered, and with Mrs. Richardson went out to West Australia, where for one year your petitioner laboured with acceptance at Kellerberrin. For climatic reasons your petitioner found it necessary to go to another State, and on application to the Home Mission Committee of New South Wales was accepted and appointed to the charge of Crookwell in June, 1917.

9. That your petitioner's work at Crookwell has been full of blessing. The church is too small for the congregation, a manse has been purchased, promises of land, and two new churches at out-stations have been given, and two new stations opened. So highly satisfactory is the work of your petitioner that the congregation has petitioned the Home Mission Committee to allow him to remain at Crookwell for a period of five years.

10. In view, therefore, of your petitioner's experience and age, and in view also of the dearth of ministers and the strong desire of the congregation at Crookwell that they be placed in the position of a regular charge by calling petitioner as their minister, your petitioner humbly prays that your Venerable Court will take these premises into consideration, and authorise the Presbytery of Goulburn to ordain petitioner, so that he may be inducted into the Crookwell charge, or otherwise deal with the petition as your Assembly may in its wisdom deem best.

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

ALEXANDER RICHARDSON.

## Documents:—

1. Petition from Crookwell.
2. Testimonials—
  - From Alex. Jas. Richie, late president Saltcoats Y.M.C.A.
  - From Chas. Duguid, headmaster Saltcoats Public School, and joint vice-president of the Ayrshire Christian Union.
  - From David Hosie, Session Clerk, Finneston U.F. Church, Glasgow.
  - From Rev. James Macmillan, Minister of Aberuthven, and Convener of the Presbytery of Auchterarder.
  - From Rev. D. M. McIntyre, Minister of Finneston U.F. Church, Glasgow; Principal of the B.T.I., Glasgow.
  - Diploma from B.T.I., signed by Lord Overtoun and John Anderson, Superintendent.
  - From Edward S. Wilson, Session Clerk of Landsborough Church.
  - From Alex. S. Miller, Saltcoats Y.M.C.A.
  - From Rev. A. Morris Moodie, U.F. Church, Stevenson.
  - From Thomas Nicol, Elder Finneston U.F. Church, Glasgow.
  - From David Hosie, Session Clerk, Finneston U.F. Church.
  - Newspaper cutting, Saltcoats, Scotland.
  - Report of Farewell Mr. and Mrs. Richardson.
  - Letter from Sir Joseph P. Maclay, Comptroller of British Shipping.

## Presbytery of Goulburn.

The Presbytery of Goulburn met in the Vestry of St. Andrew's Church, Goulburn, at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, 20th March, 1918, and was duly constituted with prayer. Inter alia—

Arising out of a letter which had been forwarded from Crookwell in reference to the ordination of the missionary there, Mr. Alexander Richardson, and had been referred to this Presbytery by the State Home Mission Committee, and was allowed to lie on the table of the Presbytery, Petitions from Crookwell congregation and from Mr. Alexander Richardson to the General Assembly of Australia, praying that permission be given to this Presbytery to ordain the said Alexander Richardson, with a view to his being called and settled at Crookwell, were laid upon the table. Both Petitions were read, namely, that of Mr. Alex. Richardson, and along with same some of the many references from congregations and persons in Scotland, testifying to Mr. Richardson's worth and work; also that of the congregation at Crookwell, which was signed by 159 communicants and adherents, praying that Mr. Richardson be ordained. A note from Mr. A. J. Rowe, secretary of the Crookwell congregation, was also read. It was moved by Mr. Ross, seconded, and carried that the Petitions of the Crookwell congregation and of Mr. Richardson be forwarded to the Clerk of the General Assembly of Australia, with the recommendation that the request for ordination be granted.

Extracted from the minutes of the Presbytery of Goulburn, by me, this 17th day of April, 1918,

A. J. DOIG, Presbytery Clerk.

2 years in the Hall

(19)

REV. HENRY H. CHILDS.

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

The Petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth:—

That he was born in Bathurst (N.S.W.) in 1885, is married, and has two children.

That he received his religious training in the Presbyterian Church, and was associated with it until he was eighteen years of age.

Having joined a Baptist Church, and being desirous of entering Christian service, he made application in 1906 to the Baptist Union of N.S.W. to be enrolled as a student for the ministry. He did a three years' course of study, which included English, Bible History, Christian Evidences, Life of Christ, O.T. and N.T. Introduction, Theology (Denney), Homiletics (Dale), Church History, Ethics (Mackenzie), Psychology (James), Atonement (Dale), and Apologetics (Bruce). From November, 1907, to February, 1909, your Petitioner did Home Mission work in the district of Tamworth.

In 1909 he made application, and entered the Baptist College in Melbourne for three years' further training. During that period he took O.T. and N.T. Exegesis, Hebrew, Greek, Church History, Systematic Divinity, Homiletics, Apologetics, Comparative Religion and Elocution. He attended Melbourne University for lectures in English, I. and II., and Moral Philosophy, and passed the examinations in all three subjects. In 1912 he was granted full ministerial status by the Baptist Union of N.S.W., and was inducted to the pastorate of the Eastwood Church, where he laboured for over five years. The cause was an entirely new work, but at the termination of his ministry in 1917 it was an established and self-supporting charge.

Your petitioner was accorded a public farewell by the citizens upon his resigning to accept the invitation of the Victorian Union to the church at Wangaratta.

Whilst in N.S.W. he held the position of chairman of the Sunday-school Department of the Union, and for three years was chairman of the Sunday-school Examination Board. He was also a chaplain in the A.I.F., and did work in several of the suburban camps of Sydney.

Your petitioner's reason for seeking a change of denomination is based upon a conviction, held for a long time, that the Presbyterian form of church government is most in accord with the teaching of the New Testament and the most efficient in extending and establishing the Kingdom of God.

He therefore prays your Venerable Assembly to receive him into the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

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

HENRY H. CHILDS.

Documents:—

College Diploma.

Letters commendatory from Dr. Guthrie Hunter and Rev. A. Dunnett Robertson.

Presbytery of Beechworth.

Extract Minute.

At Yackandandah, and within the church there, on the 17th July, 1918 years, which day and place the Presbytery of Beechworth met and was duly constituted.

Sederunt Reverend Colledge Harland, Moderator, etc.

Inter alia, a Petition to the General Assembly of Australia was read from the Rev. H. H. Childs, minister of the Baptist Church at Wangaratta. The relative documents were read, and the Rev. F. Chisholm was heard in support of the petition. The Presbytery agreed to transmit the Petition to the General Assembly, with the cordial recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted, and appointed the Rev. F. Chisholm to re-

present the Presbytery when the matter came before the General Assembly.

Extracted from the minutes of Beechworth Presbytery by

FARQUHAR CHISHOLM, Clerk.

In the name and on behalf of the Committee,

ALEX. MCKINLAY,

Convener.

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#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE CODE.

In accordance with the instructions of last Assembly, your Committee considered the draft of a revised chapter on Discipline, and sent the same down to State Assemblies and Presbyteries. Returns were received from all the State Assemblies and from the Presbyteries of Adelaide, Ballarat, Flinders, Geelong, Gippsland, Hamilton, Hastings, Hunter, Macedon, Melbourne North, Melbourne South, North Sydney, Perth, Toowoomba, Western Plains, and Young. The proposed rules were generally approved.

Your Committee has again considered the draft in the light of these returns, and herewith submits it as amended. It is printed as a separate Assembly Paper.

GEORGE TAIT,

Convener.

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#### REPORT RELATIVE TO THE "SABBATH SCHOOL AND MISSIONARY RECORD."

Your Committee beg to report that the circulation of the Magazine has not altered much since the meeting of the Assembly in 1916.

Considering the many appeals that have been made to young and old during that period, and the fact that in some cases the use of the Graded Lesson monthly literature has made it difficult for the scholars to pay both for that literature and the "Record," the circulation cannot but be regarded as fairly satisfactory.

The table appended shows the increase or decrease of the circulation in the various States of the Commonwealth and in New Zealand, comparing that of 1916 with that of 1918:—

	1916.	1918.	Increase.	Decrease.
Queensland . . . . .	586	664	78	—
New South Wales . . . . .	966	721	—	245
Victoria (inc. Fiji) . . . . .	6899	6888	—	11
Tasmania . . . . .	217	222	5	—
South Australia . . . . .	578	400	—	178
Western Australia . . . . .	294	486	192	—
New Zealand . . . . .	88	144	56	—
	<u>9628</u>	<u>9525</u>	<u>331</u>	<u>434</u>

During the last two years royalties, on the basis of £4 on every thousand of the circulation, amounting to £76/6/3, have been received from the Publishers, according to agreement, and have been duly paid to the Conveners of Welfare of Youth Committees, as follows:—

Queensland . . . . .	£5	5	9
New South Wales . . . . .	5	15	5
Victoria . . . . .	55	4	7
Tasmania . . . . .	1	15	3
South Australia . . . . .	3	4	1
Western Australia . . . . .	3	18	7
New Zealand . . . . .	1	2	7
	<hr/>		
	£76	6	3

The last agreement with the Publishers ended early in 1917, but it has not been possible to secure a new agreement as yet.

The readers of the "Record" throughout Australia have continued to support the Belgian Babies' Milk Fund, which has now reached the sum of £254/11/7, and the Consul-General for Belgium has thanked them warmly for their generous and self-denying efforts.

Many interesting and appreciative letters from young people in all the States have been received by the Editor, and answered in the pages of the "Record" month by month. In this way the personal touch between the Editor and his readers has been maintained.

It is the desire of the Editor that missionaries of all the State Churches should supply him with missionary news from their own districts, but so far the response to his appeal has not been very great.

W. S. ROLLAND,  
Convener.

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#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RELIGION IN THE HOME.

One of the greatest perils to our modern life lies in the de-Christianised home. The home life of many families is utterly irreligious, and in consequence the great character building forces are absent from the household.

The best assets of Australian life are Christian homes. One of the chief tasks of the Church is to place religion in the home, and to set Bible reading and prayer in their proper place in the family life.

The Committee has taken over the "Family Altar Card," previously issued under the auspices of the Victorian Church. During the present year 15,000 copies of this card have been placed in circulation throughout the Church. The card has been well distributed throughout New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania. A few copies have gone to West Australia. Many copies have been obtained by families in the remote places of the great Inland. The demand for the altar card has been gratifying, and proves that very many people welcome this aid to family worship and home religion.

The Committee hopes to be able to provide further aids to family worship as its policy develops.

RONALD G. MACINTYRE }  
JOHN SINCLAIR } Joint Conveners.

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#### REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MISSIONS.

In presenting its report, the Board of Missions acknowledges the goodness and mercy of God upon its work and workers during the past two

years. These have been days of distress and anxiety, but the kingdom of God has kept advancing, even although workers have fallen or been removed.

The Staff.—In our Mission Staff during the last two years there have been many changes and tragic happenings. For the first time in the history of the Board's Mission work the crown of martyrdom has fallen upon one of our workers, the Rev. R. Hall, of Mornington Island, who, while visiting a distant part of his district, was on the 19th October last treacherously murdered by an evil-disposed native, and on the following morning Mr. Owen was severely wounded in the shoulder by a discharge from a shot gun while sleeping on the verandah of the Mission House. Until the return of the Mission boat from Burketown, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Owen, the wounded man, and four little children were practically besieged in the Mission House. The bravery and the fortitude of those noble women during those awful days is worthy of lasting remembrance. The evidence at the trial showed that the murder was premeditated, planned, and executed in cold blood, for no other motive apparently than that of plunder. We are indeed thankful that Peter, the instigator and murderer, was not one of the Mission people, but a well-known bad character, who had spent most of his life away on the mainland. The injury to Mr. Owen has been serious, and even when the wound heals it will be a long time before he recovers strength for full work.

The Board paid the Rev. R. Hall's stipend to his widow until 31st March, 1918, and an appeal for his widow and children issued by the Con- vener has brought in a good response from all the Churches. Mr. and Mrs. Owen's salaries were paid until 30th June, 1918, and in consideration of the suffering that he has endured in the service of the Church the Board has voted him a further allowance of £1 per week for twelve months from that date.

We report with regret the retirement of Mrs. J. G. Ward, after 26 years of devoted and invaluable services at Mapoon. The Board has placed on record its appreciation of her work and character, and a love offering of a considerable amount was given her by the P.W.M.U. ladies in Victoria, New South Wales, and other States.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Paton, after three years' work, have been compelled through ill-health, induced by tropical conditions and the hardships and discomforts of pioneering, to relinquish the work at Port George. The Board hopes that when strength returns they will re-enter its service.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Wilson, who have served our Mission for nearly 10 years, both at Aurukun and Western Australia, have also felt compelled to resign from Port George IV., after the heavy strain of establishing that station. The Church does not realise the hard conditions under which our brave workers lay the foundations of our new Mission Stations. We hold them all in honour for their work's sake. In the case of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, we are thankful that after a few months' change in Victoria they felt so much invigorated that they placed themselves at the disposal of the Board for work elsewhere. They have been appointed to Mornington Island, and will shortly proceed there.

As instructed by last Assembly, the Board terminated the engagement of the Rev. A. Richter as from 31st July, 1915, the date of his being called up for German military service. We understand that he is employed in some form of chaplaincy work in the East. In the financial section of this Report is set forth the adjustment made of his claims.

In regard to the Rev. E. Brown, the Board reports that it left no means untried to effect a good understanding, and so continue his service as our Missionary, and it was with profound regret that the Board was constrained to act on the authority given it by last Assembly, and terminate his engagement. He demitted the charge of Weipa at the end of May, 1918. In parting

with him the Board withdraws nothing of its previous testimony to the good work done in the past by him and his wife, and deeply regrets the necessity of their withdrawal from its service.

We have not been without evidence of God's gracious providence in sending forth other labourers. Rev. W. J. S. and Mrs. Rankin were accepted in November, 1917, for work at Aurukun, but at the Board's request he agreed to go for a year to Port George. Mr. Rankin, it will be remembered, accompanied Dr. Yule in the first attempt to establish our Western Australian Mission to the Aborigines. Subsequently he took up Home Mission work in Western Australia, and in due course was ordained as minister at Katanning; but when opportunity arose he offered himself again for work on the Mission Field. The Board has requested him to remain at Port George until the buildings are erected. Other workers have entered our service, in the persons of Mr. and Mrs. R. Percival Hall, appointed to Mapoon after Mrs. Ward's departure. Mr. Hey was not destined to have their assistance for long, as after six months he had to put them in charge of Weipa, where they are now doing good work. We also engaged Mr. and Mrs. H. Dyer, of Kensington College, Adelaide, as assistants for Aurukun. Mr. Holmes speaks well of their zeal and devotion. Before passing from this section of the report the Board would express its appreciation of Mr. Norman S. Paull, who, immediately on hearing of the death of Mr. Hall, volunteered to fill the breach at Mornington Island until other workers could be found. The Assembly will remember that Mr. Paull was with Mr. Hall at the opening of that Mission, and shared with him much of the toil of the early days. He resigned in February, 1915, enlisted in the A.I.F., and served at Gallipoli, where he was wounded. On his return to Australia he was discharged. Although his health would not permit him to take up the work permanently, he suspended his course of vocational training provided by the Repatriation Authorities, and within a week or two of the tragedy was on his way to the island. In this connection the Board accords its grateful thanks to the Bishop of Carpentaria for his most brotherly action in releasing Mr. Cyril Grant Lane, one of his lay workers, from Trubannan Mission. Mr. Lane arrived at Mornington Island soon after the murder, and in a very brief space had the work going again. He is still working along with Mr. Paull. The Assembly will doubtless express its thanks, both to the Bishop and to Mr. Lane himself. It is a remarkable testimony to the good influence that the Mission had on the people as a whole that very little real damage was done to the property. In recognition of Mr. Lane's services the Board forwarded to the Bishop a cheque for £50 towards his Aboriginal Mission work. While gladly welcoming these helpers, and appreciating to the full their Christian devotion, the Board feels very keenly that its call to missionary service has met with so little response from the sons and daughters of our own Church. We are most thankful for the manifestations of brotherly spirit and the help received from members of other Communion, but surely the Church Missions are a primary responsibility upon her own people.

**General.**—In regard to the matters remitted to the Board by last Assembly, we are in communication with Dr. J. R. Mott in regard to our Church's share of responsibility in the evangelisation of non-Christian lands and facilities offered by the educational policy of China to thoroughly qualified teachers of all branches of higher education.

The unsettled conditions of our work in North Queensland have prevented any steps being taken to form a Mission Council by our workers there. Nothing has been done in the way of issuing literature by the Board, but both Queensland and New South Wales have issued interesting pamphlets regarding their special fields. A good deal of literature has been distributed also in Victoria.

**Fraser Scholarship.**—The only appointment made was that of Mr. Claremont Collins, who is preparing for matriculation at the University

High School, Melbourne. The Board again calls the attention of the Foreign Missions Committees to the help offered by this Scholarship to candidates training for missionary service under their supervision. The balance available at present is £165/12/6.

As formerly, we are condensing the reports from the Churches and the Mission Fields. The various Assembly Blue Books are full of interesting and graphic details as to the progress of the Kingdom of God among the heathen, and the Board commends them to the careful and prayerful consideration of the Church.

#### REPORTS FROM STATIONS.

*1. Port George IV.*—This station has hardly emerged from its initial stages. War prices, labour and transport difficulties have hindered the completion of the Mission House. Building material has increased enormously in price, so that even with the extra £232, raised in Victoria, to supplement the Assembly's vote the sum available will do little more than complete one of the houses. The delay has been grievous, and the uncomfortable accommodation has had much to do with the ill-health of our missionaries. These things the Board regrets exceedingly. An effort is now being made, with the co-operation of the W.A. Executive, to have the material framed in Perth and forwarded, and Japanese carpenters sent from Broome to complete the assistant's house, which will be used for the Superintendent meanwhile. The Board acknowledges the help rendered to our Mission by our Ministers at Broome, as well as by Mr. H. L. Richardson, who has acted as agent there. The Board asks that a sum of £30 per annum be placed on the Assessment as Agency Fee for this work.

The Western Australian Government give a per capita grant of £5 each for sick or indigent natives and children. Owing to their wandering habits, our Missionary finds it extremely difficult to keep a record of those who are entitled to such help. The Board, realising that little permanent good could be effected unless the natives were kept under the spiritual and civilising influences of the Missionaries, resolved to set apart a sum, at the rate of £150 per annum, for emergency rations. As far as we know, but little of that amount has been drawn upon. A little church was erected by Mr. Wilson, and opened for service on the fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Mission. The building is a gift from Mrs. Wilson and her children. The great amount of manual work has to some extent interfered with teaching and preaching, but prayers are held each morning, and regular services on Sabbaths.

In *North Queensland* the work at our older stations progresses. At Mapoon Mr. and Mrs. Hey hold on their way in sunshine and shadow. They feel deeply the loss of their devoted colleague (Mrs. J. G. Ward), but her place is happily filled to some extent by their own daughter, Ina, who joined them as teacher at the beginning of July of this year. Mr. Hey's eldest son is with the Australian Imperial Forces "Somewhere in France." Since last report five adults have joined the Church by baptism, 20 infants of Christian parents were baptised, much work has been done for the Red Cross, and the young Church is beginning to realise her responsibility to the heathen in sending workers to the "regions beyond." The day school, with 70 children, was kept going without interruption, even although there were many changes on the teaching staff. Divine service on the Lord's Day and the weekly prayer meetings are well attended. The Mission property and vessels are all in good order, and Mr. Hey gives a feeling testimony to the faithful services of the late Charlie Busch as captain of the J. G. Ward for 14 years.

*Weipa* is at present under the care of Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Hall, from Mapoon, and Mr. Hey considers that the needs of this place could be met



by the continuance of some such arrangement under the oversight of the Missionary either at Mapoon or Aurukun.

*Aurukun* has moved steadily forward. Although the physical outlook is depressing, owing to a steady decline in the population, yet on the spiritual side the Missionaries have very much joy. Five young men decided for Christ about a year ago, and have remained steadfast; their changed lives have had a marked effect on the rest of the people. The day school, under the charge of Mrs. Dyer, has an attendance of 34. All the houses in the camp have been repaired, and three new ones built. Nine acres of sweet potatoes have been put in. A large dam and two wells have been put down at the landing, to take the place of two stagnant swamps, which have been drained, and so materially lessened the number of mosquitoes. The health of the people has been good. Mrs. Holmes was down south for a few months at the end of last year on sick leave, and Mr. Holmes will come for a short furlough at the end of this present year.

To *Mornington Island* we have already referred. Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Wilson will take up work there at the end of this year. They have resolved to carry on without male European assistance, if provided with good native helpers. We ask for them the prayers and sympathy of the Church, and commend them to the loving protection of our Heavenly Father.

#### REPORTS FROM THE CHURCHES.

*Queensland.*—The year 1917 has proved to be one of the most eventful in the history of our Mission work among the aboriginals, for it has witnessed the tragic death of one of our most valued Missionaries (Rev. R. Hall) and the serious wounding of his colleague (Mr. W. Owen).

The Committee places on record the very high esteem in which the late Rev. R. Hall was held, also the appreciation of his most valuable services in the work of the Gospel, and extends to the sorrowing widow and fatherless children the sincerest deepest sympathy of the Queensland Church. It notes with satisfaction that the matter of providing for the future has been taken up by the Church throughout Australia.

After twenty-six years of incessant toil Mrs. Ward, owing to the condition of her health, has been forced to remove from the north. No words in any report can adequately indicate the loss which this represents to the Mission. Experienced, wise, tactful, humble, full of faith, she had won the hearts of the people in a most remarkable manner. Her place will be hard to fill, but the work is in the Master's hand.

A small booklet, giving some facts regarding the various stations, and asking for greater interest and more liberal support, was also prepared. These were freely distributed in the congregations prior to 14th April, the day set apart by the Assembly as Heathen Mission Sunday.

It is also arranged by the Convener to pay a visit to the Mission Stations, but owing to the industrial troubles it was impracticable for him to do so. It lies within the range of possibility that this may be accomplished this year.

The year began with a debit balance of £113/19/2, and closes with a debit of £108/8/3. The Sunday-schools have increased their contribution by £42/2/9. This we hope to see steadily increasing. The total received from the P.W.M.U., Sunday-schools, Guilds, and donations amounts to £279/0/9—not a large sum when divided by Queensland.

It is evident that the time has not yet arrived when the Church in Queensland can assume responsibility for the maintenance and control of the mission work among the aborigines. Before this can be done we will require an annual income of not less than £1600. It might not be beyond our present power to assume control of one station.



*South Australia.*—The work of the Mission on Tanna is being steadily maintained, and the Gospel light is spreading through the agency of native teachers. Last year Mr. Macmillan completed 21 years' service on Tanna. The Assembly congratulated him on his work, and records its admiration of his determination and devotion in the face of many difficulties and discouragements, and noting also the fact that his eldest son has enlisted in the service of his country, extends him its sympathy alike in his anxiety and pride.

In the matter of finance, the balance-sheet as at 31st December, 1917, shows a deficit of £338/16/11. This includes a debit balance from 31st December, 1916, of £301/6/11, so that the deficit on the year's account amounts to £37/10/-. This comes so near to making ends meet that a very little extra effort during the current year would put things right. Your Committee, in discussing it, unanimously agreed to the following resolutions:—(1) That it be a recommendation to the Assembly to call the attention of Sabbath Schools to the necessity for larger annual contributions to the Missions to the heathen, which have a first claim on their funds; and (2) that it be a recommendation to the Assembly that steps be taken immediately to extinguish the standing deficit on the Foreign Missions Account.

## S.A. ASSEMBLY, 1918.

## FOREIGN MISSION.

## General Accounts.

Dr.		
December 31st, 1916.		
To Balance .. . . . .		£301 6 11
December 31st, 1917.		
„ Agent's Salary—Tanna .. . . .	£250 0 0	
„ Allowance for Children .. . . .	110 0 0	
„ Share of Support Board of Missions	106 18 5	
„ Sundry Charges .. . . . .	57 3 7	
	<hr/>	524 2 0
		<hr/>
		£825 8 11
		Cr.
December 31st, 1917.		
By Tanna Contributions .. . . . .	£40 0 0	
„ Contributions S.S. and Y.P. Associa-		
tions .. . . . .	60 14 8	
„ Contributions P.W.M.U. .. . . .	15 5 7	
„ Sundry Donations .. . . . .	12 13 0	
„ Assembly Collection .. . . . .	5 18 8	
„ Proceeds Assembly Tea .. . . .	15 13 9	
„ Contributions—42 per cent. Schemes		
of the Church .. . . . .	336 6 4	
	<hr/>	£486 12 0
„ Balance .. . . . .		338 16 11
		<hr/>
		£825 8 11

*Western Australia.*—Port George IV. reports steady progress. The general behaviour of the people has been good, so that, notwithstanding a good deal of serious fighting which has occurred at times among the natives in the near bush, those who have come under the influences of the Mission have remained trustful and friendly. They have been employed for the most part in doing work about the mission compound, and attending classes of an educational character, and,

while their repeated absences from the Mission make this work difficult, the Missionaries speak of it as progressing exceedingly well.

