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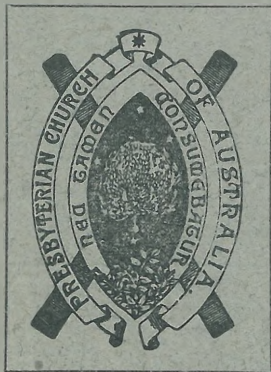
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

Presbyterian Church of Australia



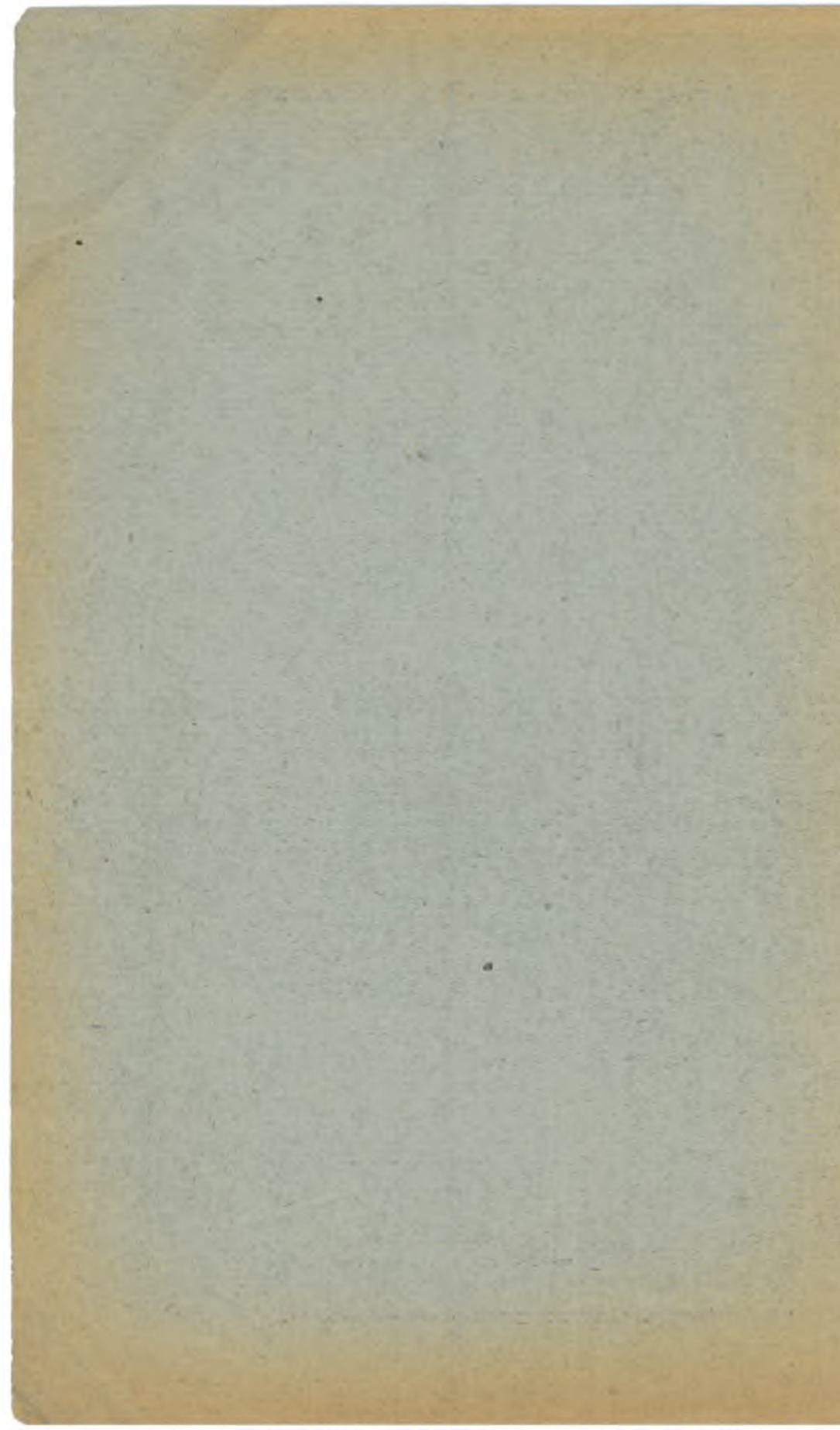
HELD IN MELBOURNE, SEPTEMBER, 1926

SESSION SIXTEENTH

Melbourne :