Permanent developments continue to be made at Kunmainya, the gardening operations being particularly successful, whilst the stock is being carefully fostered.

Since last Assembly the Government of Western Australia have had the whole question of Mission Subsidies under consideration, and have decided that in future assistance to be given by the State shall be on the basis of a fixed sum annually for every indigent native or child maintained at the Mission at the request of the Aborigines' Department. The grant to Port George is £5 per annum per indigent or approved child.

*New South Wales.*—The New South Wales Church is still pressing forward in all departments of the Mission work. The Convener visited India at the close of last year, and was able on the spot to deal with many matters affecting the Mission. He took part in the ordination of Mr. Balasandrum as assistant to the Rev. C. E. Turnbull, and arranged for an interim Session being formed. He also visited the schools and congregations around Sholinghur, as well as many of the villages, of which there are 400, with a population of 200,000 souls, with adjacent areas waiting to be taken up. The Evangelistic work urgently calls for another ordained Missionary. The medical work for women is highly appreciated, and the people are anxious to have it extended to men also. The educational work is most encouraging, and pupils are found willing to come for three hours in the morning, and return at night after the day's work is done. This work also needs to be greatly developed. Miss Symonds has returned to the field for a year to give Miss McLean a much-needed rest. The Committee has been greatly cheered by a gift of £1000 for development of urgently needed work in India. Work among the Chinese in the State has gone on quietly, but steadily. The semi-jubilee of the Chinese Church in Sydney was celebrated last May, and Mr. Yong Wai, who has been in charge for 37 years, is to have an extended furlough. The Chinese themselves have contributed over £70 towards the support of the Mission. The New South Wales Church shares with Victoria the services of Mr. Ettmann as Missionary to the Jews, among whom he finds many doors of entrance for the Gospel.

In the New Hebrides Nogugu is still vacant, but the Rev. J. N. MacKenzie spent part of his furlough from Korea in revisiting his old parish. He made some new translations, and revised former ones. His presence gave new heart and hope to the native Church. His visit closed with a united Communion service, at which 200 sat down at the Lord's Table.

Rev. D. L. Paterson, of Malo, has had increased responsibility laid on him by the absence of so many missionaries. He has charge of Hog Harbour and Tereviu, and for a time the care of the Teachers' Institute on Tangoa. He complains of continued sale of intoxicants and illegal recruiting. The teachers and people are faithful, and heathenism is disappearing. He acknowledges thankfully evident tokens of a work of grace in the hearts of the young men.

Since his return from India the Convener has been engaged principally at headquarters. He has preached in a number of the metropolitan churches, and has been busily occupied with matters of organisation, with a view to producing an increase in the regular revenue. The matter of the deficit has also been dealt with, and efforts have been made, which have already had some effect in the way of reduction.

The Women's Missionary Association has received special attention, and a series of groups and several individual associations have been visited. The outcome of this work generally is that substantial efforts have been undertaken towards the extinction of the deficit, and assurances have been freely offered that there will be a more generous support given to the funds

in future. The Girls' Auxiliary has promised to heartily co-operate in any efforts made by the congregation to which they belong for improving the finances. They have contributed the salary of Dr. Innes.

The Men's League has reconstructed its constitution, and now aims definitely at making the Mission work of the Church one of its main objectives. Some of the men on their own initiative have set going a movement to help to wipe out the deficit, and have already raised a substantial sum.

The Fellowship Union experienced a time of great blessing at their Summer Camp at Bowral, when about 400 members were in session. The practical outcome has been that the Union has asked to be allowed to support Miss Symonds and pay her travelling expenses both ways. They have already remitted £132, and have put forth successful efforts in various directions for the reduction of the deficit.

#### NEW SOUTH WALES FOREIGN MISSIONS BOARD.

Dr.

##### DISBURSEMENTS.

	1916.	1917.
Aborigines Mission . . . . .	£984 0 11	£997 15 1
Chinese Mission . . . . .	708 0 8	719 17 1
New Hebrides Mission . . . . .	672 15 5	685 5 11
Indian Mission . . . . .	1,472 11 5	2,032 3 5
Indian Hospital . . . . .	565 16 3	698 7 2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£4,403 4 8	£5,133 8 8
Balance 1st January, 1916 . . . . .	613 2 0	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£5,016 6 8	£5,133 8 8
Debit Balance 1st January, 1918 . . . . .	—	£1,995 18 6

Cr.

##### RECEIPTS.

	1916.	1917.
Aborigines Mission . . . . .	£135 19 8	£118 11 11
Chinese Mission . . . . .	158 3 0	124 15 1
New Hebrides Mission . . . . .	561 8 1	198 4 1
Indian Mission . . . . .	1,183 12 6	911 15 8
Indian Hospital . . . . .	376 2 11	346 0 11
General Mission . . . . .	1,748 12 7	1,842 17 6
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£4,163 18 9	£3,542 5 2
Transfer from Reserves . . . . .	£323 11 6	£124 1 5
Debit Balance 31st Dec., 1917	—	1,995 18 6
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£4,487 10 3	£5,662 5 1

*Victoria.*—The Victorian Church expresses devout thankfulness for God's blessing on its work. Three of their missionaries have been spared to reach their semi-jubilee—Miss Menzies and Miss Moore in Korea, and the Rev. F. J. Paton in the New Hebrides. Work has been seriously hindered by war conditions. Dr. Nicholson (of Tanna) resigned in order to take up military service. Dr. Ewen McKenzie, of the New Hebrides, and Dr. C. I. McLaren, of Korea, have obtained leave of absence for the same purpose. Rev. D. M. Lyall gave most of his recent furlough to Y.M.C.A. work in Egypt. Rev. F. J. Paton has gone as a chaplain. And, last of all, our Foreign Missions Secretary (Rev. F. H. L. Paton) has sailed for the

Front in the same capacity. Thus, our Stations on all Fields are seriously undermanned, and a burden all too heavy is laid upon the workers remaining. Since last report Rev. E. M. K. Raff has been stationed at Vila, New Hebrides, and quite recently Rev. J. Campbell Rae (from Scotland) has gone to take up the work in the Southern New Hebrides. To Korea we have sent Dr. Jean Davies, Miss M. Withers, M.A., and Miss McCague. Sisters Turner and Hope have been appointed to the John G. Paton Hospital at Vila. There has, however, been a lack of adequate financial support. The debt, though greatly reduced, still exists, but the Committee believes that, as the life of the Church is quickened by the Spiritual Mission, and organised by the systematic giving of the budget system, there will be a great increase of liberality.

The organisations at the Home Base have been fruitfully busy. The P.W.M.U. is pushing out into wider spheres of influence, both at home and abroad. By the magnificent contributions of Mission Boxes it heartens and helps our Missionaries on all Fields, whilst through its Missionaries in Korea it makes a unique contribution to the winning of that people for Christ. The Fellowship Union has entered on a forward movement in conjunction with the Bible Class Union by appointing the Rev. N. H. Joughin as Travelling Secretary. The Senior Girls' Missionary Union is going forward by leaps and bounds. It supports Miss Clerke in Korea and Deaconess Young in Fitzroy, and lately has made itself responsible for the salary of Matron Swyer, at Vila Hospital. The Young People's Mission Band supports Rev. J. N. MacKenzie as its Missionary in Korea and Miss McDonald at Fitzroy.

The Baby Mission Band now numbers 1981 members. The Presbyterian Men's League is beginning to make its influence felt, and Presbyteries have cordially taken up the suggestion of last Assembly that their members should prepare lectures on our fields of work, and deliver them in the congregations throughout the Presbyteries.

The Foreign Missions Secretary carried on his work, as in past years, in Bible Study Schools, Conferences, and meetings of various kinds, both in town and country. Through the kind offices of the Rev. W. S. Rolland, the Committee was able to procure a fine Ford car for his use without touching the funds of the Church. The Committee have given him twelve months' leave of absence to go as chaplain to the Front. It was intended at first that Revs. R. D. Watson and T. W. Leggatt should carry on his work in the office, but before Mr. Paton sailed Mr. Watson felt constrained, in view of the claims of deputation work throughout the Church and the need of returning to Korea as soon as possible, to withdraw from that duty. The Committee, in view of the new situation which arose, appointed Mr. Leggatt as Acting-Secretary during Mr. Paton's absence, and he has begun work in that capacity.

The work among the Chinese is carried on in an ever-lessening population, but with many tokens of blessing, by our Missionaries at various centres, and in the Chinese School in Melbourne by Miss Pye, with voluntary helpers.

The hope that the way would open up for Rev. T. J. Smith to go to Korea for special work among the Japanese has not been realised, and it is now proposed to carry on that work through the local Missionaries. The Committee, however, believes that Mr. Smith's offer has given a permanent stimulus to the Church's work in Korea. Something more is being done for the unfortunate lepers in Korea, as the Mission to the Lepers in the East proposes to raise £500 to build a home for untainted children of lepers. They have also made a grant of £1000 for a leper hospital at Tongyeng, to be under the supervision of our staff. The work in Korea on the whole has been *intensive* rather than of an *extensive* nature. In spite of the extreme poverty of the people, intensified by war conditions, the Christians in our districts have contributed over £1000 for the maintenance of

the work, so giving evidence that they are progressing in self-support and love of the Gospel. It is also noteworthy that at the last Korean General Assembly the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, and Clerk were all Koreans. There were 152 Korean Ministers and Elders, as compared to 43 Foreign Missionaries.

The last Victorian Assembly adopted the Mission to the Jews, and placed it under the care of a special Committee. Mr. Ettmann does excellent work, and finds many open doors for preaching Christ to his countrymen. The P.W.M.U. has promised to support a deaconess to help him.

#### VICTORIA.

##### Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for years ending 1916-17 and 1917-18.

	Receipts.	Expenditure.
Foreign Missions . . . . .	£7,630 19 2	£1,873 14 9
Aborigines . . . . .	736 15 2	2,946 5 0
Chinese . . . . .	1,381 2 5	1,599 14 0
Korean . . . . .	7,837 11 7	10,424 5 1
New Hebrides . . . . .	1,487 14 4	5,039 19 5
Dayspring Maintenance . . . . .	662 17 7	782 17 8
Native Teachers . . . . .	349 1 4	489 8 2
A. G. Russell . . . . .	483 15 6	654 13 5
New Hebrides Trust . . . . .	1,295 7 6	100 0 0
P.W.M.U. . . . .	6,325 1 7	6,319 19 8
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£28,190 6 2	£30,230 17 2

Expenditure exceeds receipts by £2,040/11/-.

#### Finance.

The present assessment has proved adequate to the needs of the work during the four years out of the five for which it was determined. The amounts collected under it, as compared with the actual expenditure, have permitted the accumulation of a large balance in hand, viz., £2036/5/11, and this may naturally suggest to such as are less acquainted with the Board's system the question why so much has been drawn from the several Foreign Missions Committees of the States apparently beyond actual requirements. The answer is that the whole estimated assessment was necessary for the normal outlook, but emergent circumstances from time to time, which could not be foreseen, and some gaps that occurred in the staff, and are not yet filled, have lessened expenses or compelled the Board to retain at its credit sums due to others, but unpayable while the war lasts. Of the latter sort are the remittances to the Moravian Board for Rev. A. Richter and the Pensions Rates, which must be held until the war ends. A full statement of these liabilities is given in the accounts.

#### BALANCES.

	Dr.	Cr.
Salaries . . . . .	—	£421 10 3
Assistants' Salaries . . . . .	—	—
Pensions . . . . .	—	120 4 9
Boat Services . . . . .	—	—
Upkeep . . . . .	—	423 11 8
Furlough . . . . .	—	479 18 0
General Expenses . . . . .	—	—
Mornington Island Houses . . . . .	—	132 0 0
Port George IV. Houses . . . . .	—	293 8 9
		<hr/>
		£1,870 13 5

John Fraser Endowment .....	—	165 12 6
Cash in Banks .....	—	£2,036 5 11

## LIABILITIES.

John Fraser Endowment .....	£165 12 6
Due Rev. A. Richter (per Moravian Board) .....	230 0 0
Due Rev. E. Brown (unpaid increment) .....	55 0 0
Pension Rates .....	120 4 9
Upkeep .....	423 11 8
Furloughs .....	479 18 0
Mornington Island Houses .....	132 0 0
Port George IV. Houses .....	293 8 9
	<hr/>
	£1,899 15 8

## ASSETS.

Cash .....	£2,036 5 11
Balance due from W.A. to 30/6/18 .....	15 7 8
Balance due from Tasmania—for one quarter .....	18 5 0
	<hr/>
	£2,069 18 7

Rev. A. Richter declined to use the permission given him by the Commonwealth Government to return to Australia, and the Board learned later that he was engaged in German military service. Last Assembly decided to declare his Mission Station vacant. In adjusting Mr. Richter's claims on our finances the Board took everything into account, and the result is as follows:—

13 Months' Salary (1/7/14 to 31/7/15), at £220 p.a.	£238 0 0
Fees for Medical Course in Germany .....	30 0 0
Surgical Charges for Mrs. Richter .....	10 0 0
	<hr/>
	£278 0 0

## Deduct—

Native Assistant's Salary (7 months)	£28 0 0
Other Outlays for Station chargeable to Missionary .....	20 0 0
	<hr/>
	£48 0 0

Due Rev. A. Richter, per Moravian Board .. £230 0 0

The Board regrets that its advertisement for an ordained Superintendent at Aurukun has not been successful, and it proposes to continue Mr. T. W. Holmes in charge, with Mr. and Mrs. Dyer as assistant and teacher. The Board asks authority to increase Mr. Holmes' salary to £200 per annum.

The amount still at credit for the Mission Houses, with the additions thereto from next year's assessment, will be remitted to the respective stations for improvement or completion of the buildings at the earliest possible moment. This part of the assessment will cease automatically from September, 1919, and the various churches will in due course be advised by the Board of the relief thus to be afforded them. The Board has accumulated for upkeep of Station Buildings £423/11/8, and asks authority to use this balance so far as may appear necessary, along with any additions to it accruing in the incoming year to adjust expenditure on the new or the original Station Buildings.

The Board regrets that the interest earned by the Frazer Endowment



has been accumulating because of the scarcity of applicants for the Scholarships it provides. Recently a student of much promise has been appointed in Melbourne to a scholarship of £25 a year. The Board requests members of Assembly to let these scholarships and the conditions on which they are held be more widely known in the respective Churches. The particulars are as follows:—

#### Regulations of Frazer Scholarship.

1. The interest of the Fund shall be divided into two sums of two-thirds and one-third respectively, of which the larger shall be allotted to a male candidate for missionary training. When there is no male candidate the Board may allot the scholarship at its discretion.
2. The scholarships, when awarded to candidates, whether male or female, shall be tenable for two years if the Board is satisfied with the progress made by the holder, and may be renewed.
3. The scholarship may be given by the Board of Missions to further the training of candidates at any stage of their studies in any approved school, college, training institute, or university.
4. Holders of the scholarship may reside and prosecute their studies in any State of the Commonwealth under the supervision of the Foreign Mission Committee of that State.
5. Before the first payment is made the holder of a scholarship shall give an undertaking in writing that he or she will study for mission work among the heathen, and will proceed to some mission field approved by the Board when fully trained, failing which the full amount of the scholarship shall be repaid to the Board of Missions.

The assessment provides £21 fee per annum as premiums for the Moravian Churches' Beneficiary Funds for their Missionaries, of whom two are now out of our service. The lamented death of the late Rev. R. Hall raised the question of provision for his children and widow. It is gratifying that the appeal which the Board made to the liberality of the Churches in this case met with a large response, but it is felt that besides taking advantage of the help given by State Insurance the Church should have some dependable scheme of provision for the old age and the dependents of its missionaries. The Board asks authority to frame such a scheme, and to increase the assessment in accordance with its requirements.

With the exception of certain charges, the salary of the Missionary at Aurukun has been accumulating in the Board's hands from 1st August, 1915, and the balance should be returned to the contributing Churches. From 30th June, 1918, the salary of the Missionary at Weipa has been in a like position, and as it is not at present proposed to have an ordained Missionary at Weipa this will also reduce the assessment claimed from the Churches.

The New South Wales Committee, under instructions from its State Assembly, forwarded the following recommendations to your Board:—

- (a) That there should be more frequent opportunities for a full meeting of the Board.
- (b) That there should be more satisfactory arrangements regarding the Beneficiary Funds.

The latter has been already referred to, and in regard to the former the Board would be glad indeed to have such meetings more frequently, and suggests that a sum be placed on the assessment towards providing travelling expenses of members for that purpose.

The Board gratefully acknowledges the special help received from the

Honorary Auditor (Mr. W. L. Mollison), the staffs of the various Church Offices, especially that in Melbourne, Mr. A. L. Pryde (the Board's Honorary Treasurer), and Mr. W. H. Thompson, whose accuracy and care in keeping the books and attending to other business matters have greatly facilitated the Board's work.

The Convener was instructed to draw up an Assessment for the year intervening between the close of the present Assessment and the next Assembly, viz., from 1st October, 1919, to 30th September, 1920.

The Board has also to report that its Treasurer has received a sum of £1000. in Commonwealth Inscribed Stock, bequeathed to the Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church of Australia by the late Nathaniel Lyle, of Prahran, Victoria. The Foreign Missions Committee of Victoria has represented to the Board, and submitted certain evidence in support of its belief, that it was Mr. Lyle's intention to leave the money to the Foreign Missions of the Victorian Church, in which he was specially interested. The Board considered the matter carefully, and, having obtained the opinion of the Law Agent of the Church as to the competency of its action, decided, by a majority, to recommend the Assembly to allocate the money to the Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, under the control of the Church in Victoria.

The Convener tenders his resignation, as he is not now a member of Assembly.

Signed for the Board by direction,

T. WATT LEGGATT,

Convener.

QUEENSLAND EXECUTIVE OF THE FOREIGN MISSIONS BOARD.

Dr. STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FROM 1st AUGUST, 1916, TILL 31st JULY, 1918. Cr.

RECEIPTS.		DISBURSEMENTS.	
1916.		1918. July 31.	
Aug. 1 To Balance .. . . . . .	£209 11 3	By Mapoon—	
1918.		Mission Station Account .. . . .	£735 0 0
July 31.		Teacher's Salary .. . . . . .	200 0 0
To Government Grant for Mapoon ..	£1,000 0 0	Medicines and School Supplies ..	9 5 8
„ Government Grant for Weipa ..	600 0 0		£944 5 8
„ Government Grant for Aurukun ..	600 0 0	„ Weipa—	
„ Government Grant for Mornington ..	600 0 0	Mission Station Account .. . . .	385 0 0
	2,800 0 0	Amount received from Insurance	
„ State Insurance Commissioner—for treatment of		Commissioner .. . . . . .	7 0 0
an aboriginal at Weipa .. . . . . .	7 0 0	School Supplies .. . . . . .	1 19 2
„ Mission Board—for Dr. Burton Brown's fee for			393 19 2
attendance on Mr. Owen at Normanton ..	9 9 0	„ Aurukun—	
„ Mr. W. Owen—Refund portion of advance ..	5 0 0	Mission Station Account .. . . .	385 0 0
		Teachers' Salaries .. . . . . .	250 0 0
		Passage of Mrs. Holmes .. . . .	7 4 6
			642 4 6
		„ Mornington Island—	
		Mission Station Account .. . . .	408 15 0
		Accounts for Mission House ..	75 3 2
		Amount Advanced Mr. Owen at	
		Normanton .. . . . . .	25 0 0
		Passages of Missionaries to Bris-	
		banc .. . . . . .	50 14 0
		Dr. Burton Brown's Account ..	9 9 0
		Mrs. Owen's Passage to Burke-	
		town .. . . . . .	15 0 0
		Teacher's Salary .. . . . . .	185 10 0
			769 11 2
		„ Accident Insurance Premiums .. . . .	8 2 8
		„ Bank Charges and Exchange on Drafts .. . . .	16 5 9
		„ Petty Cash and Sundries .. . . . . .	2 12 0
		„ Balance at Bank of Queensland Ltd. £278 19 4	
		Less Cheque Outstanding .. . . .	25 0 0
			253 19 4
			£3,031 0 3
	£3,031 0 3		£3,031 0 3

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Brisbane, September 1, 1918.

Audited and found correct.

A. S. LANG, F.I.A.Q., Auditor.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S FOREIGN MISSIONS BOARD.

Statements of Receipts and Payments from 18th August, 1916, to 23rd August, 1918.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
Balance, 18/8/16	£1,195 0 9	Salaries—	
Victoria to 30/6/18	2,424 10 0	Rev. N. Hey, 2 years to 30/6/18	£480 0 0
New South Wales to 30/6/18	1,626 0 0	Rev. E. Brown, 2 years to 30/6/18	440 0 0
Queensland to 30/6/18	669 5 0	Rev. W. J. S. Rankin, to 30/6/18	160 0 0
South Australia to 30/6/18	174 5 0	Mr. R. H. Wilson, 2 years to 30/6/18	480 0 0
Tasmania to 31/3/18	146 0 0	Late Robert Hall, to 31/3/18	350 0 0
Western Australia	310 12 4	Assistants, 2 years to 30/6/18	1,085 2 2
Interest	28 1 10	Boatmen, 2 years to 30/6/18	303 14 9
Contributions from Victoria for Port George Lugger	49 8 2		£3,298 16 11
Contributions from Victoria for Port George Houses	232 8 9	Assistant Missionaries' Fares and Incidental Expenses	324 3 8
Contributions from Victoria and Tasmania for Mrs. Hall	186 0 10	On account Port George IV. Houses	159 0 0
Contributions for Support of Children, North Queensland	55 15 0	On account Mornington Island Houses	48 0 0
Collection at General Assembly in Sydney	12 0 6	Purchase of Lugger W. S. Rolland and Oil Engine and Sails	220 18 8
Sale of Curios (R. H. Wilson)	7 10 0	Expenses J. G. Ward and Morning Star (£239/16/-, less £53/10/5 refunded from previous term)	186 5 7
		Mrs. Ward's Fare to England, to be refunded	52 0 0
		Purchase of Cattle—Mornington Island	9 19 0
		Purchase of Furniture—Port George IV.	28 5 8
		Typewriter and Cabinet	18 3 6
		Lantern Slides	14 19 7
		Medical Expenses (Mr. W. Owen)	14 17 0
		Bishop of Carpentaria, in recognition of Mr. Lane's Work at Mornington Island	50 0 0
		Workers' Compensation Act Premium	4 10 0
		Boat Maintenance, Stores, etc., Port George IV.	470 15 0
		Executive Committee's Expenses	37 18 10
		Cost of Drafts, Printing, Postages, etc.	35 15 6
		Western Australian Expenses	5 0 0
		Support of Children at Mapoon and Aurukun	80 15 0
		Mrs. Hall—Amount Collected	186 0 10
		Balance	1,870 13 5
	£7,116 18 2		£7,116 18 2

JOHN FRAZER FOREIGN MISSION SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

To Balance, 18/8/16	£90 12 6	By Balance in Bank	£165 12 6
„ New South Wales Treasurership Committee—Interest to 30/6/18	75 0 0		
	£165 12 6		£165 12 6

Audited and found correct, WM. L. MOLLISON, Hon. Treasurer.

A. L. PRYDE, Hon. Auditor.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS.

Your Committee has the honour to report that during the past two years the work of the Home Mission Department has been carried on with steady enthusiasm and with a large measure of success. Our agents have been loyal and hardworking in the face of many difficulties created by the continuance of war conditions, and our people have been generous all along the line.

The duty of caring for our soldiers in camp has been faithfully done, and many grateful testimonies from training camps and overseas have reached us.

When the war is over the further care of our soldier men who will settle in the free life of the far lands will be a heavy responsibility on this department, as also will the provision that must be made for the new influx of immigrants who may be expected in Australia.

## General Work.

As the duties of your Committee have been so largely associated with the A.I.M., it will not be necessary to speak at length on the work of the Home Mission proper in the various States. The reports from these are appended, and it is a gratification to know that the officials in charge are men thoroughly alive to the Home Mission problem, and handling it with sympathy and skill.

From the reports we learn that:—

13 new stations have been opened.

1 has lapsed.

15 have been temporarily amalgamated.

5 have been raised to sanctioned charges.

5 have been reduced in status.

The present total is .....

There are ..... home missionaries employed, and 70 are studying under the H.M. Training Scheme.

## Australian Inland Mission.

During the last two years we have had the usual difficulties arising from scarcity of ministers and nurses who are free to face the far-off fields. Practically all who are so free have already gone to the Front. It is with grateful hearts that we announce a full staff in our existing stations, with one exception.

There was considerable interest aroused at last Assembly by two proposals then before us. One was that we should take over from the Congregational Union of Western Australia the pastoral care of Carnarvon and district. It is with pleasure that we now report the fulfilment of this plan. The church building has been leased at a rental which just pays the interest on mortgage, and we have the right to purchase at any time within three years for £380, plus taking over the mortgage of £170. When it is remembered that the said property cost £1050, and is now worth more, in view of the increased price of building, it will be seen in what a co-operative spirit the transaction has been carried out by our sister Church. The principle followed was that money paid should equal only such amount as had been donated originally by the Union itself, leaving local giving as a heritage for the incoming Mission. The Church is a substantial, well-designed brick building.

For nearly a year after the agreement, however, no man could be found

for the work. We were feeling desperate, but one of our Board members heard the call, and offered his services in the absence of a younger man. To Rev. W. H. Cooper, M.A., B.D., the thanks of the Church are due. His example is inspiring, and we trust that his courage in breaking so many associations in Victoria, where he had been for years a recognised leader, finally honoured as Moderator of Assembly, will be the measure of his success in that distant field.

The other proposal was that the A.I.M. should station a nurse at Maranboy, N.T., a mining field 250 miles south of Darwin. The Department of Home and Territories had shown keen sympathy by offering to erect a roomy building, and provide all rations, fittings, drugs, also black boy and lubra. For over a year now Sister Hepburn and Miss Gillespie have nobly cared for miners and surrounding bushmen. The necessity of the hospital may be inferred from the fact that from 7th June to 31st July of this year no fewer than 19 fever patients were treated within the ward, and numerous others were helped as outpatients.

As Rev. J. C. Gibson so often reminded us, the old cry in many corners of the long-neglected north used to be, "What has the Church ever done for us?" At Maranboy that cry is dead. It could not survive that last fever season!

We express our deepest gratitude to the department, to Dr. Jones, and many other officials, and especially to the Administrator, for their never-failing goodness to our lady workers. Nothing has been left undone that could be done, and even some critics of the department are loud in praise of the splendid way in which this novel co-operation has succeeded, largely owing to extreme generosity of the Government. Friends in Penola Presbytery have the honour of maintaining Maranboy, so far as our Home Base helps, and they set a fine example in nation-building by relating province to province.

Last year, thanks to the sympathy of the Victorian Home Mission Committee, we were able to place a second man at Cloncurry. Mr. Somerville has been alone, however, since December. It proved impossible for Rev. F. L. Heriot to return, owing to death removing a relative, thus rendering his presence necessary nearer home. Mr. P. Somerville has cheerfully carried on, but now we are glad to have Mr. W. R. McKenzie there at last, so for a while work will be prosecuted with greater vigour again. Soon Mr. Somerville must return, however, to complete his studies, and we would be helped if some minister could see his way to volunteer for permanent service in the needy west of Queensland.

An entirely new venture has been entered on just as this report was in preparation. In August of last year readers of the press in many parts of Australia were arrested by a narrative of original character, for it was published and reprinted many times. A young man was badly injured at Hall's Creek, in the farthest north of Western Australia. Acting under directions from a doctor in Perth, 2000 miles away, by wire, the local postmaster performed three successive operations, without instruments save his pen-knife, and thus gave relief. Then the doctor travelled up 1700 miles by boat and motors, occupying thirteen days in the journey, but he was too late, for the patient had died just twenty hours before his arrival.

No Presbyterian minister had ever visited Hall's Creek, but having heard of our efforts to help the frontiers, and quickened by this tragedy, the local people approached us last March through two of their own number who happened to be passing through Sydney. As soon as the subsequent meeting was held, after their return, a sum of £230 was subscribed among thirty men, and they wired asking the A.I.M. to establish a nursing home at once in temporary premises, on which they proposed to spend immediately £100 in alterations. We agreed, and as we write Sister Rogasch and Miss M. E. Madigan are purchasing preliminary outfit in Perth, to continue their way by first boat.

They are to be met by motor at Derby, and hurried across 300 miles along the same route followed by the doctor. As the residents have already set out to raise £1000 for a permanent building, to be erected next year, we may feel assured that all will be done to make the venture a success from the start.

In this effort we are fortunate in having the active sympathy of Dr. Holland, who was the physician to go up last year. His local knowledge then gained assisted in the fitting out. By courtesy of the Deputy Postmaster-General in Perth, Dr. Holland will be able to enter the operating room, provided with a special telegraphist, and give advice over the wires whenever necessary.

The Government of Western Australia has long ago sealed its sympathy for the north-west by the appointment of a special minister to watch over its interests. The Hon. R. Underwood is personally familiar with all the problems. It was he who recommended in 1914 that £70 per annum be granted to our hospital at Port Hedland, and with his approval a grant of £125 per annum has been made, as from last July, to assist Hall's Creek.

Another development in which we have ventured is to send out a lady doctor to report on the life of women and children in the north and inland. Early this year Dr. Helen Braye, now X-Ray expert at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, offered to give a year of service to the A.I.M. She had offered for the Front, but was not accepted, and felt that this would be one way of "doing her bit" for Australia. She was not concerned about salary, so long as her needs were met.

During the visit of the Superintendent to Melbourne last May this offer was the subject of deep consideration among Victorian members of our Board. They were helped much by the report of Rev. K. D. McDonald, who had called on Dr. Holland while passing through Perth, and discussed the plan with him. After this it was agreed at next meeting of the Executive to accept Dr. Braye's patriotic offer. It commits us to nothing beyond the inquiry, which should start next May. It is hoped that the doctor will first visit the Institute for the Study of Tropical Diseases at Townsville, then spend some months each at Maranboy and Hall's Creek, returning by Perth, and conferring at every port with the doctors who may be resident. We are asking her also to prepare material that may be incorporated in a Handbook for Inland Women, on lines parallel with the "Bushman's Companion."

Since last Assembly we have said farewell, so far as field work is concerned, to many faithful workers. Rev. F. G. H. and Mrs. Brady left Broome last November, after nearly five years' service. They are at present laying the foundations of a new charge at Mt. Lawley, Perth. Rev. John Shaw, his wife and sister, served us well in Port Hedland district, and left in January. Mr. Shaw accepted a call to Northam, in the south of Western Australia, but he continues to help our cause as hon. sec. to the Inland Council in that State.

Sister Haines has retired from Port Hedland Nursing Home; Mr. R. B. Plowman, whose long journeys throughout Central Australia during the past five years have made him so well known among all the Inland Brigade, is now pioneering in a new sphere, an Industrial Y.M.C.A. Hut, at Yarraville, Victoria. Sister Lousada also left us early last year, and, as already mentioned, Rev. F. L. Heriot and his wife had to give up Cloncurry, and are now at Peshurst, Vic.

After nearly three years of service as the first Presbyterian minister in the north of Northern Territory, working out from Pine Creek, Rev. J. C. Gibson found it necessary to seek a cooler climate. By an interesting coincidence Mr. Gibson was called to Lake Macquarie, N.N.W., which had just been vacated through Mr. Partridge joining our staff.

We have been fortunate in the new workers who have joined us during

the same period. We have already referred to several. Rev. A. J. Eipper, of Broome, has had station experience near his own people in the Hunter District of New South Wales. Rev. K. D. McDonald, B.A., while in the parish of Longueville, Sydney, had undertaken the duties of hon. sec. to our Board in succession to Rev. J. A. R. Perkins, B.A., who had to last year resign, owing to need of rest after illness. The insight into our work led to his offer of personal service in the field, and his interest deepens steadily. Rev. K. F. Partridge, M.A., is the holder of the Travelling Fellowship given by the Theological Hall of St. Andrew's College, but he promised us a year's service in the meantime. Sister Simpson holds two nursing diplomas, also that of the Deaconess and Missionary Training Institute, Melbourne, and has won much success in her kindergarten work at Port Hedland.

Sister Rogasch was regarded as one of the most competent nurses in the service of the District Trained Nurses' Association of South Australia. She came to our aid for a few weeks last year, when Oodnadatta became vacant suddenly, but the term lengthened to six months, during which time her interest deepened in our ideals. When Hall's Creek called she offered to go there, and Dr. Holland sends his testimony: "My impression is that you could not find one better fitted." Sister Hore was for over a year Acting-Matron of Austin Hospital, Heidelberg, Vic., and became interested through the enlistment of Sister Hepburn, who was then one of her Sisters. Sister and Miss Mouritz are daughters of a soldier, whose service at the Front cost him his sight. They are both highly recommended by their ministers of Corowa and Finley, N.S.W.

That we should have serious difficulty in securing staff in these times is natural, in view of the call overseas. But our search has been constantly sustained, and the outlook for the future is indeed good, especially for nurses.

It has also come to the knowledge of the Board that many ministers in the Homeland, who have been detached from their congregations during the war, purpose seeking new spheres of labour. Having regard to the shortage of qualified ministers in the Commonwealth, it is felt that Australia should endeavour to obtain her share of these men, and to this end we suggest that the Committee be empowered to bring the matter under the notice of the Home Mission Committees of the States, and to State Assemblies, with a view to concerted action under the direction of this Committee, suitable to the situation as it may develop.

The Board report with pleasure that the Church in Victoria has placed ministers ordained in that Church who took service with the A.I.M., on the same footing as Foreign Missionaries, with respect to the Beneficiary Funds.

It was with deep regret that we learned of the death at the Front of Chaplain-Major Stevens, who had served us with such acceptance at Port Hedland. Mr. Stevens was ever in the forefront of duty, and we had hoped again to see him in our field.

We are proud of the distinction won by Chaplain-Major Rolland, M.C., our Convener for Victoria, now at the Front. His strong personality, which won so many friends in Central Australia and at Broome, has cheered many of our lads in the trenches. We congratulate also Lieut.-Col. T. H. Steel, O.B.E., on the honours won by him since he resigned as hon. sec. to the Victorian Inland Council.

Steadily the A.I.M. ideals are gripping our own people, and they are penetrating beyond our denomination; in fact, we have many of our warmest friends and supporters among those of other folds. We owe special debts to the Anglican Church for Sisters Lousada and Hore and Miss Madigan; to the Baptist for Sister Rogasch; and to a Congregational friend who found Sister Rogasch for us.



And beyond the members of Churches, and among the lapsed, our aims are calling forth praise or silencing criticism. In his Moderatorial address in Perth the Right Rev. Alex. Crow remarked:—

“There is no doubt that, rightly or wrongly, a large proportion of the community has been prejudiced against the Church. Many of the old prejudices and preconceived ideas are being dispelled, and men's thoughts are being held in solution. They are prepared to listen to the voice which has the note of conviction, and a message for man's need.”

In humility we confess that we have left undone too long the things we ought to have done in many of the lonely places of this continent; but our energies are strained to overtake those calls which could really be overtaken fully only after the federation of our State Churches had been consummated. Our efforts are, after six years of increased organisation, compelling attention on the frontiers, and among city people who have interests afar. One man, who had not entered church for ten years, and who still spends the daylight of Sabbath out fishing, recently put up a record of seven consecutive Sunday evenings at church. He then presented us with a good typewriter. Another, who had been engaged in rough bush work for thirty-three years, was brought into one of our Nursing Homes to be helped back to strength. There he happened to read various books, including “The Bushman's Companion.” He afterwards wrote saying that the “Companion” had carried him back to things forgotten for over thirty years, but they had now gripped again, and he urged that when a new edition was printed it should include “Eight Reasons Why I Believe Jesus to be the Son of God.” These he had found in another book loaned by our nurse. Since then he has been baptised—at the age of sixty-three!

In placing out, in formerly neglected primitive centres, our Homes of Healing, we do two things which no man may gainsay. First: We provide a reminder of greater things hoped for. We testify that we believe in the material future of our own Australia, and the hearts of bush folk warm to all who do that. Second: We silently compel men, no matter how reckless their own lives may have been, to believe that we believe that the very hairs of their heads are all numbered. If our Church can fully persuade them of that, the Kingdom of Christ will claim its own in God's own time, hastened by our increasingly practical demonstration of His Mercy.

In conclusion, the Board desires to express its pleasure at the continued support of this work, and the steadily growing interest in the A.I.M. It records its appreciation of loyal help from the various church offices, and the continually increasing staff of honorary workers gathered in each capital, in themselves a testimony to the organising ability of our General Superintendent, the Rev. John Flynn.

The A.I.M. is now known throughout the English-speaking world, and may be considered one of the unique institutions of Australia.

ARTHUR J. WADE,

Convener.

#### REPORT OF INLAND SUPERINTENDENT.

After six years of service since the A.I.M. began, a review of the past may prove of interest. My own work has been along three lines—Survey, Propaganda, Organisation.

The early survey was accomplished mainly before the A.I.M. was actually founded; partly during my service under the Smith of Dunesk Mission, covering the whole of the Far North of South Australia; partly while acting as Special Commissioner in Northern Territory for the Home and Foreign Mission Boards. During the first two years other journeys enabled

me to gather information about Central Australia, the north-west of Western Australia, and the country east of Kalgoorlie. Recently, while on a visit to Oodnadatta a hurried run was made to country west of Port Augusta, supplementing knowledge gathered while formerly acting as interim-moderator of Port Augusta, when also Iron Knob and country 50 miles west was seen.

Pulpit and platform work was the chief activity, however, during the first four years, and it involved constant travel throughout Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia, with brief visits to South Australia and Tasmania.

In the third year a grave weakness was revealed. Our income was found to be unstable. In places aroused interest tended to die away again. Localities visited, which had promised well, failed to make good in any satisfactory manner. It was then that an experiment was made in Sydney with the "Office Team" idea. In the fourth year, owing to good promise, teams were founded in Brisbane and Melbourne. There were many difficulties, but sound methods of work were slowly evolved. A year ago enthusiastic teams began work in Adelaide and Perth, thus providing for the whole mainland.

One can hardly overestimate the value of services rendered by these ladies. In March of this year the two Sydney teams organised a fete, which yielded £180 clear profit—the largest single effort of its kind ever made in the Home Base. But it was a trifle beside the steady industry which now goes on in each capital one afternoon or evening per week, and both in Sydney. Every supporter who has given during the week is thanked in a chatty letter covering the receipt sent; folders are forwarded to workers in congregations; those who have fallen on sleep are gently awakened; callers are interviewed and interested; books and magazines are sent out for distribution by ministers and nurses in the field.

The great worth of the office teams is the personal factor. The actual clerical work might be done by one part-time clerk in each capital, but we would then lose the living bonds which now exist. When it is remembered that every member provides a link between the office and her congregation, and that the teams number 13 in Melbourne, 13 in Sydney, 10 in Adelaide, 7 in Perth, 9 in Brisbane, it will be recognised how strong their influence is. One of the Melbourne team recently brought in a cheque for £50, given her during conversation with a friend.

There is also the after-effect in the lives of members, e.g., five former members of the Sydney teams are now in training as nurses, one at least hoping to serve the Inland; one is now mistress of the manse at Broken Hill; another is training as a deaconess. One member of the Melbourne team (Miss Gillespie) has given fine service for a year as honorary companion in Maranboy Nursing Home; we understand that one each in Adelaide and Perth teams has seriously thought of offering for service as companion if openings appear.

The Sydney team has just undertaken a most important new department—an Australian Library. With the Men's League and the Fellowship supporting us, we are gradually securing valuable books, and we hope yet to have several hundred pounds' worth. As many cost from 10/6 upwards, this ideal is humble enough. The Welfare of Youth Department has given over to us the management of its valuable collection of several hundred books, and members of either section may use both.

Any member of "the Inland Brigade" may be enrolled as a borrower without extra charge, and country members may have books by post, after leaving a supply of stamps to be replenished from time to time. A few enthusiasts are adding some volumes of Theology for the use of isolated country ministers.

My own hope is that in every capital we may yet have a really valuable Australian Library. Our Mission could have no finer human foundation than a widespread familiarity with books bearing on Australia and the life of frontier citizens.

Another feature of our organisation is the plan of juvenile "Inland Leaders." Wherever a Sunday School, Mission Band, Christian Endeavour Society, or independent group of young people begin supporting us, we ask that certain of the keenest be elected leaders. We then register these, "The Inlander" is posted direct to them, and they are responsible for its general use among their mates.

Even in kindergarten classes we have several instances of Inland leaders, where the teachers have been keen on experiment. Some of these tiny folk cannot actually read, but their parents can, and by enlisting assistance of older members of the family, the little ones learn surely of the far-away.

The latest idea for kindergartners is a large relief map of Australia, to be displayed on Sundays when the collection is for the A.I.M. It is suggested that the A.I.M. and Home Mission areas be fenced off, little poles to be erected bearing flags marked "A.I.M.," "Q.H.M.," etc., for their respective districts; then model cottages, representing our Nursing Homes here and there, also miniature camel or horse teams, with white rider, attended by black boy, or motor car, etc., to visualise our patrolling ministers.

The more I study the problem before us the more confirmed is my feeling that the only serious care is that of securing the right lives for service in our difficult field. That these may be forthcoming in a natural way, my conviction is that we must capture the imagination of our infants, thus drawing to us those endowed with that temperament which enjoys vast distances, and cheerfully tolerates frequent enforced solitude.

Some may question the value of infant leanings, but others famed for shrewdness declare that, if allowed influence over minds not yet seven years old, they care not who afterwards tries to undo their work. The middle course is surely clear, to make the utmost of early pliability without neglecting later stages. One of my own fellow-students, whose life has been sealed with success in the ministry, told me that his first clear resolution to be a preacher of the Gospel came at the age of four, when he was able to stumble through a baby-book on the life of Brainerd. A son of the manse in Victoria has for ten years remained constant to the ideal which gripped him at the age of six. One of our ladies, now in the field, determined on nursing when only seven, and attained her purpose, in spite of family opposition.

We can already report two cases of these Inland leaders looking our way: One girl (almost the first enrolled three years ago) is now in high school, and her parents have approved her resolve to become a nurse for the A.I.M.; the brother of another is also at high school, and studies Greek in private so that he may become an Inland Minister in due course; a man, now applying for Home Mission service through us, reports that as a small boy his reply to inquirers about his future was always, "Either a commercial traveller or a minister." So, at the risk of wearying, my continual pleading is to win the very young, and thus secure a heavy mortgage on future success.

During the last two years office secretarial work, partly for the growing field staff and committees, mostly for propaganda and organisation in the Home Base, has been a very heavy burden. My hope was to manage without any paid assistance during the war. While engaged in strengthening the organisation of our centres it had been fairly easy for me to bear the brunt of correspondence for the field and Interstate matters, and to add later the consistent supply of copy for six Church papers, in which we now have regular columns weekly or pages monthly. This last work I had tried for long to get done by others, but it seems clear now that only one handling correspondence all the time is in a position to keep up this important task; with it is associated weekly notes for the office teams in every State. But the volume steadily grows, and it now seems too heavy to hand over to an honorary worker when again I would turn seriously towards the field.

TABLE I.—STATIONS.

	Total (Latest Returns)	Separate.	Assistantships.	Opened during last two years.	Lapsed.	Temporarily Annulmated.	Reduced from Full Status.	Raised to Full Status.	Not receiving Aid.	On Estimates.
Queensland ...			3			3	2		12	
New South Wales	64	44	20	8			1	1	12	1
Victoria ...	104			1		10		3		
Tasmania ...										
South Australia ...	8	8				2				
Smith of Dunesk	1	1								
West Australia ...	11	10	1		1		2	1	1	
A. I. M.—										
Missions ...	7	6	1	2						
N. Homes ...	4			2						

TABLE II.—STAFF.

	In Regular Service (Latest Returns)	Fully Qualified.	At Preparatory Studies.	At University.	Under H. M. Course	Completed H. M. Course.	Attending Theolog. Hall.	Not Studying.	Number Married.	Ministers Seeking to be Received.	Extra Urgently Required
Queensland ...	*30				12	2	6	19	19	2	12
New South Wales	81	9	3		17		11		22	5	20
Victoria ...	104		2		38	1	12				
Tasmania ...											
South Australia ...	8										
Smith of Dunesk	1	1									
West Australia ...	8	1			2			2	3	1	6
A. I. M.—											
Missionaries	6	4			1			1			
Nurses ...	6	4						2			

\* Plus 4 on leave A.I.F.

TABLE III.—REMUNERATION, &amp;C.

	Maximum Salary	Minimum	Average	Travelling Plant Provided	Maintenance of Spouse.	Residence Provided.	Fuel Provided
Queensland ...	£200	£132	£140	18		16	All
New South Wales	208	156	165	All		21	Month
Victoria ...			(M 130 S 110)			For all married	
Tasmania ...							
South Australia ...							
Smith of Dunesk	250			All	All	1	
West Australia ...	170	130		All		5	
A. I. M.—							
Ordained ...	300	250					month
Not Ord. ...	156			All	All	3	per
Nurses ...	125	*100				4	year of
Companions		*52					service.

\* Plus rations.

TABLE IV.—REVENUE.  
(Figures from last Financial Year.)

	ACTUAL HOME BASE REVENUE.								Field Revenue.	Balance at end of year.	
	Interest on Endowments, &c.	From Overseas.	Bequests.	Collections, &c.	Festivals.	Societies.	Personal Donations.	Total Home Base.		Debit.	Credit.
Queensland ...	333	450		533	54	50	271	1702	7617		
New South Wales	951			1179		38	152	2667	7151	266	252
Victoria ...	1272		91	1459	647	627	596	4695	13500		
Tasmania ...	487			163		101	88	840			13
South Australia ...	89			328	15	4	28	505	960	9	
Smith of Dunesk											
West Australia ...		430		293				723	1046	669	
A.I.M. ...											
Totals ...											

(S. of D. and A.I.M. returns not yet complete.)

GROWTH OF A.I.M. STAFF.

	1912-4.	1914-6.	1916-8.
Katherine— Pine Creek Maranboy	Minister.	Minister.	Minister. Nurse. Companion.
Kimberley— Hall's Creek			Nurse. Companion.
Broome— Broome	*Minister.	Minister.	Minister.
Pilbarra— Port Hedland Port Hedland	*Minister.	Minister. Nurse.	Minister. Nurse.
Gascoyne— Carnarvon			Minister.
Central— Oodnadatta Oodnadatta Alice Springs	Missionary. *Nurse.	Missionary. Nurse. Nurse.	Minister. Nurse.
Carpentaria— Cloncurry		*Minister.	Minister Missionary. Doctor (app'td).
Special East-West Railway— In co-operation with three other Deno- minations	Minister.	Minister. Missionary.	

\*Carried on, before the A.I.M. was founded, under a State Home Mission, or the Smith of Dunesk Committee.

With our increasing field staff (see table) it will be obvious that a large task is looming up. Our workers in their lonely outposts need the sight occasionally of someone from headquarters, for there are many things in which a visitor's voice may confirm or supplement their own, and they need assurance that their work is appreciated, if they are to "stick it" after all the inspiration of novelty has passed away, and the "Silent March" begins to wear the system and depress the spirit.

Further, as our movement grows older, our supporters in the Home Base must demand proof that the field is doing its fair share in a measure of self-support. Our office-bearers on local committees in the field become more interested after conferring with a visitor from headquarters. Few men are keen on letter-writing, and least among those most active, frequently; but on the spot they will talk things over, and the best will readily respond to suggestions proved out in districts similar to their own.

Again, men in the Home Base who may have ideas of offering substantial support—and I believe that the time is approaching when many new friends will develop such ideas—like to discuss things with one who has recently been over the country to be benefited.

In concentrating for a long time on work in the centres, it has been with no motive of remaining close in. My desire has been to make the resources buoyant, and that purpose has been in part attained, judging by upward trend of finance in several quarters, and especially by the number of aspirants for service in Nursing Homes. I would express deep gratitude to all those who have co-operated so ardently, and by whose consistent labour our cause has been advanced, in spite of all hindrances of the times. I would specially thank the various Inland Councils, and the Board, for their patience and the wide liberty of action permitted through six years of initiating work. For me the strain has at times been severe, but the duty has ever been interesting, and it has been satisfying, because there has been opportunity to prove the uselessness or worth of successive ideas that have suggested themselves along the way. Looking back over the steady unfolding of the work, however slow may have been our progress in these days of distraction, one feels that it has had the blessing of the Head in Whose Name it is carried on.