RAMSAY PUBLISHING PTY. LTD., 203-5-7 KING STREET

1926



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MODERATORS
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA

- REV. JOHN MEIKLEJOHN, M.A., D.D. . . . 1901-1902
- ALEXANDER HAY, D.D. 1902-1903
- DAVID BRUCE, D.D. 1903-1905
- P. J. MURDOCH, M.A. 1905-1906
- T. E. CLOUSTON, D.D. 1906-1907
- PETER ROBERTSON 1907-1909
- JOHN FERGUSON 1909-1910
- W. S. ROLLAND 1910-1912
- J. L. RENTOUL, D.D. 1912-1914
- GEORGE DAVIDSON, D.D. . . . 1914-1916
- R. G. MACINTYRE, M.A. 1916-1918
- JOHN WALKER 1918-1920
- JAMES GIBSON, M.A. 1920-1922
- JOHN MATHEW, M.A., B.D. . . . 1922-1924
- JAMES CROOKSTON 1924-1926

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

Presbyterian Church of Australia

Right Rev. the Moderator:

Rev. R. SCOTT WEST, D.D., St. James' Church, Burwood,
N.S.W.

Clerks of Assembly:

Rev. GEORGE TAIT, M.A., Malvern East, Victoria.

Rev. E. E. BALDWIN, M.A., St. Andrew's Theological Training
College, Carlton, Victoria.

The Procurator:

Mr. JOHN ALEXANDER FERGUSON, B.A., LL.B., Sydney.

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. T. J. Smith, M.A., Professor of Hebrew and O.T. Studies.
 Rev. F. E. Ozer, M.A., B.D., Professor of Theology and Church History.
 Revs. Wm. Borland, M.A., D.D., and John Alexander, Lecturers in Homiletics.
 Rev. A. R. Osborn, M.A., Lecturer in Paideutics.
 Revs. J. Gillies, M.A., B.D., and A. Yule, M.A., Lecturers in New Testament Greek and Exegesis.
 J. Howlett Ross, Esq., M.A., George Wilson Lecturer in Elocution.

Senatus.

The Professors, with the Lecturers (except the Lecturer on Elocution),
 D. K. Picken, Esq., M.A., Master of Ormond College, and Rev. R. W.
 Macaulay, B.A., Convener of Theological Hall Committee.

President: Professor Smith.

Secretary: Professor Ozer.

ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE, SYDNEY.

In co-operation with Teachers from Congregational and Methodist Churches—

- Professor of Hebrew and Exegetical Theology of the Old Testament:—
 Rev. E. E. Anderson, D.D.
 Professor of Systematic Theology:—Rev. Ronald G. Macintyre, C.M.G.,
 O.B.E., M.A., D.D.
 Professor of Exegetical Theology of the New Testament and Historical
 Theology:—Rev. Samuel Angus, M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt., D.D.
 Acting-Professor of Church History:—Rev. G. W. Thatcher, M.A., B.D.,
 of Camden College (Congregational).
 Acting-Professor of Apologetics and Christian Ethics:—Rev. L. E.
 Bennett, M.A., B.D., of Leigh College (Methodist).
 "Steel" Lecturer in Pastoral Theology and the English Bible:—Rev.
 T. Jamieson Williams.
 Lecturer in Voice Production and Elocution:—Mr. R. Bertram Kohm.
 President of Faculty: Rev. Professor Macintyre.
 Secretary of Faculty: Rev. T. Jamieson Williams.