Up till now I have been in close personal touch with practically the whole circle of A.I.M. activity, and have counted this one of the privileges of my ministry. But the vast field needs sooner or later, as comes the power to bestow that more ample help we have long desired to offer, the constant personal intercourse of whoever may be the responsible link between the people on the frontiers and this Assembly. The ideal that appeals to me as worth while is one put forward long ago in a different connection—that the Superintendent should be a "General Encourager."

With our field area two-thirds the size of the United States of America, in which there must be for years to come an increasing staff—for we must maintain many more workers before our field dissolves through districts progressing with the slow populating of our lonely continent—one man may be fully occupied endeavouring to infuse and maintain an esprit de corps. In addition to this, he may provide, for Home Base enthusiasts, certain literature that may be produced only by one who wanders afar, and to and fro; but beyond that human strength could not retain efficiency.

If the Assembly should approve this theory, and desire my services in testing it, it would be a pleasure to me to concentrate on the wider work and this for the same reason that my efforts have lately been given chiefly to the task of stimulating our resources to bear the increasing burden.

It seems necessary, however, that there should be a period of transition, for there are certain difficulties that make slow haste fast travelling:

My experience, if it is worth anything at all, proves that there must be consistent secretarial pressure from headquarters to the field and throughout the Home Base.

JOHN FLYNN.

## REPORTS OF STATE HOME MISSION COMMITTEES.

### Queensland.

The past two years have been full of perplexity for the Committee, just as the previous two were. Our endeavour has been to hold and supply as fully as possible the fields occupied at the outbreak of the war. In a large measure we have succeeded, but we are faced with increasing difficulty in doing so. The opening of new fields is at present out of the question.

The Methodist Church in Queensland has had an experience similar to ours, and representatives from each have been appointed to deal with the various problems in the Home Mission fields, and to endeavour to find a solution through co-operation.

GEO. EWAN,  
Convener.

### New South Wales.

Since our last report the work of Home Missions has been making steady headway, notwithstanding the many difficulties with which we have had to cope.

So many of our men are away on active service that to supply their places, and also a number of vacant charges, which, owing to scarcity of ministers and for other reasons, are in our care, has been a very strenuous task. Yet a number of new Home Mission Stations have been opened, as per Table I., and 20 assistants supplied to parish ministers.

Several parishes are ripe for division, and patiently waiting for the time when men will be available. Ministers also are applying for assistants, but owing to the war suitable men are scarce. Twenty-five men are now absent with the colours, and their places are hard to fill.

Our Home Missionaries are assisted in their studies by a month's tuition at St. Andrew's College annually, under the supervision of Rev. W. Grant Forsyth, Director of Studies, and by correspondence for the rest of the year.

For the last two years the seasons have been good, and the liberality of our people greater than ever. Consequently we have been able to meet all our expenses, provide for our share of the work at the Military Camp, Liverpool, and pay for the Soldiers' Institute, which cost us £2100.

THOMAS MORGAN,  
Convener.

### Victoria.

The Victorian Committee has endeavoured to meet the situation created through the shortage of the right type of missionary by rearrangement of districts, reducing the number of services, by enlisting the assistance of men for week-end preaching, and by appointing a deaconess. In this way a hold has been kept on most of the districts previously evangelised. The new work on social lines in the densely populated areas of the city is advancing in a most satisfactory way. With the view to closer co-operation, the Congregational Union and the Presbyterian Assembly have agreed to notify each other when initiating work or rearranging services. An experiment in uniting a Presbyterian congregation and a congregation of the Inde-

pendent Church at Noble Park has been made, and the working out of this union, which was consummated in May, will be watched with interest.

JOHN BARNABY,

Convener.

Rev. D. A. Cameron, Director, adds the following notes:—Twenty missionaries have left the staff during the last two years, having been ordained; nineteen have resigned, some altogether, others for service at the Front.

Difficulties.—Need of students and ministers, lack of a spirit of fellowship in the established congregations, lack of broad national and church outlook among Christian people, inability of Presbyteries to supervise and guide the work of student preachers, shortage of funds for establishment of ministerial charges on the frontiers and in the poorer areas of the city.

Outlook.—The outlook is hopeful in interest. All our church people are giving more thought to the evangelising of slums, protecting the future of the young people growing up, enlarging the Sunday School sphere, and providing better support for preachers and better equipment for Christian work.

Our Luncheon Hour Services, Kindergartens, Hostels, and similar enterprises are receiving more attention from ministers and other office-bearers.

The Spiritual Mission has quickened thought about the interests of Christ's Kingdom, and promises to increase the ranks of candidates for the ministry and of other Christian workers.

#### Tasmania.

In submitting their report to the General Assembly of Australia the Tasmanian Executive has again gratefully acknowledge the help it has received from the Church in Victoria.

The record for the Home Mission year in the island shows little progress in actual church extension work—not that there are no fields that should be opened up, but because of the serious shortage of men offering themselves for the work of the Ministry of God's Word. Perhaps there never was such a definite call from the people for our Church to extend its work, and never was there such a dire paucity of men.

Surely that Call of the People is the Voice of God, appealing to young lives to consecrate themselves, and take up the high task awaiting them. The field on the North-West Coast has been extended from Derby to St. Helens. Two Churches in the north-east are being built at Gladstone and Ringarooma-road.

The Home Missionaries generally have done their work faithfully and earnestly, and often under very difficult circumstances. The great need in the work here is that of a Superintendent to help organise, encourage, and spiritually uplift the whole work. Interim Moderators in most cases live far from the Home Mission Fields which they are supposed to supervise and organise, and because they seldom, or in some cases never, visit the field, they are quite out of touch with both the Home Missionary and the people, and therefore out of touch with the work.

The West Coast Mining Fields.—The long vacancy at Queenstown, and the growing importance of this great mining centre, has more than ever impressed on the Committee the urgent necessity of placing there a first-class man as Organiser and Superintendent of the whole field from Zeehan to Linda. To this end it was decided to subsidise the stipend, so as to make it up to £300 and a manse. The Rev. George E. Harrison was appointed to this charge during the year, and already the whole field is feeling the benefit of the appointment.



The taking over by the Mount Lyell Company of the Mount Read and Hercules Mining Fields, and the large developments expected as a result of this important decision in the near future, will bring back to the now partially deserted districts of Zeehan, Roseberry, Renison Bell, and Tullah a great revival of industry and population. Two men, if procurable, would at once be set to work in these promising and needy districts, where the services of our Church are much appreciated. At present even Zeehan itself is without a man.

Finance.—The revenue for the year has been in most cases satisfactory, although a few congregations fell below their contributions of past years. Sunday Schools, Girls' Guilds, and Missionary Associations have increased their help to the cause, and made up the deficiency. The Home Mission Collecting Box Guild have proved a splendid help. Total income for the year, £889.

Again, the Committee have to admit their great indebtedness to the self-sacrifice and energy of the Presbyterian women of Tasmania, who have largely provided the means to carry on the Home Mission work of the Church.

We have to again thank the Victorian Sunday School Union for their liberal assistance, which will help the Committee very materially to carry out the West Coast Scheme.

We would request the prayer of the Church for our Church's Home Mission work in the island, especially that consecrated men might be forthcoming to carry the evangel to the handicapped men and women and little children of our back country.

On behalf of the Executive,

ALAN D. LECKIE,

Convener.

South Australia.

The work of the Home Mission Committee during the year has been attended with anxiety, owing to the continued absence of a number of our staff at the war, and the great difficulty experienced in securing ministers from other States to undertake work in South Australia. At present Jamestown, Clare, Gawler, and Murray Bridge are vacant. Jamestown has been vacant for three years, and Murray Bridge almost two. Every effort possible to effect satisfactory settlements in these charges has been made, but so far without success. Nevertheless, we have endeavoured to maintain the services in all these vacancies in such a way as to prevent serious disintegration.

There is nothing of outstanding interest to report regarding the various Home Mission Stations under our care. In most cases effective pioneer work is being done, but the scope of the Committee's operations is seriously limited by the funds available.

The Smith of Dunesk Mission has been well served during the last three years by Rev. H. E. Carey, who leaves at the end of the year. The Committee is on the look-out for a successor.

ALFRED SEYMOUR,

Convener

Smith of Dunesk Committee.—From last report of the Convener (Rev. R. Mitchell) we quote:—

As hitherto Mr. Carey has acquitted himself as a faithful servant of the Mission. He has been in journeyings oft during the year, and has covered a great area of country in his ministrations.

It was with special satisfaction that your Committee learned of Mr. Carey's decision to continue the agency of the Mission till the end of 1918. This favourable decision was made possible through an improvement in Mrs. Carey's health. What shall be done for a new agent at the end of the present engagement is wholly in the dark.

It is a matter of congratulation that the people of Beltana have resolved to renovate the Mission Hall at their own cost. A sum of money has been raised for the purpose, and the work is to begin as soon as a competent man can be obtained.

The finances, as shown by the General Treasurer at time of audit, are on the debit side. This was due to the belated payment of rents. As the accounts stand to-day, there is a credit balance of £88.

Your Committee regrets to state that the direct result of the special appeal made to the stations by circular was small. At the same time the contributions from the mission centre as a whole are slightly above those of last year.

#### Western Australia.

Thanks to the help of the General Assembly, working through the A.I.M., Western Australia is now happy regarding its work in the seaports, for all the ports from Fremantle to Broome are efficiently occupied by ordained ministers. Rev. F. G. H. Brady has gone from Broome, after a lengthy pastorate there, but the vacancy was brief, and Rev. A. J. Eipper soon followed him. We are grateful to the Eastern States for sending him, as well as the Revs. K. D. McDonald and W. H. Cooper. Not only our north-west, but Western Australia, is the stronger for having such men with us.

We are less happy regarding our suburban and inland work. For our vast needs we have but eight Home Missionaries. Five of our former workers have gone to the battle front, and one of them has fallen—R. G. Whitehand—a brother beloved.

Financial trouble is not very severe at present, for the very bad reason that we have fewer workers to pay.

Since last Assembly we have two workers fewer than we had. We have opened no new places. Services have been abandoned in one district (though we hope only temporarily); in some others the services are being carried on by laymen. One Home Mission Church has been raised to full status, but two have come to the Home Mission status. A motor bicycle has been purchased for our most extensive district, with the hope, not of easier times for the missionary, but of a still wider field of work. He could travel 1000 miles east, and still be a long way from his neighbour's parish!

The finding of ministers for our vacant churches is still one of our perplexing problems. To help the churches without ministers during their long vacancies the W.A. Assembly devised a plan that has worked with excellent results. At the request of the Assembly, most of the settled ministers, with the consent of their congregations, volunteered to give a month each year, in which they were to go to some vacancy for the month. By this means it has been possible to give them full pastoral oversight for at least alternate months. One church was thereby so much strengthened that it was able to offer a call, resulting in a happy settlement.

ALEX. CROW }  
W. HUEY STEELE } Conveners.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE FEDERATION OF CHURCHES.

In accordance with the instructions given by last Assembly, your Committee has, in consultation with the Union Committees of the Methodist and Congregational Churches, prepared a revised Basis of Union, which, after much preliminary preparation and consultation between the representatives of the Joint Committees in the several States, was ultimately agreed upon at a Joint Conference of the three Committees, held at Melbourne from 3rd to 6th September, 1918. Your Committee now submits this revised Basis of Union to this Assembly, and recommends that the Assembly should reaffirm its belief in "the great desirableness of union with the Congregational and Methodist Churches," expressed by the Assembly of 1903, its thankfulness that the Committees representing these Churches have been able to come to agreement with our Church Committee regarding a Basis of Union, and resolve to go into committee to consider in detail the Basis now proposed.

Should the Assembly in Committee approve of the proposed Basis of Union, your Committee recommends that it be sent to State Assemblies and Presbyteries throughout the Church, with instructions to report to the Committee before the end of 1919 whether they approve or disapprove of union on the proposed Basis. After receiving returns from State Assemblies and Presbyteries, your Committee recommends that it should be authorised, should it see fit, to send the proposed Basis to Sessions and Congregations, with instructions to report as to whether they approve or disapprove of union on the proposed Basis, in time for such returns to be tabulated and reported to the General Assembly of 1920.

Your Committee recommends that it be reappointed, with certain alterations and additions, and instructed to continue negotiations for union with the Methodist and Congregational Churches, and take steps to bring whatever proposals on this subject this Assembly may agree to effectively before the people of our Church, so that they may take an intelligent interest in this question.

As regards a Basis of Co-operation prior to union, your Committee presents a report prepared by the Joint Committee of the three Churches, and commends the recommendations made therein to the careful consideration of this Assembly.

While approving generally of the suggestions made in this report for Conferences between the departmental Committees of the various State Assemblies and Conferences, and possibly for a Joint Advisory Council on Co-operation in each State, should it seem desirable to the State courts, your Committee recognises clearly that the possibilities of effective co-operation depend largely on whether a decision for union has been reached or not. Were such a decision reached by the Churches, it would be comparatively easy to arrange for co-operation in many departments of Church work, in anticipation of union, as in Canada. But in the absence of such decision, or when it seems doubtful whether such a decision will be come to, and still more in presence of an adverse decision on the question of union, it seems to your Committee that little in the way of effective co-operation can really be brought about; for hearty and effective co-operation in Church work is possible only between Churches which have come to see that there is no sufficient reason why they should not be united.

D. S. ADAM, Convener.

PROPOSED BASIS OF UNION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN, METHODIST, AND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES OF AUSTRALIA,  
AS AGREED UPON BY THE JOINT COMMITTEE  
OF THE THREE CHURCHES.

The following "Basis of Union," including Doctrine and Polity, was agreed to at a Joint Conference of the Committees on Union, appointed by the Supreme Courts of the Presbyterian, Methodist, and Congregational Churches of Australia, held at Melbourne from 3rd to 6th September, 1918.

At this Conference, which was attended by between 40 and 50 representatives from all the States of the Commonwealth, the proceedings were marked throughout by cordial good feeling and brotherliness. There were indeed earnest discussions and differences of opinion on various points, but the general agreement reached in the end on the matters set forth in this Basis was very gratifying, and affords reasonable ground for hope that the Basis will commend itself to the several Churches by whose representatives it has been drawn up.

It was only after much preliminary preparation, and consultation by correspondence between the representatives in the various States, that a draft Basis was drawn up and circulated among the members of the several Committees in the various States by the Victorian section of the Joint Committee, acting by consent, as the executive. This draft Basis was thoroughly discussed and amended at various points by the Joint Committee during its three days' Conference in Melbourne.

It is now submitted by this Joint Committee to the Supreme Courts of the several Churches concerned, with the earnest prayer that God may guide these Churches to a wise decision on this momentous question of union, which is of such vital importance to their future efficiency and usefulness in this great Commonwealth of Australia.

GENERAL.

1. The name of the Church formed by the Union of the Presbyterian, Methodist, and Congregational Churches in Australia and Tasmania shall be "The United Church of Australia."

DOCTRINE.

We, the representatives of the Presbyterian, the Methodist, and the Congregational branches of the Church of Christ in Australia, do hereby set forth the substance of the Christian Faith, as commonly held among us.

In so doing we build upon the foundation laid by the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone. We affirm our belief in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the primary source and ultimate standard of Christian Faith and life. We maintain our allegiance to the evangelical doctrines of the Reformation, as set forth in common in the doctrinal standards adopted or held by the Presbyterian Church, by the Congregational Churches, and by the Methodist Church. We present the accompanying statement as a brief summary of our common faith, and commend it to the studious attention of the members and adherents of the negotiating Churches as in substance agreeable to the teaching of the Holy Scriptures.

ARTICLE I.—OF GOD.—We believe in one only living and true God Who is Spirit, the Father of our Spirits; infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in His being and perfections; the Lord Almighty, just in all His ways, glorious in holiness, unsearchable in wisdom, and plenteous in mercy, full of love and compassion, and abundant in goodness and truth. We worship Him, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three persons in one Godhead, equal in power and glory. To Him be the Glory for ever. Amen.

ARTICLE II.—OF REVELATION.—We believe that God has revealed Himself in nature, in history, and in the heart of man; that He has made clearer revelation of Himself through men of God, who spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit, and that this revelation, gradually advancing in clearness and grace, reached its fulness in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, Who is the brightness of the Father's glory and the Express Image of His Person. We receive the Holy Scriptures as given by inspiration, to be a faithful record of God's gracious revelation and the sure witness to Christ; and we reverently acknowledge the Holy Spirit speaking in the Scriptures to be the Supreme Judge in questions of faith and duty.

ARTICLE III.—OF THE DIVINE PURPOSE.—We believe that the eternal, wise, holy, and loving purpose of God embraces all events, so that, while the freedom of man is not taken away, nor is God the author of sin, yet, in His providence, He makes all things work together for the fulfilment of His sovereign design, and the manifestation of His glory. Wherefore, humbly acknowledging the mystery of this truth, we trust in His protecting and guiding care, and set our hearts to do His will.

ARTICLE IV.—OF CREATION AND PROVIDENCE.—We believe that God is the creator, upholder, and governor of all things; that He is above all His works and in them all; and that He made man in His own image, meet for fellowship with Him, free and able to choose between good and evil, and responsible to His Maker and Lord.

ARTICLE V.—OF THE SIN OF MAN.—We believe that man, being tempted, chose evil, and so fell away from God, and came under the power of sin, the penalty of which is death; and we confess that by reason of this disobedience, we and all men are born with a fallen nature, that we have broken God's law, and that no man can be saved but by His grace.

ARTICLE VI.—OF THE GRACE OF GOD.—We believe that God, out of His great love for the world, has given His only-begotten Son to be the Saviour of Sinners, and in the Gospel freely offers His salvation to all men.

ARTICLE VII.—OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.—We believe in and confess the Lord Jesus Christ, the only Mediator between God and man, Who, being the eternal Son of God, for us men and for our salvation became truly man, yet without sin, being conceived by the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary; unto us He has revealed the Father, and made known the perfect will of God; for us He fulfilled all righteousness; by His perfect sacrifice of Himself upon the cross He manifested the love and showed forth the righteousness of God, and became the propitiation for the sin of the world; for us He rose from the dead and ascended into heaven, where He maketh continual intercession; in us, united to Him by faith, He abides for ever; over us and over all He rules; wherefore, unto Him we render love, obedience, and adoration, as our Prophet, Priest, and King.

ARTICLE VIII.—OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.—We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who moves upon the hearts of all men, to restrain them from evil, and to incite them unto good, and Whom the Father is ever willing to give unto all who ask Him. We believe that He has spoken by holy men of God in making known His truth to men for

their salvation; that through our exalted Saviour He was sent forth in power to convict the world of sin, to enlighten men's minds in the knowledge of Christ, and to persuade and enable them to obey the call of the Gospel; and that He abides with the Church, dwelling in every believer as the Spirit of truth, of power, of holiness, of comfort, and of love.

ARTICLE IX.—OF REPENTANCE AND FAITH.—We believe that every one who through the grace of the Holy Spirit repents and believes the Gospel, confessing and forsaking his sins, and relying upon God's redeeming love in Christ for salvation, is, through Christ's perfect obedience and atoning sacrifice, freely pardoned and accepted as righteous in God's sight.

ARTICLE X.—OF REGENERATION.—We believe in the necessity of regeneration, whereby we are made new creatures in Christ Jesus by the Spirit of God, who imparts spiritual life by the gracious and mysterious operation of His power, using as the ordinary means the truths of His word and the ordinances of divine appointment in ways agreeable to the nature of man.

ARTICLE XI.—OF THE NEW LIFE.—We believe that those who are regenerated and justified grow in the likeness of Christ through fellowship with Him, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, and obedience to the truth; that a holy life is the fruit and evidence of saving faith; and that the believer's hope of continuance in such a life is in the preserving grace of God. And we believe that in this growth in grace Christians may attain that maturity and full assurance of faith whereby the love of God is made perfect in us.

ARTICLE XII.—OF PRAYER.—We believe it to be our duty and privilege to draw near to God, our Heavenly Father, in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and on our own behalf and that of others, to pour out our hearts humbly, yet freely, before Him, as becomes His beloved children, giving Him the honour and praise due to His holy name, praying that His Will may be done on earth as in heaven, confessing unto Him our sins, and seeking from Him every gift needful for this life, and for our everlasting salvation. We believe also that, inasmuch as all true prayer is prompted by His Spirit, He will, in response thereto, grant us every blessing, according to His unsearchable wisdom and the riches of His grace in Jesus Christ.

ARTICLE XIII.—OF THE LAW OF GOD.—We believe that God requires of every man to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with his God; and that only through this harmony with the will of God shall be fulfilled that brotherhood of man wherein the kingdom of God is to be made manifest. We believe and acknowledge that the Lord Jesus Christ has laid His people, by His grace, under new obligation to keep the perfect Law of God, and has by precept and example enlarged our knowledge of that Law, and manifested the spirit of filial love in which the Divine Will is to be obeyed.

ARTICLE XIV.—OF THE CHURCH.—We acknowledge one Holy Catholic Church, the innumerable company of saints of every age and nation, who, being united by the Holy Spirit to Christ, their Head, are one body in Him, and have communion with their Lord and with one another; further, we receive it as the will of Christ that His Church on earth should exist as a visible and sacred brotherhood, consisting of those who profess faith in Jesus Christ and obedience to Him, together with baptised children, organised for the confession of His Name, the public worship of God, the upbuilding of the saints, the proclamation of the Gospel, and the administration of the sacraments. We acknowledge as a part of this universal brotherhood every particular Church throughout the world which

professes this faith in Jesus Christ, and obedience to Him as Divine Lord and Saviour.

ARTICLE XV.—OF THE SACRAMENTS.—We acknowledge Baptism and the Lord's Supper, the two Sacraments instituted by Christ to be of perpetual obligation as signs and seals of the blessings of the new covenant, and as means of grace, made effectual only by the operation of the Holy Spirit, and always to be used by Christians with prayer and praise to God.

- (a) Baptism with water into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is the Rite of Initiation into the Visible Church of Christ. The proper subjects of Baptism are believers, and infants presented by parents or guardians in the Christian faith, upon whom shall be enjoined their duty to train their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
- (b) The Lord's Supper is the Sacrament of Communion with Christ and with His people, in which bread and wine are given and received in remembrance of Him and His sacrifice upon the cross; and they who in faith receive the same do, after a spiritual manner, partake of the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, to their comfort, nourishment, and growth in grace.

ARTICLE XVI.—OF THE MINISTRY.—We believe that Jesus Christ, as the Supreme Head of the Church, has appointed therein a ministry of the Word and Sacraments, and calls men to this ministry; that the Church, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, recognises and chooses those whom He calls, and ordains them to the work of the ministry.

ARTICLE XVII.—OF CHURCH ORDER AND FELLOWSHIP.—We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the sole Head of the Church; that its worship, teaching, discipline, and government should be in accordance with His will, and that the Church alone has supreme authority and jurisdiction in all matters pertaining to its doctrine, worship, discipline, and government.

ARTICLE XVIII.—OF THE RESURRECTION, THE LAST JUDGMENT, AND THE FUTURE LIFE.—We believe in the Resurrection of the dead, through the power of the Son of God, Who shall judge the world in righteousness, and render to every man according to his works, and we believe in the life everlasting.

ARTICLE XIX.—OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND THE FINAL TRIUMPH.—We believe that it is our duty as servants and friends of Christ to do good unto all men, to maintain the public and private worship of God, to study the word of God, to hallow the Lord's Day, to preserve the sanctity of the family, to uphold the just authority of the State, and so to live in all honesty, purity, and charity, that our lives shall testify of Christ. We joyfully receive the word of Christ, bidding His people to go into all the world, and make disciples of all nations, and to declare unto them that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, and that He will have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth. We believe that by His power and grace all His enemies shall finally be overcome, and that the kingdoms of this world shall become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ.

#### THE RELATION OF A MINISTER TO THE DOCTRINES OF THE CHURCH.

1. The duty of final inquiry into the personal character, doctrinal beliefs, and general fitness of candidates for the ministry presenting themselves for ordination shall be laid upon Conferences.

2. In the ordination service these candidates shall answer the following questions:—

- (a) Do you believe yourself to be a child of God through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ?
- (b) Do you believe yourself to be called of God to the office of the Christian Ministry, and your chief motives to be zeal for the glory of God, love for the Lord Jesus Christ, and desire for the salvation of men?
- (c) Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain all that is necessary for eternal salvation? Do you accept the Statement of Doctrine of the United Church, as in substance agreeable to the teaching of the Holy Scriptures; and are you resolved out of the said Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge, and to teach nothing which is not agreeable thereto?

## POLITY.

### I.—THE CHURCH.

1. The members of the United Church shall be the members of the negotiating Churches, and such other persons as may hereafter become members.

2. The conditions of full membership in the Church shall be confession of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and an outward life in conformity therewith, and participation in the Lord's Supper.

3. Admission to full membership, the granting of certificates of removal, the oversight of the conduct of members, and the enforcing of discipline, shall be by the Elders' Meeting, or by the local Church on the initiative of the Elders' Meeting.

4. All persons who have been admitted to and enrolled in the full membership of the Church, and who are not less than eighteen years of age, shall have a voice in the control and direction of its affairs. The members of a local Church shall meet annually, and more frequently, if deemed advisable, to receive reports from the Elders' Meeting, and to consult concerning the spiritual interests of the congregation.

5. Adherents of the Church shall be persons above eighteen years of age, who unite stately in the worship of a congregation, who contribute to its support, and who are enrolled as adherents by the Elders' Meeting, and agree to conform in practice to the law and order of the Church in the exercise of any powers or functions assigned to them. Such adherents may vote on matters within the sphere and under the control of the Board of Management in local congregations.

6. There shall be an annual business meeting of the congregation, including members and adherents, to receive and deal with financial statements and reports. Special business meetings of the congregation may be called at any time by the Elders' Meeting.

7. The unit of organisation for the United Church shall be the Circuit, which may consist of one or more pastorates, a pastorate consisting of one or more local congregations under the charge of one of the Ministers of the circuit. A congregation is a body of persons meeting for public worship in one place.

8. The councils and courts of the Church shall be:—

- (1) The Board of Management.
- (2) The Elders' Meeting.
- (3) The Circuit Council.
- (4) The Presbytery.
- (5) The Conference.
- (6) The General Assembly.



## II.—CONSTITUTION OF CHURCH COUNCILS AND COURTS.

## THE CIRCUIT.

9. In each circuit there shall be a Board of Management, and an Elders' Meeting for each congregation included within the circuit, and a Circuit Council for the entire circuit.

10. The temporal affairs of each congregation shall be administered by a Board of Management, consisting of:—

- (a) The Minister or Ministers of the congregation.
- (b) The Elders of the congregation.
- (c) A number of managers, chosen by members and adherents of the congregation. Such managers should, as far as possible, be chosen from persons in full membership. They shall hold office usually for two years, one-half retiring annually, but being eligible for re-election.
- (d) A number of Trustees of Church Property, chosen by the Trustees, and not exceeding the number of managers chosen under Sub-section (c).

11. The senior minister of the circuit shall *ex officio* be a member of all Boards of Management in the circuit, and shall when present have the right to preside. In his absence, or should he not wish to preside, the minister who usually ministers to the congregation shall have the right to preside. Should no minister be present, or desire to preside, the members of the Board of Management shall elect their own chairman. The senior minister of the circuit is the minister first named on the list of ministers within the circuit issued by the settlement committee.

12. It shall be the duty of the Board of Management to secure contributions for congregational purposes, and to disburse the moneys received for these purposes.

13. The spiritual welfare of each congregation shall be the concern of all its members, and shall be under the oversight of the Minister or Ministers of the congregation and a body of officers, designated Elders, to be elected by and from among the full members of such congregation, and to be duly ordained to that office.

14. The Elders' Meeting shall be a spiritual court of the Church, and shall consist of the Minister or Ministers, and the Elders elected by the congregation, and shall be presided over by the Minister or by one of the Ministers of the congregation.

15. It shall be the duty of the Elders' Meeting:—

- (a) To exercise oversight over the admission of persons into full membership, and the granting of certificates of removal; the conduct of members, with power to exercise discipline; the administration of the Sacraments; the religious training of the young; the general arrangements for public worship, including the Service of Praise; the promotion of Christian fellowship; the care of the poor and the sick; and the use of Church buildings for other purposes than public worship.
- (b) To ordain elders-elect in the presence of the congregation; to receive and deal with petitions from members; to transmit calls, petitions and appeals to Circuit Councils or Presbyteries; to recommend to the Circuit Council suitable candidates for the Ministry, and for the office of lay preacher; and generally to consolidate and extend the work of God in the congregation and district.

16. The Circuit Council shall consist of the Minister or Ministers, the Senior Superintendent of each Sunday School within the Circuit, the Elders and the Lay Preachers, and representatives of the Trustees and

Boards of Management within the Circuit, such representatives being members of the Church. It shall be presided over by the Senior Minister of the Circuit.

The functions of the Circuit Council shall be:—

- (a) The maintenance of the Ministry within the circuit, and the oversight of each property of the Church therein in accordance with the general regulations of the Church.
- (b) The securing of contributions for missionary and other general objects of the Church, and the general management of efforts within the circuit in aid of Home and Foreign Missions.
- (c) To deal with all matters connected with the establishment of new stations and Churches within the circuit.
- (d) To elect from members of the Council representatives to the Presbytery.
- (e) To forward memorials and recommendations to the Presbytery touching the general work of the circuit, or referring to the general work of the Church.
- (f) To issue invitations to Ministers, to review from time to time the pastoral relations within the circuit, and to consider and determine matters relating thereto in harmony with the regulations governing the same.
- (g) To attend to matters affecting the circuit not otherwise assigned.
- (h) To recommend to Presbyteries suitable laymen for enrolment as Lay Preachers and suitable candidates for the Ministry.

17. New congregations within the bounds of a circuit may be formed by the Circuit Council, on its own motion, or at the request of persons residing within its bounds, who declare their adherence to the principles of the United Church and their desire for the formation of such congregation. Provided, however, that adjacent circuits affected by the formation of the proposed new congregation shall have the right of appeal to the Presbytery in regard thereto.

18. All real and personal property acquired for the use of or belonging to a local congregation, or a circuit of the United Church, shall be held, used, and administered under the trusts of a Model Trust Deed. (See Appendix I.).

#### THE PRESBYTERY.

19. The Presbytery shall consist, as nearly as may be, of an equal number of ministerial and lay members, comprising:—

- (a) All Ministers within its bounds who are engaged in pastorates, colleges of the Church, or departments of church work.
- (b) Supernumerary and other Ministers whose names are placed on the roll of the Presbytery by the Conference.
- (c) Lay representatives elected annually by each Circuit Council in equal proportion to the circuit Ministers.
- (d) *Ex officio* and other members, as determined by the Conference.

It shall periodically elect its own presiding officer.

20. It shall be the duty of the Presbytery:—

- (a) To have oversight of the circuits within its bounds, review their records, and sanction the formation of new pastorates.
- (b) To receive and dispose of petitions and appeals from the lower courts.
- (c) To transmit petitions, memorials and appeals to Conference.
- (d) To enrol as Preachers, laymen who are duly recommended, and who, after examination, are approved.
- (e) To supervise the education of students looking forward to the Ministry, and to certify them to Theological Colleges.

- (f) To inquire each year into the personal character, doctrinal beliefs, and general fitness of candidates for the Ministry, and when they have fulfilled the prescribed requirements to recommend them to Conference for licence and ordination.
- (g) To deal with matters sent down by the higher courts, including Ordinations and Inductions, and also with all questions referred to it by the Circuits, subject to its jurisdiction.
- (h) To select representatives to the Conference, and to nominate representatives for appointment to the Conference Settlement Committee.
- (i) To have the oversight of the conduct of Ministers within its bounds.
- (j) To divide existing circuits, to alter or rearrange their boundaries, and to create new circuits.

#### THE CONFERENCE.

21. The Conference shall consist as nearly as may be of an equal number of ministerial and lay members, comprising:

- (a) All Ministers who are members of the Presbyteries within its bounds, or such proportion thereof as the Conference may from time to time determine.
- (b) Lay representatives of Presbyteries equal in number to the Ministers chosen, as provided for in par. 19 (h).
- (c) *Ex officio* and other members, as determined by the Conference.

22. It shall be the duty of the Conference:—

- (a) To meet every year.
- (b) To elect its presiding officer.
- (c) To determine the number and boundaries of the Presbyteries within its bounds; have oversight of them, and review their records.
- (d) To receive and dispose of appeals and petitions, subject to such right of appeal as the General Assembly may determine.
- (e) To appoint annually a Settlement Committee, which committee shall arrange that every pastorate within its bounds shall have a Minister, and every effective Minister shall have a pastorate.
- (f) To receive Ministers from other Churches, subject to the regulations of the General Assembly.
- (g) To deal with matters referred to it by the General Assembly.
- (h) To appoint an equal number of ministerial and lay representatives to the General Assembly.
- (i) To have oversight of the religious life of the Church within its bounds, and to adopt such measures as may be judged necessary for its promotion.
- (j) To ordain, or direct Presbyteries to ordain, accepted candidates for the Ministry.
- (k) To have the oversight of the colleges within its bounds.
- (l) To exercise control over the properties of the Church within its bounds.
- (m) To appoint Committees or Boards and officers for the different departments of church work under its care, and to receive their reports, and give them instructions and authority.

23. The Conference may appoint a commission, and give to it such powers as it may determine.

#### THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

24. The General Assembly shall consist as nearly as may be of equal numbers of Ministers and Lay Representatives, chosen one-half by the Presbyteries and one-half by the Conferences, in accordance with regula-

tions to be made by the General Assembly. Its regular meeting shall be held every third year. Its presiding officer shall be the official Head of the Church, who during his term of office should be relieved of his pastoral or other duties.

25. The functions of the General Assembly shall be:—

- (a) To determine the number and boundaries of the Conferences.
- (b) To legislate on matters respecting the doctrine, worship, membership, and government of the Church, including the power of determining, interpreting, changing, adding to, and modifying its constitution, laws, doctrine, and polity, and the exercise of ecclesiastical discipline, subject to the conditions—First, that before any change in doctrine or conditions of membership can become a law of the Church, it must receive the approval of a majority of the Presbyteries and Conferences reporting thereon; second, that the freedom of worship at present enjoyed in the uniting Churches shall not be interfered with in the United Church.
- (c) To legislate on general questions respecting church property, subject to the limitations elsewhere provided in this Basis of Union.
- (d) To prescribe and regulate the course of study of candidates for the Ministry, and to make regulations for the admission of Ministers from other Churches.
- (e) To receive and dispose of petitions and memorials.
- (f) To receive and determine appeals.
- (g) To determine the Missionary Policy of the Church, and to provide for the undertaking and vigorous prosecution of Foreign Missions, either directly or through the Conferences.
- (h) To appoint Committees or Boards and officers for the different departments of church work under its care, and to receive their reports, and give them instructions and authority.
- (i) And in general to adopt such measures as may tend to promote true godliness, and advance the Kingdom of Christ throughout the world.

### III.—THE MINISTRY.

#### (A) TRAINING FOR THE MINISTRY.

26. A candidate for the Ministry must be a member of the United Church in full communion, have given evidence of the possession of suitable gifts, and be approved of by an Elders' Meeting and Circuit Council, on the nomination of a Minister appointed to that circuit.

27. Throughout the course of their training candidates are under the supervision of a Presbytery, as provided in par. 19, sub-section (f).

28. Before entering upon theological training, each candidate must pass an entrance examination to the Theological Hall. Except as hereinafter provided, the College Committee of the General Assembly must be satisfied that each candidate, before sitting for this entrance examination, has obtained or qualified for a University degree at a recognised University; or, alternatively, has passed the first year's examination in the Arts Course at a recognised University, including Greek as one of the subjects, and been recommended by a Conference to proceed to the Theological Hall.

29. In special cases, where a University course is, in the opinion of the Conference, not possible, or does not seem advisable, the College Committee shall admit candidates to the Theological Hall on the following conditions:—

- (a) That they have served the Church as recognised Home Missionaries or Lay Preachers for at least one year previous to their examination as candidates.
- (b) That they have passed University matriculation.

- (c) That they have passed through a course of training for a period of at least two years in such subjects and passed such examinations as have been prescribed by the General Assembly.
- (d) That they have passed the entrance examination to the Theological Hall.

30. The course of study at the Theological Hall shall extend over a period of at least three years, and candidates must pass an exit examination, and be certified by the College Committee to a Presbytery, which may recommend them to its Conference for acceptance for the Ministry of the Church.

31. Before Ordination candidates for the Ministry must have had at least two years' practical experience in circuit or Home Mission work.

32. Anyone who is deemed by a Conference to have given proof of being specially qualified for the work of the Ministry may be admitted to the Ministry by a resolution of the Conference under rules to be made by the General Assembly.

33. The office of Lay Preacher shall be recognised as a part of the organisation of the Church. Candidates for this office shall be recommended by an Elders' Meeting and Circuit Council, and after examination and approval by a Presbytery, admitted to the status of Lay Preacher, and publicly set apart to this office.

#### (B) PASTORAL OFFICE, INCLUDING TERM OF SERVICE.

34. The policy of the Church shall be that every pastorate shall have, as far as possible, a pastor without interruption, and that every effective Minister shall have a pastorate.

35. The Settlement Committee, as provided in paragraph 22, sub-section (e), shall consist of an equal number of Ministers and Laymen appointed annually by the Conference. On this Committee each Presbytery shall be represented. It shall be the duty of this Committee to consider all applications for settlements from Ministers and circuits within the jurisdiction of the Conference. For this purpose it shall meet annually, prior to the meeting of the Conference next after that by which it was appointed.

36. All existing rights between Ministers, Circuits, and Churches at the date of the Union shall be conserved during existing pastorates, subject to the powers then current of existing Church courts, which are hereby transferred to the corresponding courts of the United Church, but at their termination those Ministers, Circuits, and Churches, and all Ministers received, and circuits, pastorates, or congregations formed after the consummation of the Union, shall be subject to the following regulations:—

37. The pastoral relation shall be created and continued, subject to the following provisions:—

- (a) The invitation or call of a Minister to a pastorate shall be given through the Circuit Council in whose bounds such pastorate is situated, by the members of the Church over eighteen years of age, who are enrolled in the congregation or congregations comprised in such pastorate. Such invitation or call shall be conveyed through the Elders' Meetings of such congregation or congregations to the Circuit Council, by which it shall be considered, and remitted to the Settlement Committee, with such recommendation as the Council may deem fit. If the right of call be not exercised by the members in the pastorate, the Circuit Council shall have such right of call.
- (b) At the end of the sixth year, and thereafter every third year, the pastoral relation shall be reviewed by the pastorate, and the continuance thereof shall depend on ratification by the Settlement Committee.

- (c) A Minister, by his own action, and a Circuit Council, on its own initiative, or the initiative of a pastorate within its bounds, may by such a date before the annual meeting of the Settlement Committee, as the General Assembly shall determine, seek a change of pastoral relation by means of an application to the Settlement Committee. All such applications shall be in writing.
  - (d) When a pastorate is or is about to become vacant, it may extend a call through its Circuit Council to any properly qualified Minister, but the right of appointment shall rest with the Settlement Committee, which shall report to the Conference for information only.
  - (e) When a Circuit Council in respect of a pastorate about to become vacant at the end of the Conference year fails to send a call or invitation within the time specified by the Conference, the Settlement Committee shall proceed to appoint without such call.
  - (f) When a pastorate becomes vacant during the Conference year through death or other emergency, the President of the Conference shall confer with the Moderator of the Presbytery and the Circuit Council, and thereafter may arrange a supply for the remainder of the Conference year.
  - (g) A Settlement Committee shall also have authority to initiate correspondence with Ministers and Circuit Councils, with a view to completing arrangements to secure necessary and desirable settlements.
  - (h) Any Minister shall have the right to appear before the Settlement Committee to represent his case in regard to his appointment, and any Circuit Council may also appear by not more than two representatives properly authorised and appointed from among its members at a regular or special meeting, of which proper notice has been given.
  - (i) When the Settlement Committee finds itself unable to give effect to the call or invitation of a pastorate sent by a Circuit Council, the Council may then place other names before the Committee, at the request of the congregation or congregations of the pastorate.
  - (j) While the right of appointment shall rest with the Settlement Committee, it shall comply, as far as possible, with the expressed wishes of Ministers, Pastorate, and Circuit Council.
  - (k) When the appointment is made, it shall be the function of the Presbytery to induct the Minister into his pastorate.
38. There shall be a Committee, which shall have authority to transfer Ministers and candidates for the Ministry from one Conference to another.

#### IV.—OF CHURCH AUTHORITY.

39. Every member, office-bearer, and Minister of the Church shall be deemed to have accepted his status in the Church, subject to the condition that he agrees to submit to the authority and jurisdiction of the Church, expressed through its courts, in all matters coming within the scope of such jurisdiction, as final, and that recourse to civil courts against any decision of the Church in these matters, or against the execution thereof, is excluded.

#### APPENDIX I.

##### CHURCH PROPERTIES.

When the Basis of Union has been agreed upon by the negotiating Churches, Acts of Parliament will be sought in each State of the Commonwealth, whereby the Union and the Basis of Union will be recognised and confirmed, and provision made that the real and personal property vested in any of the negotiating Churches, or held in trust for any of them, shall

vest in, belong to, or be held in trust for, the United Church, in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Basis of Union, and, as to the property of a Church, Congregation, or Circuit, shall be held upon the trusts set forth and declared in a Model Trust Deed, and as to any property subject to special trusts shall be held on the existing trusts, but shall take effect as if the United Church had been referred to in the Conveyance, Transfer, Devise, Bequest, Gift, or other Instrument or Document under which such property was given or acquired for Church purposes.

#### SUPERNUMERARY MINISTERS' AND MINISTERS' WIDOWS' FUND.

Provision for retiring allowances or pensions for Aged or Infirm Ministers, for the Widows of Ministers, (and possibly for Orphans in some cases), will be a necessity in the United Church, and the Committee trusts that it will be recognised by the Ministers themselves, and the membership of the Church generally, as a sacred duty and one of urgency. The following features appear to be essential in the establishment and safe working of such a fund:—

1. That all the Ministers of the United Church, and those who may hereafter be received into its Ministry, shall pay into such Fund an annual subscription of a definite amount, due regard being had to loading for age, and in certain cases for a term of medical probation, where such is found necessary. Candidates for the Ministry to pass a medical examination, and secure necessary certificates of health. The subscription to be paid yearly by each Minister from the first to the year of service.

2. That each circuit pay into the Fund a definite amount annually on behalf of each Minister employed therein.

3. That the above amounts, together with the capital amounts now at the credit of the various Funds of this character in the uniting Churches, be placed under the charge of a Board of Treasurers, who shall invest the same in approved securities, and use the interest of the same for payment of annuities and pensions, on a scale to be hereafter determined, it being understood that the claims and interests of all the present annuitants who have interest in such Funds, and of all members of the Funds whose claims have not yet matured, shall be fully recognised and guarded, and that their annuities shall be secure.

4. That as early as practicable after the Union of the Churches is accomplished expert guidance be sought as to the contributions that would be necessary to make such a Fund financially safe, and as to the scale of annuities that could safely be paid therefrom.

5. That, inasmuch as in a large Church there will always be cases where Ministers will fail in health at an earlier period than the usual retiring age, and of Widows of Ministers who die early, and for whom the legal annuity is inadequate, and for extreme poverty caused by long illness, the aid of members of the Church should be sought by gifts or legacies to provide a Benevolent Fund to meet such contingencies.

#### FURNITURE OF PARSONAGES OR MANSES, REMOVAL EXPENSES, CHILDREN'S FUNDS.

Questions—

- (a) As to whether Parsonages or Manses should be furnished by the circuits wholly, or in part only, and the remainder by the individual Ministers.
- (b) Whether removal expenses of Ministers from one charge to another should be borne by the individual circuits to which they are appointed, or by an annual assessment on all the circuits of a Conference.

- (c) The establishment of a Children's Fund, such as that now existing in the Conferences of the Methodist Church, and which is really a Stipend Equalisation Fund.

The above matters have necessarily arisen in the preliminary discussions of the Committee, but are deferred for fuller consideration hereafter.

## APPENDIX II.

### SUGGESTIONS AS TO BASIS FOR CO-OPERATION.

Your Committee was instructed, while continuing negotiations for Union, to endeavour to secure in the meantime without undue delay "a basis for co-operation and joint action in matters in which it may be found possible to make common cause."

In addressing itself to this task, your Committee has found some difficulty in deciding, especially in regard to Home Mission and Church Extension work, how far it may be possible to attain the practical fruits of union ahead of the accomplished fact, or at least a definite decision to unite, such as is the case in Canada.

The spheres in which it seems that some measure of co-operation might be attainable, prior to and apart from union, are:—

- (1) Home Mission and Church Extension work.
- (2) Secondary education (including schools and colleges).
- (3) Training of candidates for the ministry.
- (4) Religious Instruction in Public Schools and Sunday Schools.
- (5) Temperance and morals.
- (6) Devotional Fellowship and Evangelism.

In all these matters it would be comparatively easy to find a basis for co-operation, pending union, if union had been definitely decided upon by the negotiating Churches, though, while they remain separate Churches, and have not yet reached a decision in favour of union, it is not so easy to provide for effective co-operation.

Each of these departments of Christian work is under control of the State Assemblies or Conferences of the respective Churches, who appoint Committees or Boards to attend to them. Hence any effective basis of co-operation in these matters can only be secured through the action of State Assemblies or Conferences instructing the Committees or Boards having charge of this work.

To secure any effective basis of co-operation in these matters, therefore, it will be necessary that State Assemblies or Conferences should instruct the Committees entrusted with these matters to meet in conference, and authorise them to adopt any measures for co-operation that might be agreed upon at such Conferences, and your Committee recommends that this course should be followed:—

1. Co-operation in Home Mission and Church Extension Work.—In addition to the Joint Conference of the respective Home Mission Committees in the different States, above suggested, your Committee recommends that State Assemblies and Conferences should consider the desirability, as essential to effective co-operation, of forming a Joint Advisory Council on Co-operation for each State, to consider and give advice regarding not Home Mission work merely, but matters of co-operation generally, consisting of representatives from the chief Committees of the respective Churches in each State, although they realise that the rejection of a proposal for an Advisory Council on Home Mission work some years ago by the Presbyterian Assembly of Victoria, and the more recent rejection of a similar proposal by the Presbyterian Home Mission Committee of New South Wales, is an indication of the difficulty of attaining the practical fruits



of union, ahead of the accomplished fact, or a definite decision by the Churches for union.

2. Secondary Education.—Your Committee notes with interest that in Queensland the Presbyterian Assembly and the Methodist Conference have co-operated in forming a United Presbyterian and Methodist Schools' Association, which has acquired and controls two secondary schools—one for girls and one for boys—in the City of Brisbane, and contemplates extending its energies. In New Zealand the Presbyterian Church alone has established seven colleges during the past seven years in connection with that Church.

In face of widespread secularism on the one hand and aggressive sacerdotalism on the other, it is very desirable that the Evangelical Churches should, while in no way aiming at superseding the present State school system, endeavour more energetically to supplement that system, especially in the secondary department of education, by fostering schools in suitable centres of population, in definite relation to the Christian Church and what it stands for. This is a sphere in which it would seem there might be co-operation between the three negotiating Churches, and your Committee recommends that State Assemblies and Conferences should be asked to appoint and instruct special School Committees to consider, and if thought advisable take action in, this matter.

3. Sunday School Work and Religious Instruction in Public Schools.—Your Committee recommends that State Assemblies and Conferences be requested to instruct their Committees dealing with this work to meet jointly, and confer as to how far co-operation is possible.

In Victoria the Presbyterian and Methodist Sunday School Committees already co-operate in the issue and use of Sunday School literature, and this and other forms of co-operation, such as training classes for teachers and schemes of Sunday School lessons, might usefully be extended.

The Presbyterian Schools' Committee in Victoria is engaged in preparing a brief manual of devotional exercises and religious instruction in public schools, such as might be suitable for use in schools and colleges generally, and for those giving religious instruction in State schools.

Conference of Committees on Sunday School work and religious instruction in day schools, authorised by the Supreme Courts of their respective Churches, might open up various ways of useful co-operation in this sphere.

4. Training of Candidates for the Ministry.—Something has already been done, as at Ormond College, in Victoria, in the way of throwing open theological classes to Congregational and Methodist students preparing for the Ministry, but this might be much more effectively and methodically done if the Theological Hall Committees in the various States were authorised by their Supreme Courts to meet and confer together as to co-operation in this department, and your Committee recommends that State Assemblies and Conferences should be requested to give authority for this, although here, too, it is felt to be doubtful how far it is possible to secure the practical fruits of union ahead of the accomplished fact.

5. Temperance and Morals.—The Committees appointed by the different State Assemblies and Conferences to deal with temperance and public questions affecting morals might well combine their forces in the direction of social reform, as, indeed, they usually do at present, at least where, as in Victoria, there is an effective Council of the Churches. Joint Conferences of such Committees in the different States might prove helpful, and is recommended by your Committee.

6. Devotional Fellowship and Evangelism.—The great war has awakened in many quarters a spirit of prayer, and combined meetings for prayers and devotional fellowship have been held in many places. Spiritual

missions also have been organised in various places, and evangelistic effort has manifested itself in Melbourne in Gospel addresses given in factories during the lunch hour by the Presbyterian Church, and in Sydney in similar work done in factories and on the Domain by Methodists. Co-operation in such work as this might perhaps be effected through committees authorised by their respective State Assemblies or Conferences, to confer and organise combined effort. In New South Wales a sub-committee appointed by the New South Wales section of the Joint Committee on Union has given much time and thought to the subject of co-operation, and has succeeded in getting commissions of inquiry appointed relating to all the above departments of work, and consisting of members from the three negotiating Churches. These Commissions have been useful in collecting information and in making suggestions as to possible ways of co-operation.

Your Committee recognise, however, that such commissions of inquiry are without authority to carry out actual or effective co-operation in the various spheres of church work entrusted by the respective State Assemblies or Conferences to Special Committees which they have appointed for that purpose. Actual and effective co-operation can only be carried out on a basis approved of and sanctioned by the respective State Assemblies or Conferences, through the joint action of Committees appointed by the State Assemblies and Conferences. And so, as the only practicable basis of co-operation, your Committee suggests:—

1. That State Assemblies and Conferences be asked to decide whether they consider co-operation as desirable or attainable in one or more of the above-mentioned departments of Church activity.
2. If so, to instruct Committees, appointed in these departments, to confer and take such action as they may agree upon in the direction of co-operation.
3. To consider the suggestion as to a Joint Advisory Council for the three Churches, which might be authorised to consider and give advice regarding matters of co-operation generally, and, if agreeable, appoint members to such a Joint Council.

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#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON AUSTRALIAN BENEFICIARY FUND.

The Committee regrets that it has been unable to devote the necessary time to the constructive development of a scheme for an Australian Beneficiary Fund on the principles mentioned in its previous report.

As already acknowledged by the Assembly, definite progress is difficult without the aid of an actuary. If the Committee's appointment is renewed, it hopes by next Assembly to submit a report of as definite a character as can be matured without actuarial assistance, and the Assembly must then decide on the next step in the matter.

In one of the States negotiations have taken place between the controlling Committees of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund and the Widows and Orphans' Fund, with a view to union preparatory to the establishment of a general fund, but the matter has not reached a decisive stage.

Dated the 9th September, 1918.

For the Committee,

A. G. PROUDFOOT,

Convener.

## REPORT OF THE NAVAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

Your Committee have the honour to report:—

I. The visit of the Chaplains-General to the Old Land and the "fronts," as Chaplains-General to the A.I.F., resulted in closer co-ordination, and therefore yet greater efficiency of the chaplaincy staff and its organisation. It also promoted, through the staff and amongst the men, a clearer knowledge that the doings and sufferings of our "boys" at the front are watched with the deepest sympathy and admiration by the churches and peoples of Australia.

#### The Conference at Salisbury Plain.

On the arrival of our Chaplain-General (Dr. Rentoul) in England he was met by Colonel Crookston, from the French front. Already the fine work of that officer as senior chaplain in Egypt had been productive of closer unification and better administration. In France he had been appointed senior chaplain (Presbyterian) at the request of Sir W. R. Birdwood's staff, while he was also attached as active chaplain to a battalion at the front. Without delay a conference was arranged at the Tidworth Headquarters, Salisbury Plain, and was attended by fifteen chaplains—seven Presbyterian, seven Methodist, and one Congregationalist. The deliberations extended over two days. The Presbyterian and the Methodist Chaplains-General presided alternately at the conferences, Dr. Rentoul being assisted by Senior Chaplain Colonel Crookston, and the Methodist Chaplain-General being assisted by his Senior Chaplain, Colonel Green. The meetings were marked by the utmost cordiality, and the decisions reached were unanimous.

#### Results of Conference.

A great "parade" was held on the Sunday, the two Chaplains-General conducting service in a great square of troops, consisting of the 9th and 10th Brigades. Services were also held by the conference chaplains in all portions of the great Salisbury Camp. Large "rallies" were addressed in the evenings in the large Y.M.C.A. "huts." The most important results reached, so far as administration goes, were a more structured organisation of the entire chaplaincy staff in France and England, a better proportion of oversight and chaplaincy care distributed over the hospitals in Great Britain and France, where Australia's sick and wounded were being nursed, and also a more effective arrangement of chaplains on active service with battalions and brigades at the fighting fronts, as well as in the great training camps. It was also secured that each brigade or training depot should have at least one Presbyterian or one Methodist chaplain, and arrangements were made for the immediate "reporting" and recognition of each chaplain on his arrival from Australia in England, by the senior chaplain of his own "denomination."

#### Senior Chaplain at London Headquarters.

On full view of the situation, it was decided that the senior chaplain should have his centre in London, not in France. This arrangement was approved by the Commandant of the A.I.F. and his staff, and Colonel Crookston, by unanimous acclaim, was appointed senior chaplain at the Military Headquarters, Westminster, London. On him, thenceforward, fell the threefold duty of ensuring the proper supervision and visitation of the chaplaincy service in hospitals (a work which Chaplain J. L. Cope, on the

conclusion of his battalion work in France, had for some time previously ably performed), of arranging the distribution of chaplains over the entire front and training camps, and of visiting from time to time the various "sectors" of the western battle front itself. No words can adequately express our sense of obligation to Colonel Crookston for his great and wise service for the Church, the chaplains, and the men. On his resignation for health's sake, more than a year later, the great work he inaugurated has been ably and wisely continued by Colonel W. Floyd Shannon (W.A.).

#### The Vice-Convener's Services.

We desire to speak very gratefully of the administration of the Committee and Executive by the Vice-Convener (Rev. W. Borland, M.A. B.D.) during the Chaplain-General's absence at that time, and when he has had to be occasionally absent from Australia. The first work which fell to the Executive under his administration was the selection of a chaplain for the Royal Naval College, Jervis Bay, N.S.W. By the brotherly co-operation of the N.S.W. Committee the Rev. A. Tulloh, M.A., of H.M.A.S. Melbourne, was selected as college chaplain, and with the best results. The Rev. A. O. Hardie, B.A., was nominated as his successor in the Navy. In accordance with the Assembly's wise resolution of 1916, he was ordained to this service in Malvern Church, Melbourne.

#### Military Chaplains, A.I.F.

The military chaplains may be grouped into three categories:—(1) Those "for continuous service," (2) those "for voyage only," and (3) those who generously accepted chaplaincy service (without remuneration by the military authorities) on troopships on which only a few hundred troops were being carried. To all these the most earnest thanks are due from the Assembly and the Presbyterian people.

#### Chaplains for Continuous Service.

These are now thirty in number, an additional chaplain having been recently granted "for special duty" in Egypt and Palestine. The proportion due to the various Australian States (were we to follow the census strictly) is: Victoria, 12; New South Wales, 10; Queensland, 4; South Australia, West Australia, and Tasmania, 1 each. The nominations by the Chaplain-General are based on selection by ballot vote of the Executive, in view of physical and other qualities of supposed fitness possessed by applicants, and in view also of the above proportion. The previous recommendations of the Military Committee of the Applicants' State Assembly is followed wherever possible. The only instance in which substantial departure has been made from the "proportion" stated above pertains to West Australia, two chaplains from which are on "continuous service." This is due to the fact that Colonel Shannon, Senior Chaplain at Headquarters, London, is from that State.

#### Testimony to Chaplains' Efficiency.

The testimony of those in authority to the efficiency and high qualities of the Australian Presbyterian chaplains has been very gratifying. Again and again the opinion has been expressed by those in high office:—"The Presbyterian chaplains have been, as a whole, the best of all." Four qualities have been assigned to them—"gentlemanliness," "superior education," "previous experience with troops," and "absolute trustworthiness."

### Chaplains' Sacrifice.

The quality of "valour" also is recognised as their unflinching characteristic. No great life-service can be without life-sacrifice. In four cases "the supreme sacrifice" has been offered by Presbyterian chaplains from Australasia. The bodies of gallant Gillison (of Victoria) and gallant Grant (of New Zealand) sleep by the craggy shores of Gallipoli. They died, each in the daring effort to "save the wounded boys." Of Gillison the present Commander of the A.I.F. has said:—"He was the best-loved man of all ranks in the entire 4th Brigade." Stevens (of N.S.W.), untiringly brave, died of wounds on the French Front; his body sleeps in the Brentwood Military Cemetery, in Essex. Kemp Bruce (of N.S.W.) died at sea, on the way home from his generous voluntary service. These instances are illustrative of the spirit which has animated our entire chaplaincy staff in work and in valour, on transport at sea, and on land in the zone of battle.

It would be invidious to single out individual names and deeds. The list of chaplains, and of their respective spheres and modes of service, will, to those who understand the far-spread and varied field of this great and terrible war, sufficiently indicate the character and variety of their strenuous and dangerous work. Many fell sick, in the dreadful winters on the French Front, or in the Syrian heat; but they returned undaunted, so soon as convalescent, to their posts of service.

The work of chaplains "for voyage only" should be equally recognised, requiring, as it did, on the submarine-infested ocean, amongst sick men, and in constant contact with troops, as well as in specially religious duties, qualities of constant cheerfulness, wisdom, human sympathy, and fine common sense.

### Distinctions for Chaplains.

Wonder has often been expressed that a larger number of "distinctions" have not been bestowed upon our chaplains, many of whom have been "mentioned" again and again in "despatches." Those who "know" the "influences" which sometimes determine these things, and that Australian Presbyterian chaplains have (in England's London) no ecclesiastical "head" or interested political "representative" to voice their deeds, will feel no surprise. We are glad, however, that at last some recognition of the merits of our chaplaincy work has been symbolised in the bestowment of the Military Cross upon Major Frank Rolland (of Victoria) and Major A. McC. Stevenson (of N.S.W.) "for distinguished valour" and "extraordinarily conspicuous service."

### Disappointment to Chaplains "for Voyage Only."

More than a year ago, at the request of the military authorities for the Chaplain-General's nomination of chaplains for voyage only, the following clergymen were selected by the Executive, and nominated officially by Chaplain-General Rentoul:—Revs. D. McKay Barnet, B.A., N.S.W.; J. D. Landels, Vic.; J. A. Craigen, B.A., N.S.W.; C. Jones, Princes' Hill, Vic.; and H. Douglas Fearon, Adelaide, S.A. All these gentlemen were admirably qualified for the best kind of chaplaincy service. The failure, however, of the second "Conscription Referendum," and the consequent paucity of "reinforcements" have (along with other calamities) inflicted upon those nominated chaplains a sore and undeserved injustice. The Chaplain-General has again and again interviewed the military authorities on their behalf, and protested against the great injustice done to them, their families and their congregations. The official answer, however, is (coupled with an expression of regret) that the injustice is unavoidable, and due to the vote of the "people" against "conscription." As recruits are so few, the "chaplains for continuous service" are sufficient to fulfil their own duties, and also the duties of "for voyage only." The Chaplain-Gen-

ral and Committee tender to the above-mentioned clergymen their sincere sympathy and regret, all the more because almost all of them have done notable service in military camps in Australia. To the Rev. D. McKay Barnett, in particular, they express deep regret, in view of the fact that his gallant son gave his life for the flag.

#### Sympathy with Sufferers.

The Chaplain-General, Executive, and Committee wish to express their deep sympathy with parents and friends who have given up their loved ones—sons, brothers, husbands—to struggle, suffering, and in many cases death, at the call of freedom and country in the great war. Into hundreds of the manses of our ministers, and thousands of the homes of our people, the sorrow and sacrifice have entered. The Committee keenly feel the great loss, and they honour highly the noble and splendid self-sacrifice.

#### Admiration for Australian Troops.

The Committee also deem it right to express, on behalf of the Church of Australia, their warm admiration for the wonderful valour and skill of the Australian officers and men, the loving care and courage of nursing sisters, the admirable work of the surgeon and Medical and Army Medical Corps' Service at "the Fronts," in hospitals, in hospital ships, and in troopships. All this brings us nearer the "realised ideal" of the life of Christ, "Who went about doing good, and healing all manner of sickness, for that God was with Him." It seems to manifest the fact that the sphere of religion and the sphere of beneficent civic and national duty and service are closely conjoined.

#### Woman's Beneficence.

The Committee desire to record the Church's indebtedness to the noble work and beneficence of the Church's **womanhood** during the long strain of the dreadful war. Especially would they record the gracious and helpful generosity of Mrs. George Dunnet, Melbourne, in sending to each chaplain, "for the men," a Christmas (1918) gift of £20, totalling nearly £600 in all; of Mrs. Black, Mount Noorat (Vic.), whose benefaction enables Chaplain-Major Frank Rolland to carry on his helpful midnight "warm canteen" service amongst the men, in the "raids" at the "front"; and of Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. G. M. Buchanan and the Robertson family for their gift in relation to the maintenance of the "St. Andrew's Club," Melbourne.

#### List of Chaplains and Locations.

##### A.—"For Continuous Service."

1914-15—Colonel Dr. E. N. Merrington (Q.), 1st L.H., Egypt, and Senior Chaplain, Gallipoli; Colonel J. C. McPhee (S.A.), Egypt, Senior Chaplain, Gallipoli; Captain Andrew Gillison, M.A. (Vic.), 14th Batt., Egypt—killed at Gallipoli; Captain J. Keith Miller (N.S.W.), Egypt and Gallipoli.

1915-16—Major S. MacBain, B.A., Egypt and French Front; Colonel D. Macrae Stewart, Egypt, the "Southland," French Front, 21st Batt., Senior Chaplain (Vic.); Major W. J. Stevens (N.S.W.), Egypt, Etaples Base, Somme—died of wounds, French Front; Captain Joseph Lundie, B.A. (Q.), 9th Batt., Egypt and Syria.

1915-18—Major Frank W. Rolland, M.A. (Vic.), Egypt, France, Somme, 14th Batt., French Front, M.C.

1915-17—Major Frank Milne, M.A., B.D. (Vic.), Alexandria, French Front, wounded, Pozieres, Dartford, England.

1915-16—Captain George Cranston, B.A. (N.S.W.), France, Western Front, and Etaples.

1915-18—Colonel W. Floyd Shannon, B.A. (W.A.), Egypt, English hospitals, Senior Chaplain, Headquarters, London.

1915-16—Captain J. L. Cope, 14th Batt., in succession to Gillison, Gallipoli; Western Front, France; Director Hospital Service, Great Britain. Captain J. B. Rentoul (Tas.), 1st L.H., in succession to Merrington, Egypt; 3rd L.H. (Vic.), Upper Egypt; France, 21st Batt., Somme; Senior Chaplain (Tas.). Captain A. H. Tolhurst (Vic.), Egypt, Gallipoli, French Base. Captain George R. Gordon, B.A. (N.S.W.), Egypt, France, and Western Front.

1916-18—Major A. McE. Stevenson (N.S.W.), M.C., French Front, 4th Div., R.B.A. Artillery; Captain J. H. McGaon, B.A. (N.S.W.), French Front, and 4th L.H. Brig., Palestine. Captain A. S. McCook (N.S.W.), Hurdcott Depot and French Front.

1916-17—Colonel J. Crookston (Vic.), Egypt, Senior Chaplain, Somme, France; first Senior Chaplain, Headquarters, London. Captain A. Irving Davidson, M.A. (Vic.), 37th Batt., Larkhill Depot and French Front; Colonel J. L. Rentoul, M.A., D.D., Chaplain-General, C.D.F. and A.I.F., to Great Britain, France and the war fronts.

1916-18—Captain Hume Robertson, B.A. (Vic.), 2nd A.G. Hospital, Wimereux; wounded at French Front.

1916-17—Rev. John Walker, Transport Service, British Hospitals and French Front.

Since then a succession of very able chaplains have continued the fine tradition of service. Captains Bates (Q.), P. A. Hope, B.A. (Tas.), and J. Smiley, B.A. (Vic.) were members of the conference at Salisbury Plain, and did good service afterwards—Hope at the Western Front, Bates with the 1st Light Horse in Palestine, and Smiley at the Havre Base Hospital, France. Chaplains J. A. Malcomson (N.S.W.), R. Wilson Macaulay (Vic.)—these in the Western zone of work and danger—and Wm. Fraser (Vic.), in Abassia, Egypt, and with the 3rd L.H. in Palestine, have maintained the high standard set by the first "Anzacs."

The succession of quality and service has been maintained by the following:—T. J. Riddle, B.A. (S.A.), John Calder, B.D. (N.S.W.), A. E. Goller, M.A. (Vic.), C. M. Legate, B.A. (Q.), T. McVittie, M.A. (N.S.W.), C. Neville (Vic.), W. Wilson Smith (Vic.), W. G. Bradley (N.S.W.), J. Nicholls, M.A. (Vic.); Chaplains E. J. Petherick (W.A.), R. G. Crawford, B.A. (Q.), D. P. Macdonald, M.A. (N.S.W.), and James A. Forrest (Vic.) filled the gaps caused by resignations from the outwearied staff.

In August, 1907, came the deeply regretted intimation of Colonel Crookston's impending resignation. The strain of the long war was telling its tale on outworn chaplains, as well as on outwearied troops.

Dr. Merrington (Q.) and Major S. MacBain (Vic.) again offered themselves, and were followed by Chaplains R. C. Foyster, M.A. (Vic.), A. S. Houston (Vic.), for Egypt and Palestine; W. C. Gray, B.A. (N.S.W.), and P. A. Smith (N.S.W.), for French Front. When the sad news came of Major-Chaplain Stevens' death, the Rev Malcolm McQueen, M.A. (Vic.), was appointed in his stead. Later still there have gone from our shores to the various fronts Chaplains Fred J. Paton (appointed in view of our great interests in the New Hebrides), J. Scott Macdonald, M.A. (Q.), and Donald Dow (Vic.),—fitted as fine horsemen and true officers for special service in Egypt and Palestine—F. W. Ranken (Vic.), Frank H. L. Paton, B.D. (Vic.), R. C. Racklyeft (N.S.W.), G. M. Baird, B.A. (Vic.), and Albert E. Bates (N.S.W.), Chaplains J. A. Ford (S.A.) and John T. Lawton, M.A. (Vic.), are to sail soon.

The Committee thinks that the Church as a whole will in years to come look back with true satisfaction upon this succession of its ministerial force and its own heart's blood—men who have "jeopardied their lives in the high places of the field" in midst of the young Australian manhood, in these dread years of the Nation's and the Faith's sorest need.

#### B.—A.I.F. Chaplains "for Voyage."

For the less popular, but not less needful and strenuous, chaplaincy duty expressed by the words "For Voyage Only," we have necessarily a shorter list. In order of time these officers are (it will be noticed that some who served as chaplains "for voyage only" served again, a second time, as chaplains "for continuous service"):

1915—Captain-Chaplains Rev. J. B. Rentoul (Tas.), Rev. George Chalmers (N.S.W.), Rev. R. W. McLean, M.A. (S.A.), Rev. Wm. Fraser, B.A. (Vic.), Rev. A. H. Tolhurst (Vic.), Rev. J. Smiley, B.A. (Vic.), Rev. H. T. Postle, M.A., LL.M. (Vic.), Rev. Douglas Bruce (Vic.).

1916—Captain-Chaplains Rev. Professor Adam, M.A., D.D. (Vic.—special appointment to hospital ship, Karoola), Rev. T. J. Riddle, B.A. (S.A.), Rev. Alex. Clarke (N.S.W.), Rev. G. R. S. Reid (N.S.W.).

As indicated in this Report, various other chaplains were nominated "for voyage only"; but, owing to the falling off in recruits, there seems no hope of their receiving appointments.

#### A.I.F. Chaplains Voluntary (Unpaid).

The list of these unpaid officers is brief, but honourable; and it is additionally lusted by the fact that one of its band has made the "supreme sacrifice."

#### C.—Chaplains A.I.F. (Voluntary and Unpaid).

Captains Rev. J. Kemp Bruce (N.S.W.—died at sea on voyage back to Australia), Rev. H. O'Sullivan (Vic.), Rev. Dr. D. Macdonald (Vic.).

#### D.—Naval Chaplains, A.I.F.

1914-16—Rev. A. Tulloh, M.A. (Vic.), Chaplain, H.M.A.S. "Melbourne,"

1914-15—Rev. W. Pendleton Stewart, B.A. (N.S.W.), Chaplain, H.M.A.S. "Encounter."

1915—Rev. George Chalmers (N.S.W.), Chaplain, Royal Naval College, Jervis Bay.

1916—Rev. Alex. Tulloh (Vic.), Royal Naval College, Jervis Bay; Rev. A. O. Hardie, B.A., Chaplain, H.M.A.S. "Melbourne," North Sea.

Here are 78 names, representing 73 distinct personalities, including the Chaplain-General, and such a list is surely an honourable fact in our young Church's manhood.

The Committee recommends the reappointment of the Committee, with the continuance of the Convener as Chaplain-General, and of the Rev. W. Borland as Vice-Convener, and that the Victorian Committee be continued as Executive.



REPORTS FROM NAVAL AND MILITARY COMMITTEES OF THE  
VARIOUS STATE ASSEMBLIES.

I.—1st MILITARY DISTRICT (QUEENSLAND).

NAVAL AND MILITARY CHAPLAINS, QUEENSLAND.

The work among the soldiers in camp has been steadily carried on during the past two years. In 1917 the General Assembly, in the State of Queensland, agreed to unite with the Methodist Church in all chaplaincy work. Two splendid modern buildings have been erected in the two main parts of the camp (Enoggera), at a cost of £2000. These are permanent buildings, and are well equipped with pianos, writing desks, libraries, etc., and with good acetylene lighting plants. The whole cost of these buildings and of the maintenance of them is borne by the two denominations concerned, share and share alike. By these means more efficient work has been accomplished at a much smaller cost to each Church. Too much cannot be said of the generosity and magnanimity of the sister Church (Methodist), whose representatives have invariably manifested a real brotherly spirit.

Since last Assembly, in 1916, the Rev. J. Lundie, B.A., has returned from active service after 12 months' absence.

In June, 1917, the Rev. R. G. Crawford, B.A., left for service abroad, after acting as camp chaplain for eighteen months at Enoggera. Since his departure the work at the camps and hospitals has been carried out by the chaplains of the A.M.F., principally by the Rev. J. Cosh, B.D., whose congregation has agreed to his devoting himself to the needs of soldiers.

In December, 1917, the Rev. Dr. Merrington left Brisbane, for the second time, on active service, and is at present in England.

The Rev. J. H. Bates has resigned his position with the A.I.F., after two years' service. His place has been taken by the Rev. J. Scott Macdonald, M.A., who is now with the Australian troops in Palestine. The Rev. C. Moorhead Leggate, B.A., has been chaplain successively in Egypt and in France. He is now returning.

Military camps of training have been held at Toowoomba, Maryborough, and Townsville, at which were in attendance Chaplains the Rev. J. Lundie, B.A., the Rev. M. Kirkpatrick, B.A., and the Rev. J. Sinclair.

As far as our own Church is concerned, material assistance has been rendered by the members of the Women's Chaplaincy Aid Society.

JAMES COSH,

Convener.

(Senior Chaplain—temporary).

II.—2nd MILITARY DISTRICT (N.S.W.).

In camps of the Commonwealth Defence Forces, at such times as these may be in active training, the chaplaincy duties are performed by members of the Chaplaincy Staff. On the staff, as the permanent "establishment," there are eleven chaplains, and during the continuance of the war eleven additional (temporary) chaplains may be designated by our Committee. Thus the number of chaplains absent from our State "for continuous service" or "for voyage" does not impair the working power of our chaplaincy administration. Chaplain John Auld was appointed as special chaplain for departing, returning, and invalid troops.

In connection with the A.I.F., the training camps for troops recruited

for war service have, owing to the failure of the Conscription Referendum, practically disappeared, with the exception of the one large central camp at Liverpool. Here the chaplaincy duties are effectively maintained.

The naval "port chaplains" and other naval chaplains continue as set forth in last Assembly's report, except that in the Royal Naval College, Jervis Bay, the Rev. A. Tulloh, M.A., is now the College chaplain, in succession to the Rev. George Chalmers (resigned on account of health). Chaplain Tulloh (formerly chaplain on H.M.A.S. Melbourne) is a Victorian. The N.S.W. Committee had recommended for the appointment an excellently fitted chaplain from its own State. On his finding himself unable to accept the proposal, the Committee gladly accepted the Australian Executive's judgment that Chaplain Tulloh should have the nomination, in view of his own merits and also of the Chaplain-General's successful vindication of the rights of the Presbyterian Church as regards this chaplaincy.

The chaplains from N.S.W., A.I.F., during the war have, in order of time, been:—For Continuous Service—Revs. J. Keith Miller, W. J. Stevens (died of wounds received on French front), George Cranston, G. A. Gordon, A. McE. Stevenson, M.C., J. H. McGoun, A. S. McCook, J. A. Malcolmson, John Calder, W. G. Bradley, D. P. Macdonald, W. C. Gray, P. A. Smith, R. C. Racklyeft, and Albert E. Bates. For Voyage Only—Rev. George Chalmers, A. Clarke, J. Kemp Bruce (honorary and unpaid), G. R. S. Reid. Other chaplains (Rev. D. McKay Barnett and Rev. A. C. Grieve), nominated "for voyage only," have (we regret to say) not been "called up," owing to the dwindling in the number of recruits.

We deplore the deaths of Chaplains Major W. J. Stevens and J. Kemp Bruce, and we congratulate Major A. McE. Stevenson on his receiving the Military Cross for valour and extraordinarily good service.

The Rev. D. Finlayson, Queanbeyan, has been appointed chaplain at Duntroon Military College.

R. SCOTT WEST,

Secretary of N.S.W. Committee.

### III.—3rd MILITARY DISTRICT (VICTORIA).

Melbourne, September, 1918.

The widespread system of A.I.F. training camps in Victoria, which in 1916 betokened the activities of our chaplaincy administration, has now narrowed into the one central military camp at Broadmeadows. Then we had solidly constructed and most comfortable wooden "Presbyterian Soldiers' Institutes" in the large camps at Broadmeadows, Royal Park, and Seymour. These were provided and furnished by the efforts of a large organisation of ladies, called into existence at first by the Chaplain-General, and working in consultation and co-operation with the Victorian Naval and Military Committee. The president of the ladies' organisation was Mrs. Borland, and it had a sub-committee in each parish of the Victorian Church. Its appeals for funds were generously responded to over the entire State. In each leading camp pianos and other musical instruments were provided, the payment for them being raised by the children of our Church's Sunday Schools, at the call of Miss Rentoul. The wise and generous energy of Mrs. Borland's Committee and the assistance of our sub-committee deserve the Church's warm gratitude.

In each of those large camps a resident chaplain was placed, his "pulpit supply" being provided by the funds raised through the Ladies' Committee. In each camp there was also an assistant to the chaplain, having oversight over the "dry canteen" to provide refreshments for soldiers.

Besides those larger camps and institutes, there were also "institutes" or "huts" in camps at Ascot Vale, Maribyrnong, Bendigo, Castlemaine,

and Warrnambool (the last-named being provided by the generosity of St. John's Presbyterian Church, through the energy of the Rev. John Gray). Of all that large service only our original "Presbyterian Soldiers' Institute" at Broadmeadows now remains, and the Rev. B. Butchers, B.A., is the efficient resident chaplain.

Sick or wounded soldiers in our military hospitals are sedulously attended to by Chaplain Thomson and others. The gratuitous ministry of the Rev. Hugh Jones to men in the clinical hospital, a work demanding great tact and sympathy, deserves the heartiest commendation.

For chaplaincy work in connection with the Commonwealth Defence Forces, when called out for periodic training, our staff on "the establishment," and also on the "Supplementary List," is maintained at full strength, and is administered under the supervision of the senior chaplain.

The long list of our A.I.F. chaplains who have gone from Victoria on the various modes of war service will be found in the report of the Chaplain-General's Australian Committee, given above.

Our Committee wishes to express special thanks to Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. G. M. Buchanan, and the Robertson family for their generosity, both as regards camps and also the maintenance of the "St. Andrew's Club," for attention to departing and returning soldiers.

D. MACRAE STEWART,  
Senior Chaplain.

#### 4th MILITARY DISTRICT (SOUTH AUSTRALIA).

Adelaide, September, 1918.

The Rev. T. J. Riddle, B.A., Mount Barker, has just returned from A.I.F. chaplaincy service in English training camps, and afterwards with the famous 9th Battalion at the French front. He was succeeded there by Major the Rev. S. MacBain, B.A. Chaplain Riddle has received very high commendation from military commandants and from headquarters, London, for gallantry and devotion to duty. He was a great favourite with the men. Though needing rest, he has returned to his parish work.

Chaplain J. A. Ford sails in a few days for England and the French front.

Our work for A.I.F. troops in training for the fronts has been reduced to the one centre, the military camp at Mitcham. There our chaplains "on the establishment" take each a fortnight's duty in succession. In this way they are able to carry on the work of their parishes and chaplaincy duty at the same time. Similar provision is made for chaplaincy services in the camp of the Citizen Defence Forces, usually held at Gawler.

A small "institute" or "hut" of wood enforced with concrete has been erected at the Mitcham Camp. It is roomy enough to accommodate the number of soldiers attending communion service and desiring conversation with chaplains.

United parade, in which the chaplains of all the non-Romanist "denominations" usually join, is held in a convenient part of the camp. Its unity is somewhat marred by the odd action of the Anglican authorities, who divide off their communicants for the administration of the Lord's Supper at the same hour when united parade is holding. The commandant, himself a Church of England man, is exceedingly friendly and favourable to our united parade, and supports it with his presence.

J. A. SEYMOUR,  
Senior Chaplain.

## 5th MILITARY DISTRICT (WEST AUSTRALIA).

The sub-report from West Australia has not yet come to hand. We know, however, that the chaplaincy work there is being efficiently carried out.

## 6th MILITARY DISTRICT (TASMANIA).

Hobart, September, 1918.

On the resignation of the Rev. J. Heyer, Hobart, as senior chaplain, the Rev. W. J. Holt, Launceston, held the senior chaplaincy for a year. On his resignation I was appointed senior chaplain, and am transacting the duties of that office. The military authorities long ago expressed, as a general principle, the opinion that, as headquarters are in Hobart, it is advisable that the senior chaplain should have his permanent sphere of work there. Our Committee, however, has voiced no judgment on that subject, and certainly during the senior chaplaincy of Mr. Holt, of Launceston, our chaplaincy service suffered no diminution of efficiency. The matter belongs solely, of course, to the functions of the Tasmanian Church. Chaplaincy duties at the training camp near Hobart are performed by Chaplains A. D. Leckie and J. B. Rentoul; in the Launceston area by Chaplains W. J. Holt and W. J. Harris, or under their supervision; and in the Midlands area by Chaplains Percy A. Hope and J. G. Millar.

We are glad to welcome back from England and the French front Chaplain Percy A. Hope, who has done excellent work with the A.I.F., and has proven himself a wise and valiant officer. In his stead our Committee has recommended for selection by the Chaplain-General's Executive the applications of the Revs. W. J. Harris and W. J. Holt, both of Launceston, and both possessing proven experience as chaplains.

J. B. RENTOUL,

Senior Chaplain.

## REPORT ON SPIRITUAL MISSIONS.

That in view of the desirability of deepening the spiritual life of our people, and in order to make vital religion a more definite force in our Commonwealth, the Committee recommends that Spiritual Missions be held at an early date in all the States, and that the Moderator be requested to communicate with State Moderators accordingly.

That the Revs. David Ross and John Sinclair be appointed to introduce this recommendation to the Assembly.

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

## PAPERS RE PROPOSED TRANSFERENCE OF CONGREGATIONS IN THE PENOLA PRESBYTERY FROM THE STATE ASSEMBLY OF VICTORIA TO THE STATE ASSEMBLY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The Moderator and Members of the State Assembly, Presbyterian Church in Victoria.

Fathers and Brethren,—

The South Australian State Assembly at a recent Session passed the following resolution:—

"Directs the Home Mission Committee to reopen negotiations with the Victorian Assembly anent the transfer of the Congregations in the Penola Presbytery, within this State, to the jurisdiction of this Assembly, and refers the matter to the General Assembly at its next meeting if necessary."

In obedience to this direction, my Committee desires to bring under your consideration the question of the transfer of the charges in the Penola Presbytery, which are situated in this State, to the jurisdiction of the Assembly in this State. In bringing this matter under your notice, let me recite what has already taken place in this direction:—

(1) In November, 1909, this Committee sent a memorandum to your Assembly, asking that this question of transfer should be considered. As the result of the overture then made, your Assembly, in May, 1910, appointed the Revs. J. A. Barber, Hume Robertson, and D. A. Cameron a Committee to present the mind of your Assembly (which was favourable to the transfer) to the "Presbytery of Penola and Congregations connected therewith" anent this matter. These brethren did so in an admirable circular letter (a copy of which is hereto attached), setting forth the points to be considered.

(2) This led to a conference of this Committee with the Penola Presbytery on 23rd March, 1910, and then to the Home Mission Committee of the General Assembly, bringing this matter before that Court as part of its report when it met in Melbourne in 1912. The following are the resolutions carried then by the General Assembly:—

"Again refer the question of the placing of the Presbytery of Penola, under the State Assembly of South Australia, to the State Assemblies of Victoria and South Australia, with the intimation that, in the opinion of this Assembly, this should now be carried out (Min. 17-5-12).

"With reference to the Presbytery of Penola, it was resolved that the transfer be left in abeyance, and meanwhile that the Presbytery of Penola be visited by the Rev. John Ferguson, Convener of the Home Board, and the Rev. D. A. Cameron, the matter to be finally dealt with next Assembly; and, further, that inquiries be made by the Revs. John Ferguson and D. A. Cameron as to the possibilities of the present ministers of the Penola Presbytery, in the event of a transfer being effected, remaining connected with the Victorian beneficiary funds without loss of increments" (Min. 60/12).

(3) In 1914 this matter reached the stage in which a Conference has been arranged, as the outcome of the General Assembly's resolutions, between representatives of the General Assembly, the Home Mission Committee in this State, and the Penola Presbytery, the Rev. J. Barnaby, Convener of the Victorian Home Mission Committee, taking the place of the Rev. John Ferguson, who was unable to carry out his appointment (A.G.A. Blue Book, p. 192). On account of the action taken by the Penola Presbytery, this conference and visitation did not take place. When this was reported to the General Assembly in Brisbane that year, the following resolution was carried:—

"That the report be received, and that in view of the opinion of the Presbytery no further steps to be taken in the meantime in the matter" (Min. 109/14, pp. 85, 192).

(4) My Committee thinks the time is now opportune for resuming negotiations, and desire to point out that the reasons before urged for the transfer still hold good. They are mainly:—

- (a) That the ecclesiastical territory should coincide with the civil and political territorial bounds. This is the case of the sister churches so far as the South-East district is concerned. And there is nothing against this so far as travelling facilities or sentiment are concerned.
- (b) That it would be for the greater good of the whole churches if the South Australian Assembly were enlarged by the addition of the Penola Presbytery to its bounds.

(5) My Committee now asks that your Assembly will take this matter again into your consideration, and, my Committee suggests, arrange a conference at an early date, with this Committee and the Penola Presbytery. The object of the conference would be to consider:—

- (a) What adjustment could be made, in the event of a transfer, so as to conserve the interests of the ministers in the Penola Presbytery now connected with the beneficiary funds of the Church in Victoria.
- (b) How the interests of the Sabbath Schools and Congregation can be secured under the benefits of the Allan Bequest Scheme should a transfer be effected.
- (c) To consider any other question which the suggested transfer may be found to involve.

My Committee urges very earnestly the consideration of this matter by your Assembly now, trusts that it will be possible to have an early reply, and prays for Divine guidance to direct your Assembly and ourselves.

With fraternal greetings,

J. A. SEYMOUR,

Convener of the Home Mission Committee.

The matter came before the State Assembly of Victoria at its recent Session in May last, when the following resolution was passed:—

“The Assembly receives the communication, agrees to reopen negotiations with the Church in South Australia through its Home Mission Committee and the Presbytery of Penola, with a view to effecting such transference as soon as possible, and instructs the Home Mission Committee to give effect to this resolution.”

Nothing further has been done, and, therefore, in accordance with the resolution of the State Assembly of South Australia, we desire your venerable Court to take these promises into consideration, and further deal with the matter as in your judgment you may deem best.

Attested by

J. HALL ANGUS,

Clerk of Assembly of South Australia.

Adelaide, 19th August, 1918.

COPY OF CIRCULAR FROM THE VICTORIAN HOME MISSION  
COMMITTEE RE TRANSFER OF PENOLA PRESBYTERY  
TO SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ASSEMBLY.

Assembly Hall,

Melbourne, 28th July, 1910.

To the Presbytery of Penola and the Congregations connected therewith.

Brethren,—

1. We were appointed by the Assembly of May this year a special Committee to represent to you its feeling in connection with the severance of that part of the Presbytery of Penola situated within the State of South Australia, and its attachment to the Presbyterian Church of South Australia. We were perhaps chosen to act on this Committee because able to represent to you the special view of those who, without being members of the Presbytery of Penola, have recently visited most of its territory, and as those who are familiar with the South Australian view of the question, and with the Adelaide view of the need of the Church at the present juncture. The Assembly was unwilling to put any pressure on the Presbytery or its Congregations, but felt the request of the sister Church deserved most careful consideration. It was sure that it would receive both earnest and wise attention at your hands.

2. Presbyterians are accustomed to look to their State Assembly for leadership. The Assembly gives voice to the mind of the Church.

The Assembly in South Australia is not larger than a good-sized Presbytery, and so, though composed of able ministers and elders, is not able adequately to fulfil this function. It has not the prestige and standing necessary to make it a force for impressing itself on the community. Without an Assembly large enough to compel attention, and give visibility to the Church's ideas, all forward work is greatly handicapped.

3. The South-East is always among South Australians regarded as the garden of their State. The addition to their Assembly of the Congregations of this favoured territory would be a great aid towards a better position in the eyes of our own people. In Adelaide one finds a feeling that the Presbyterian Church of South Australia is not quite what it should be when certain South Australian Congregations are not part of it, but are included in the Church of another State. This appreciably affects work among the non-Church-going and casual worshippers.

4. One finds also a trace of resentment against a denomination that cannot command the loyalty of its worshippers of the same communion within the State's bounds.

In every State there is a State loyalty that has to be reckoned with, and we would respectfully ask you to give this phase of the question some attention. An appeal, say, for Home Mission Funds for Presbyterian work in the far north, or even in the poorest parts of Adelaide, is interfered with, when the question is asked, "Why do you not appeal to the Congregations of our South-East?" and the answer comes, "We cannot, for they do not recognise us, and they are supporting Home Mission work in Victoria." At once the statement is made, "Oh, well, that is wretched management."

5. The South Australian Church has a great work to do in the north and in the west, and in Adelaide itself, but it finds itself greatly handicapped for means, preachers, Presbyteries, and a strong Assembly.

If the transfer be made, traditions will be broken, strong ties severed, and inconveniences in some measure incurred for a short time, but we believe that the great good accruing to the general interests of Australian Presbyterianism from such a readjustment of territorial ecclesiastical jurisdiction will more than compensate for the temporary losses. Till all the State Assemblies are fully manned our Australian work cannot be what it should.

There must be these strong local directing agencies, or there cannot be vigorous administration and worthy leadership.

6. We believe the beneficiary funds are now rather better in the South Australian Church than in the Victorian, and no doubt adjustments could be made to meet special cases. Similarly, no doubt, the Home Mis-

sion charge receiving aid and the Sustentation Fund charge could have special provision made for them.

Praying that God's wisdom may guide and direct you in your deliberations, and with fraternal greetings,

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) J. A. BARBER.

HUME ROBERTSON,

D. A. CAMERON.

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#### HYMNAL REPORT.

Your Committee has to report that the Hymnal continues to serve a good purpose in connection with the Church's work among both the children in our Sunday Schools, and in meetings of the adults, who find the Hymnary unsuitable for their needs. It is hoped that it will yet take that place in the Church to which it is entitled, as the Assembly's own book.

As instructed by last Assembly, your Committee communicated with the publisher in London, in regard to the possibility of issuing a few kindergarten pieces, either in future reprints of the Hymnal, or as a separate booklet in connection with it. The publisher is strongly of opinion that a separate booklet should not be published, but that the pieces wanted should be incorporated with the Hymnal, when reprints are being made.

The Committee has had the great advantage of the counsel of the Director of the Welfare of Youth Department in Victoria (he is one of its members), and it has also conferred with ladies and gentlemen who are actively engaged in Sunday School Kindergarten work, as to how music and words suitable for Australian infants can be obtained. And it has also discussed the possibility of making slight changes in the sectioning of the Hymnal, so as to make the various sections correspond, as nearly as possible, to the gradings in the lesson schemes, now so generally used in Australia.

The publisher is willing to do what is required, without risk to the Assembly, relying on the Assembly's hearty co-operation, and charging the cost to the Hymnal royalty account. If this were done, and the book pushed by the Welfare of Youth Department, it would be a great gain.

The Committee recommends the Assembly to grant it authority to conclude the necessary negotiations, when the prices for printing are more favourable than they are at present.

A very gratifying thing which has recently occurred is that the Hymnal was officially recommended for use in connection with the Spiritual Mission, lately held with such fine results, throughout Victoria.

The Committee would also suggest to the Assembly the desirability of communications being opened with the Australian Methodist Conference, and the Australian Congregational Union, to ascertain if they would be disposed to co-operate with the Assembly in the preparation, in the future, of an Australian Hymn Book, for use in the schools of each of the three Churches.

On behalf of the Committee,

W. H. ASH,

Convener.



## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS, 1917.

The lamented death of the Rev. James Steele, of Blackheath, New South Wales, threw the entire responsibility for the preparation of the accompanying tables on to his Joint-Convener. Without Mr. Steele's knowledge of past procedure and advice it has been found difficult to prepare a report. In particular, the model schedule of questions approved by last Assembly is not included in the Blue Book, and cannot be traced.

Your Committee have, therefore, drawn up a new list of questions, which is herewith submitted for recommendation to the State Assemblies for incorporation in their schedules.

The figures for Victoria and Tasmania are taken from the draft report to the next Commission of the State Assembly of Victoria, and are subject to revision and correction.

The Queensland figures are still the most complete. The accompanying tables have been compiled with as much care as possible, but many of them are still very imperfect. The late Convener's Review of Communion Statistics has been enlarged by the addition of two sections showing the total communicant membership, the totals of those joining for the first time, and the percentage of those joining for the first time to the whole membership.

The tables make two facts plain. The total membership is still increasing, so that we have hitherto escaped the downward trend of Churches in England. On the other hand, it has to be remembered that our true growth comes from those who join us "by Profession of Faith," and the percentage of such is slowly but steadily sinking. In six years it has gone down from 5.95 to 5.34 per cent. of membership. Your Committee believe that in revealing such movements, and drawing the attention of the Church to perils that may be slowly creeping on, may be found the real justification of statistics of Church Life and Work. The Committee on Statistics accordingly ask the General Assembly to note that the continuance of this decline in efficient soul-winning (or in the addition of converts to our communion rolls) threatens to bring the growth of our Church to a halt. In the six years 1911 to 1917 the membership increased from 62,488 to 73,265—an addition of 10,777 to the gross total, or 17.2497 per cent. The average annual increase was therefore 2.8749 per cent. for the whole period. For the period 1915-1917 the increase was 2,782, equal to 3.947 per cent. over two years, or 1.973 per cent. per annum. In other words, when we added 5.957 per cent. of members to our communion roll through "profession of faith," our total net increase (allowing for deaths and other removals) was 2.8749 per cent. per annum. Now that we are adding only 5.347 per cent. through "profession of faith," our net increase is only 1.973 per cent. per annum. So that while our additions have diminished our losses have increased. In six years our gains have diminished .9 per cent. and our losses have increased .1 per cent., so that we are 1 per cent. worse off than we were six years ago. Our total net increase is now 1.973 per cent. It is evident, therefore, that a retrograde movement of the same dimensions, proceeding at the same rate, will in ten or twelve years' time make us a stationary Church in a growing community. Your Committee consider that it is already a sufficiently serious fact that our rate of growth is now less than two per cent.

The proposed standard schedule of questions is attached herewith.

R. WILSON MACAULAY,

Joint Convener.

10/9/18.

## 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	1,823	152	1,002	106	1,719	—
1904	26,673	1,371	15,337	962	5,629	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	17,586	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	1,850	19,526	1,150	7,530	443	2,004	—	—	—	—	—
1913	31,461	1,226	20,856	1,049	8,671	486	2,251	130	1,943	194	1,230	50
1915	33,666	1,939	21,729	1,255	9,311	530	2,405	114	2,128	110	1,244	*50
1917	34,352	1,875	22,484	1,328	9,736	393	2,616	102	2,362	147	1,715	73

## TOTALS OF COMMUNICANTS.

Year.	Total.	First Time.
1902	49,316	4,328
1904	51,468	*2,804
1905	53,541	2,798
1906	55,209	3,208
1908	57,641	2,767
1909	59,021	4,207
1911	*62,488	*3,723
1913	66,462	3,735
1915	70,483	3,998
1917	73,265	3,918

NOTES.—Chapman-Alexander Missions were held during the years 1909 and 1912.

Totals marked with \* include estimated figures for States whose returns are defective.

TABLE SHOWING THE PERCENTAGE OF NEW COMMUNICANTS TO MEMBERSHIP.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
1911 .. ..	5.889	6.065	5.883	5.533*	6.591*	3.906*	5.957
1913 .. ..	5.029	5.804	5.604	5.775	9.984	3.906	5.619
1915 .. ..	5.776	5.769	5.692	4.740	5.168	3.906	5.670
1917 .. ..	5.906	5.429	4.037	3.899	6.223	4.256	5.347

\*Figures marked with an asterisk are those for the year 1909.

TABLE I.—MINISTERS, CHARGES, AGENTS.

		N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
(a) Presbyteries ..	1905	14	14	5	3	3	3	42
	1915	17	17	5	3	3	3	48
	1917	17	17	5	3	4	3	49
(b) Charges .. ..	1905	183	274	40	23	20	25	580
	1915	222	222	49	18	19	17	506
	1917	225	222	48	21	20	17	553
(c) Ministers Settled ..	1905	137	189	32	15	11	16	400
	1915	149	—	36	15	15	14	—
	1917	159	205	36	17	15	14	446
(d) Ministers <i>emeriti</i>	1905	11	25	1	1	—	1	39
	1915	9	—	3	0	—	1	—
	1917	9	22	4	0	—	0	35
(e) Ministers Unsettled	1905	24	24	1	1	—	—	50
	1915	19	—	—	1	2	1	—
	1917	—	27	—	—	—	—	—
(f) Divinity Students	1905	21	13	—	—	—	—	34
	1915	21	26	3	0	2	—	52
	1917	—	27	—	—	—	—	—
(g) Home Missionaries	1905	30	61	—	—	—	—	91
	1915	—	118	55	7	10	12	—
	1917	—	97	—	—	—	7	—
(h) Ministers in Special Service ..	1913	16	7	5	2	1	—	31
	1915	6	8	3	2	—	—	19
	1917	—	10	—	1	—	—	—
(i) Mission Stations ..	1913	31	99	42	9	11	9	201
	1915	32	107	39	10	11	14	213
	1917	—	123	39	10	7	14	—

TABLE II.—CHURCH BUILDINGS—A. ACCOMMODATION.

State.	Churches.			Schools.			Mansees.			Sitting Accommodation.		
	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.
N.S.W.	340	431	446	85	108	118	116	155	157	56,740	74,913	73,248
Victoria	487	574	579	149	161	168	171	207	205	83,738	124,788	130,136
Q'nsland	84	154	168	35	35	41	26	45	47	14,152	24,064	23,708
S. Aust.	29	37	37	—	9	10	14	16	18	6,093	7,785	9,952
W. Aust.	—	25	29	—	8	20	—	12	14	—	5,142	6,137
Tasmania	—	28	45	—	5	7	—	7	14	—	4,835	9,875
Total ..	—	1,240	1,294	—	328	364	—	442	455	—	241,327	253,081

TABLE III.—CHURCH BUILDINGS—B. FINANCE.

State.	Insurance.			Value.			Debt.		
	1905.	1915.	1917.	1906.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
N.S.W. ..	198,541	399,868	414,798	566,436	648,463	709,839	61,256	70,623	68,244
Victoria ..	320,057	499,349	514,152	697,395	*903,176	871,049	105,523	119,833	122,487
Queensland ..	59,146	95,658	100,402	112,375	178,375	205,062	14,798	14,534	11,366
S. Aust. ...	—	34,975	25,794	20,165	57,785	62,403	2,225	4,396	4,138
W. Aust. ...	—	37,590	42,146	—	66,232	60,260	16,855	22,841	26,652
Tasmania ..	—	*10,225	21,552	—	*44,610	61,405	5,735	*5,083	6,058
Totals ..	—	1,077,465	1,118,844	—	1,898,641	1,970,025	206,392	237,260	238,947

\*Returns so marked give the figures for 1913, the nearest year in which Victorian returns were published.

TABLE IV.—PERSONAL ORGANISATION.

State.	Elders.			Managers.		
	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.
New South Wales ..	715	1,012	1,065	2,335	2,902	3,188
Victoria .. ..	827	1,085	1,006	4,440	5,346	4,488
Queensland .. ..	234	345	370	565	1,050	1,044
South Australia ..	79	118	112	132	355	349
Western Australia ..	48	84	103	150	253	246
Tasmania .. ..	65	*52	59	—	*157	226
Totals .. ..	1,968	2,696	2,715	7,622	10,063	9,541

TABLE V.—SOCIETIES.

State.	Women's Societies.			Membership.			Fellowship Assoc'ns.			Membership.		
	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.
N.S.W. ..	160	188	130	3,792	*3,476	—	71	109	183	1,999	1,240	—
Victoria ..	232	276	—	6,364	7,300	—	118	72	—	2,866	1,563	—
Queensland ..	46	98	99	761	1,608	1,741	6	15	17	147	326	1142
S. Australia ..	17	28	19	—	612	389	—	1	—	—	30	—
W. Australia ..	—	30	36	—	508	596	—	—	16	—	—	1176
Tasmania ..	—	—	—	—	*128	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

\*Figures are for 1913. †Figures are of C. E. Societies. ‡Figures are of Young People's Organisations.

TABLE VI.—RELIGIOUS ORDINANCES—A.

State.	Preaching Centres.			Sunday Services.			Week-day Services.			Prayer Meetings.		
	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.
N.S.W. . .	1,113	1,170	1,137	24,531	30,708	28,863	3,358	1,854	1,500	3,089	2,620	2,763
Victoria . .	991	1,094	1,031	39,137	*44,521	42,895	1,696	*1,394	2,278	5,031	—	—
Queensland . .	243	391	339	5,912	11,230	10,548	1,148	143	559	544	552	349
S. Aust. . .	34	72	72	2,679	3,465	3,266	374	—	239	72	307	386
W. Aust. . .	—	78	61	—	2,661	2,762	—	—	95	289	146	317
Tasmania . .	64	*64	75	633	*1,845	2,746	—	—	*286	273	—	—
Totals . . .	—	2,869	2,715	—	94,430	91,880	—	—	5,158	—	—	—

TABLE VII.—RELIGIOUS ORDINANCES—B.

State.	Baptisms.			Funerals.			Marriages.		
	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.
New South Wales . .	2,717	2,993	3,529	793	—	—	1,203	—	—
Victoria . . . . .	2,732	3,066	3,078	1,495	1,735	1,583	1,223	1,634	1,589
Queensland . . . . .	803	1,318	1,450	161	552	476	286	745	695
South Australia . . . .	52	149	164	47	119	125	27	166	109
Western Australia . . . .	165	225	269	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tasmania . . . . .	—	*127	170	—	*54	90	—	*101	99
Totals . . . . .	—	7,878	8,660	—	—	—	—	—	—

\*Figures are for 1913.

TABLE VIII.—PERSONAL.

State.	Households.			Persons.			Communicants.		
	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.
New South Wales . . . .	17,333	—	—	74,502	83,734	83,338	10,034	21,729	22,484
Victoria . . . . .	30,816	38,168	34,609	117,558	129,402	110,806	27,185	33,666	34,352
Queensland . . . . .	3,903	10,043	8,314	10,771	36,491	35,152	5,807	9,311	6,736
South Australia . . . . .	801	2,868	2,892	2,093	10,930	11,072	1,703	2,405	2,616
Western Australia . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tasmania . . . . .	—	*1,032	1,539	—	*4,161	5,195	1,714	1,244	1,715
Totals . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	252,745	53,541	70,483	73,265

TABLE VIII.—PERSONAL—Continued.

State.	First Time.			Total Admitted.			Total Removed.		
	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.
New South Wales . . . .	1,176	1,255	1,328	2,031	2,318	2,292	1,193	1,568	1,691
Victoria . . . . .	1,115	1,330	1,925	2,591	4,486	3,834	1,712	1,831	2,713
Queensland . . . . .	370	530	393	595	929	678	403	533	481
South Australia . . . . .	45	114	102	86	247	203	48	124	135
Western Australia . . . . .	92	110	147	239	254	262	194	156	146
Tasmania . . . . .	—	90	73	—	146	123	—	36	72
Totals . . . . .	—	4,038	3,968	—	8,384	7,392	—	4,249	5,239

\*Figures are for 1913. †Figures arrived at by adding communicants, adherents, and scholars, and doubtless below true total.

TABLE IX.—WELFARE OF YOUTH.

State.	Schools.			Teachers.			Scholars.			Bible Classes.		
	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.
N.S.W. . .	335	351	363	2,161	2,368	2,525	21,706	21,222	23,455	1,563	*1,515	†63
Victoria . .	585	566	580	4,199	4,452	4,904	39,158	39,137	35,725	3,781	*4,388	—
Queensland . .	133	187	162	939	1,290	1,232	8,148	9,980	9,998	365	249	228
South Aust. . .	34	41	42	156	—	313	1,160	2,389	2,359	163	93	—
West. Aust. . .	24	43	38	205	360	345	2,013	3,132	3,269	—	71	†11
Tasmania . .	32	*22	41	189	*140	275	1,634	*1,370	1,708	—	*123	—
Totals . .	1,150	1,210	1,226	7,849	—	9,594	73,869	77,240	76,574	—	6,439	—

\*Figures for 1913. †These figures evidently refer to the number of classes, while the other figures refer to the membership of such classes. §There are also twenty-four "Union" schools not included in this total.

TABLE X.—FINANCE.

State.	Revenue for Congregational Purposes.											
	Ordinary.			Special.			Foreign Missions.			Home Missions.		
	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
N.S.W.	44,620	68,554	73,649	24,485	15,637	20,400	1,290	1,548	3,526	782	1,050	2,104
Victoria	83,480	126,805	99,763	12,144	*21,406	16,498	1,115	*5,614	4,019	757	*2,294	2,586
Qld.	14,030	21,498	22,067	2,639	4,544	10,394	60	432	135	62	1,206	310
S. Aust.	5,461	5,923	6,993	597	603	1,061	—	401	467	—	302	577
W. Aust.	—	6,384	7,856	—	1,038	463	—	125	21	—	312	26
Tas.	—	*3,000	5,633	—	*353	820	—	*15	228	—	*107	142
Totals . .	—	231,964	215,961	—	43,481	49,636	—	8,135	8,396	—	5,271	5,745

TABLE X.—FINANCE—Continued.

State.	S.S. Revenue.			Total Congregational Revenue.			Stipends.			Capital Funds and Credit Balances.		
	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.	1905.	1915.	1917.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
N.S.W.	1,191	1,953	2,384	77,562	91,811	97,740	41,015	55,231	56,597	109,606	217,298	232,554
Vic.	2,264	*9,319	*12,254	115,939	153,983	144,541	60,396	73,093	70,875	345,028	*426,654	437,061
Qld.	1,511	1,845	2,384	18,621	32,198	39,418	9,011	12,460	13,194	12,099	11,933	20,669
S. Aus.	—	317	380	—	8,748	8,434	3,902	5,640	5,944	13,927	27,080	30,361
W. Aus.	330	413	540	5,914	9,416	9,315	3,436	4,630	5,500	241	1,654	14,901
Tas. §.	370	*253	†409	6,557	*4,240	8,225	3,749	*2,982	3,827	—	*7,939	—
Totals	—	—	—	—	300,096	307,673	121,509	154,056	155,007	—	—	—

\*Figures for 1913. †Total of the W.A. Church Commissioners' Capital Account. §These figures are estimates. ¶These figures give the total revenue from all organisations of the congregations.

## PROPOSED STANDARD SCHEDULE OF QUESTIONS.

(To be issued to the State Assembly Committees on Statistics.)

Part I.—Relative to Central Organisation of State Assemblies.

Question 1.—Ministers, Charges, etc.—

Number of (a) Presbyteries, (b) Charges, (c) Ministers settled, (d) Ministers emeriti, (e) Ministers unsettled, (f) Divinity Students, (g) Home Missionaries, (h) Ministers in special service, (i) Mission Stations.

## Question 2.—Central Offices—

- (a) Number of central office staff, (b) total capital of Beneficiary Funds, (c) total capital of all central funds used for Church Extension purposes, (d) total capital of all central funds for (1) Foreign and (2) Home Mission purposes, (e) total of capital funds used for charitable purposes, (f) total of capital funds administered by State Assembly, (g) total of State Assembly's (1) Credit Balances, (2) Debit Balances.

## Part II.—Congregational Organisation.

## Question 1.—Church Buildings—

- (a) Church Buildings, (b) School Buildings, (c) Manse, (d) Halls (or other buildings) hired, (e) total sitting accommodation (1) of buildings used in Divine Worship, (2) of all buildings, hired or other.

## Question 2.—Building Finance—

- (a) Value of Churches, Schools, and Manses, (b) value of other property, (c) total value of congregational property, (d) insurance, (e) debt.

## Question 3.—Personal Organisation—

- (a) Number of Elders, (b) number of Deacons and Managers.

## Question 4.—Societies.

- (a) (1) Women's Missionary, (2) Membership;  
 (b) (1) Men's Missionary, (2) Membership;  
 (c) (1) Junior Missionary, (2) Membership;  
 (d) (1) Other Women's Societies, Associations, etc., (2) Membership;  
 (e) (1) Other Men's Societies, Leagues, etc., (2) Membership;  
 (f) (1) Fellowship Associations, (2) Membership;  
 (g) (1) Other Young People's Associations, Clubs, etc., (2) Membership.

## Question 5.—Religious Ordinances—

- (a) Preaching Centres, (b) Sunday Services, (c) Week-day Services, (d) Prayer Meetings, (e) Marriages, (f) Baptisms, (g) Funerals, (h) Average attendance at Sunday Services—(1) morning, (2) afternoon, (3) evening.

## Question 6.—Personnel—

- (a) Households, (b) persons under pastoral care.

## Question 7.—Church Membership—

- (a) Number of adherents, (b) communicants, (c) communicants added by Profession of Faith, (d) total additions, (e) removals by death, (f) removals by certificate, (g) total removals.

## Question 8.—Welfare of Youth—

- (a) Number of Sunday Schools, (b) number of male Sunday School teachers, (c) number of female Sunday School teachers, (d) number of boys on roll, (e) number of girls on roll, (f) average attendance (1) of boys, (2) of girls, (g) number of (1) Young Men's Bible Classes, (2) Young Women's Bible Classes, (h) Membership (1) of Young Men's Classes, (2) of Young Women's Classes.

## Question 9.—Finance—

- (a) Revenue for congregational purposes—(1) Ordinary, (2) Special, (b) Congregational Revenue (all sources) for Foreign Missions, (c) Congregational Revenue (all sources) for Home Missions, (d) Gross Sunday School Revenue, (e) total Congregational Revenue (all sources and societies included), (f) amount of stipend (not pulpit supply) actually paid by congregations.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA EXPENSES FUND ACCOUNT.

Dr.

10th August, 1916, to 10th August, 1918.

Cr.

DISBURSEMENTS.		
To Meeting in Sydney, September, 1916—		
Printing .. .. .	£21 0 10	
Advertising—"Herald" .. . . .	2 15 0	
Advertising—"Daily Telegraph" .. . . .	2 18 0	
Church Officer .. . . .	5 5 0	
Preparing Church .. . . .	4 3 0	
Hire Tables .. . . .	1 5 0	
Cartage .. . . .	1 10 6	
		£38 17 4
" College Committee—		
Secretary's Honorarium (Rev. J. C. Coutie) .. . . .	40 0 0	
" Secretary Board of Missions—		
Rev. T. Watt Leggatt .. . . .	6 0 0	
" Chaplaincy Committee—		
Rev. Dr. Rentoul—Postages, etc. .. . . .	0 16 6	
Brown, Prior and Co.—Printing .. . . .	1 8 0	
		2 4 6
" Union Committee—		
Refund Burwood (paid in 3/1/16) .. . . .	2 13 10	
Printing .. . . .	5 0 0	
		7 13 10
" Year Book, 1916-1917 .. . . .	55 17 6	
" Printing Blue Book .. . . .	171 15 2	
" Printing and Stationery .. . . .	4 0 2	
" Postages .. . . .	10 18 11	
" Telegrams .. . . .	1 0 0	
" Exchange on Cheques .. . . .	3 5 2	
" Advertising—		
" "Herald" .. . . .	3 9 6	
" "Daily Telegraph" .. . . .	2 8 6	
" "Messenger" .. . . .	1 4 0	
		7 2 0
" Honorarium—		
Moderator, 1916-1917 .. . . .	100 0 0	
Clerk .. . . .	30 0 0	
" Travelling Expenses—Transfer as per B/B., 1916 .. . . .	100 0 0	
" 2 per cent. on Revenue—		
1916 .. . . .	6 0 0	
1917 .. . . .	6 10 4	
		12 10 4
		£591 4 11
" Balance .. . . .	282 19 1	
		£874 4 0

RECEIPTS.		
By Balance 10th August, 1916 .. . . .		£298 0 10
" Proportion of Expenses—		
For 1914—		
Tasmanian Church .. . . .	£12 10 0	
For 1915—		
Tasmanian Church .. . . .	12 10 0	
For 1916—		
Queensland Church .. . . .	£22 10 0	
Sth. Australian Church .. . . .	12 10 0	
W. Australian Church .. . . .	12 10 0	
Tasmanian Church .. . . .	12 10 0	
		60 0 0
For 1917—		
Victorian Church .. . . .	76 10 0	
N.S.W. Church .. . . .	76 10 0	
Queensland Church .. . . .	22 10 0	
Sth. Australian Church .. . . .	12 10 0	
W. Australian Church .. . . .	12 10 0	
Tasmanian Church .. . . .	12 10 0	
		213 0 0
For 1918—		
Victorian Church .. . . .	76 10 0	
N.S.W. Church .. . . .	76 10 0	
Queensland Church .. . . .	22 10 0	
Sth. Australian Church .. . . .	12 10 0	
		188 0 0
		£486 0 0
" Honorarium — Secretary College Committee, 1916-7—		
Victorian Church .. . . .	£20 0 0	
N.S.W. Church .. . . .	20 0 0	
		£40 0 0
" Collection at General Assembly in Sydney .. . . .	16 14 4	
" Year Book—		
Sales .. . . .	6 17 10	
Advertising .. . . .	7 10 0	
		14 7 10
" Interest to 31st December, 1917 .. . . .	16 2 4	
" Interest from Capital Account .. . . .	2 18 8	
		576 3 2
		£874 4 0
" Balance .. . . .	£282 19 1	
To Amounts Due—1918—W. Australian Church .. . . .	£12 10 0	
Tasmanian Church .. . . .	12 10 0	
		£25 0 0

Examined and found correct,  
Sydney, 16th August, 1918.

JAMES LITTLE, R. S. SIDFY & CO.,  
Official Auditors to Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA TRAVELLING EXPENSES ACCOUNT.

Dr.			Cr.
	DISBURSEMENTS.		
To Paid Travelling Expenses to Meeting in Sydney, September, 1916—			
Victorian Representatives . . . . .	£142	13 7	
N.S. Wales Representatives . . . . .	5	16 4	
Queensland Representatives . . . . .	19	9 0	
South Australian Representatives . . . . .	28	5 0	
West Australian Representatives . . . . .	40	7 0	
Tasmanian Representatives . . . . .	5	1 0	
		<u>£241 11 11</u>	
„ Interest . . . . .		14 11 6	
„ Balance . . . . .		28 18 1	
		<u>£285 1 6</u>	
			RECEIPTS.
			By Church Hymnary Royalty Account . . . . .
			„ General Assembly Expenses Account Blue Book, 1916 . . . . .
			„ Proportion of Expenses Blue Book, 1916—
			Victorian Church . . . . .
			New South Wales Church . . . . .
			Queensland Church . . . . .
			South Australian Church . . . . .
			Western Australian Church . . . . .
			Tasmanian Church . . . . .
			<u>100 0 0</u>
			„ Refund Expenses Charged in Error . . . . .
			<u>6 0 0</u>
			<u>£285 1 6</u>
			„ Balance . . . . .
			<u>28 18 1</u>

Dr.			Cr.
	CHURCH HYMNARY ROYALTY ACCOUNT.		
To General Assembly Travelling Expenses Account	£79	1 6	
„ 2 per cent. on Revenue, 1916-7 . . . . .	2	15 4	
„ Balance . . . . .	78	6 4	
		<u>£160 3 2</u>	
			By Balance 31st July, 1916 . . . . .
			„ Royalties received from Trustees in Edinburgh—
			To 31st December, 1916 . . . . .
			To 31st December, 1917 . . . . .
			<u>114 10 4</u>
			„ Oxford University Press—
			1916 . . . . .
			1917 . . . . .
			<u>23 1 0</u>
			<u>£160 3 2</u>
			„ Balance . . . . .
			<u>£78 6 4</u>

Dr.			Cr.
	PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA CAPITAL FUND ACCOUNT.		
To Interest to Expenses Account . . . . .	£2	18 8	
„ Balance . . . . .	34	17 8	
		<u>£37 16 4</u>	
			By Balance 31st July, 1916 . . . . .
			„ Interest to 31st December, 1917 . . . . .
			<u>2 18 8</u>
			<u>£37 16 4</u>
			„ Balance . . . . .
			<u>£34 17 8</u>

Examined and found correct,  
Sydney, 16th August, 1918.

JAMES LITTLE, R. S. SIDEV & CO.,  
Official Auditors to Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.



" Pilbarra District—				
Port Hedland—				
Instruments .....	£10	10	0	
Freight .....	2	1	3	
Motor Cycle .....	87	2	9	
				<u>99 14 0</u>
" Central District—				
Oodnadatta—				
Medicine .....	1	1	9	
Sewing Machine .....	5	1	0	
Furnishings .....	5	3	6	
Rent .....	2	1	0	
				<u>13 7 3</u>
" Carpentaria District—				
Cloncurry—				
Motor Car .....	100	0	0	
Motor Car Repairs, etc. ....	29	14	9	
Freight .....	1	10	11	
				<u>131 5 8</u>
" Insurance, Queensland .....				2 8 0
" Organist (Brisbane) .....				1 1 0
" "Inlander," III. (1) .....	165	16	3	
" "Inlander," III. (2) .....	156	18	4	
				<u>322 14 7</u>
" Advertising .....				1 16 0
" Cartage .....				2 16 6
" Printing and Stationery .....				94 12 1
" Exchange on Cheques, etc. ....				11 19 7
" Telegrams .....				0 2 6
" Postages .....				27 7 8
" 2 per cent. on Revenue, 1916 .....				68 16 9
				<u>£3,138 13 7</u>
.. Balance .....				852 18 8
				<u>£3,991 12 3</u>

Examined and found correct,  
Sydney, 16th August, 1918.

	<u>£3,991 12 3</u>
Balance .....	£852 18 8

JAMES LITTLE, R. S. SIDY & CO.,  
Official Auditors to Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA HOME MISSION ACCOUNT.

Dr.

Statement 1st July, 1917, to 30th June, 1918.

Cr.

DISBURSEMENTS.		
To Salaries and Expenses—	Salaries.	Expenses.
Rev. John Flynn . . . .	£400 0 0	£117 0 0
Rev. F. G. H. Brady . . . .	284 0 0	77 7 9
Rev. R. B. Plowman . . . .	71 10 0	9 15 0
Rev. J. Shaw . . . . .	230 3 2	22 13 0
Rev. F. L. Heriot . . . . .	175 0 0	68 16 3
Rev. A. J. Eipper . . . . .	142 16 8	74 9 3
Rev. K. F. Partridge . . . . .	194 9 0	15 2 0
Rev. K. D. McDonald . . . . .	50 0 0	53 2 7
Rev. W. H. Cooper . . . . .	25 0 0	30 7 3
Rev. P. Somerville . . . . .	158 0 0	29 12 6
Nurse Haines . . . . .	—	10 8 4
Nurse Rogasch . . . . .	41 0 0	39 2 0
Sister Simpson . . . . .	102 8 4	0 7 0
Sister Hepburn . . . . .	92 0 0	0 5 0
Sister Hore . . . . .	70 2 6	10 7 6
Miss Gillespie . . . . .	8 13 4	—
East-West—East . . . . .	12 10 0	—
	£2,057 13 0	£558 15 5
		£2,616 8 5
„ Katherine District—		
Maranboy—		
Organ . . . . .	£3 0 0	
Church Praise . . . . .	0 10 6	
		3 10 6
„ Pilbarra District—		
Port Hedland—		
Kindergarten Outfit . . . . .	5 9 0	
Sabbath School Supplies . . . . .	0 15 3	
Freight . . . . .	7 11 1	
		13 15 4

RECEIPTS.	
By Balance 1st July, 1917 . . . . .	£852 18 8
„ Subscriptions from—	
Victoria . . . . .	£1,633 0 0
New South Wales . . . . .	1,274 14 9
Queensland . . . . .	300 0 0
South Australia . . . . .	92 15 8
Cloncurry . . . . .	2 6 6
Oodnadatta . . . . .	44 5 9
Mr. Sidney Kidman . . . . .	25 0 0
Messrs. Gordon Bros., Hall's Crk. . . . .	20 0 0
	£3,392 2 8
„ Mission Work in Bush of Australia . . . . .	£35 15 0
„ Presbyterian Church of Scotland . . . . .	100 0 0
„ Presbyterian Church in Ireland . . . . .	50 0 0
„ Interest to 31st December, 1917 . . . . .	47 1 4
„ Refunds—	
Sister Simpson . . . . .	£4 19 9
Nurse Haines . . . . .	10 8 4
Insurance . . . . .	1 1 5
	16 9 6

„ Central District—					
Oodnadatta—					
Sabbath School Supplies . . . . .	0	15	3		
Phonograph and Records . . . . .	21	0	0		
Insurance . . . . .	5	3	6		
Rent . . . . .	2	1	7		
Messenger . . . . .	0	7	6		
Costs of Transfer . . . . .	4	7	6		
Freight . . . . .	0	4	9		
				34	0 1
„ Carpentaria District—					
Cloncurry—					
Motor Repairs, etc. . . . .	48	0	6		
Insurance . . . . .	9	18	3		
				57	18 9
„ Insurance, Queensland . . . . .				1	12 0
„ "Inlander," IV. (1) . . . . .	174	8	9		
„ "Inlander," IV. (2) . . . . .	169	7	3		
				343	16 0
„ Weekly "Messenger" Reprints . . . . .				6	14 0
„ Cartage . . . . .				0	10 7
„ Block for Year Book . . . . .				0	4 6
„ Roller Top Desk . . . . .				14	13 0
„ File Drawers . . . . .				11	13 6
„ Office Supplies . . . . .				1	6 6
„ Rubber Stamps . . . . .				0	4 0
„ Photographs late Chaplain W. J. Stevens . . . . .				0	3 0
„ Printing and Stationery . . . . .				68	4 4
„ Exchange on Cheques, etc. . . . .				10	1 7
„ Postages . . . . .				42	11 2
„ 2 per cent. on Revenue, 1917 . . . . .				52	16 9
„ Reserve Fund . . . . .				500	0 0
				£3,780	4 0
„ Balance . . . . .				714	3 2
				£4,494	7 2
					3,641 8 6
					£4,494 7 2
					£714 3 2
					„ Balance . . . . .

HOME MISSION RESERVE ACCOUNT.

By Home Mission Current Account . . . . . £500 0 0

Examined and found correct,  
Sydney, 16th August, 1918.

JAMES LITTLE, R. S. SIDEY & CO.,  
Official Auditors of Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA MISSION WORK IN BUSH OF AUSTRALIA ACCOUNT.

Dr.	1st July, 1916, to 30th June, 1918.		Cr.		
To General Assembly, Home Mission Blue Book, 1916 .....	£72	6 5	By Balance 1st July, 1916 .....	£85	16 2
„ Balance .....	35	0 0	„ Presbyterian Church of England .....	70	0 0
			„ Interest to 31st December, 1917 .....	1	10 3
				£107	6 5
	£107	6 5	„ Balance .....	£85	0 0

Dr.	JOHN FRAZER FOREIGN MISSIONS ENDOWMENT FUND ACCOUNT.		Cr.		
To Treasurer Board of Missions, Interest to 30th June, 1918 .....	£75	0 0	By Balance 1st July, 1916 .....	£1,000	0 0
„ Balance .....	1,000	0 0	„ Interest to 30th June, 1918 .....	75	0 0
				£1,075	0 0
	£1,075	0 0	„ Balance .....	£1,000	0 0

Examined and found correct,  
Sydney, 16th August, 1918.

JAMES LITTLE, R. S. SIDEY & CO.,  
Official Auditors to Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.

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Mrs Oliver

Arboretum