EMMANUEL COLLEGE, BRISBANE.

Joint Theological Faculty.

Syst. Theology and Ethics:—Revs. James Cosh, B.A., B.D., and Mervyn Henderson, M.A.

Pastoral Theology:—Rev. Isaac Bennett.

New Testament Greek and Exegesis:—Rev. Hubert Trigge, M.A., B.D.

Old Testament Exegesis:—Rev. James Walker, M.A., B.D.

Church History:—Rev. Allan MacKillop, B.A., B.D.

English Bible:—Rev. Mervyn Henderson.

Christian Philosophy and Apologetics:—Rev. F. North, M.A.

THEOLOGICAL HALL, PERTH.

Lecturers.

New Testament Greek and Exegesis:—Rev. H. S. R. Innes, B.A.

Old Testament Literature and Exegesis:—

Apologetics:—

Church History:—Rev. J. R. Blanchard, B.A.

Systematic Theology:—Rev. E. C. Day, B.A., B.D.

Pastoral Theology and Homiletics:—

English Bible: Rev. Neil McDonald.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Parkin College—In co-operation with Congregational and Methodist Churches, under Principal Kiek. The Presbyterian Lecturers are:—
Rev. Dr. Seymour, S.T.D. (Church History), and Rev. J. Arnold Boyd (Presbyterian History and Polity).

Entrance Examination.

For 1927: December 7, 1926, and February 8, 1927.

For 1928: December 6, 1927, and February 7, 1928.

Home Mission Examination.

Old Course: July 5, 1927, and July 4, 1928.

New Course: December 7, 1926, and December 6, 1927.

Exit Examination.

September 12, 1927, and September 10, 1928.

NOTANDA

Special attention is directed to the following:—

Place and Date of Meeting of next Assembly: At Brisbane, on the second Wednesday of September, 1928, at 7.30 p.m.

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

Instructions, etc.—	Minute.
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Presbyterian Church of Australia

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

SESSION SIXTEENTH.

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, on
Wednesday, the 8th September, 1926, at 7.30 p.m.*

1. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia convened. Public worship was conducted by the Right Reverend James Crookston, the retiring Moderator, who preached from Psalm 119: 96, and constituted the Assembly by prayer. Constitution.

2. The Roll of Assembly, as printed in the White Book, with changes reported since the printing of the Book, was laid on the table, declared to be of interim authority, and ordered to be finally adjusted after the confirmation of the minutes to-morrow. Roll.

3. The Moderator intimated that the Moderator and ex-Moderators and the Moderators of State Assemblies, had agreed to nominate for the Moderator's chair the Rev. R. Scott West, D.D., of St. James, Burwood, New South Wales. Moderator.

4. The nomination was unanimously approved, and Dr. Scott West was conducted to the chair, and delivered a suitable address.

5. It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Macintyre, and seconded by the Rev. Professor Smith:— Ex-Moderator.

“That the cordial thanks of the Assembly be conveyed to the retiring Moderator-General (the Right Rev. J. Crookston) for the services rendered to the Church during his term of office.

The motion was unanimously approved.

6. It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Macintyre, and seconded by the Rev. J. R. Blanchard:— Moderator.

“That the congratulations of the Assembly be offered to the Right Reverend the Moderator-General (the Right Rev.

R. Scott West, D.D.) on the honour of a Doctorate of Divinity recently conferred upon him by McGill University, Montreal."

The motion was unanimously approved.

7. It was moved by the Rev. John Walker, and seconded by the Rev. G. R. S. Reid:—

Dr.
Macintyre.

"That the hearty congratulations of the Assembly be conveyed to the Rev. Prof. R. G. Macintyre, O.B.E., D.D., on the honour of C.M.G., which has recently been conferred upon him by His Majesty the King."

The motion was unanimously approved.

Business
Committee.

8. The following were appointed the Business Committee:—Professor Macintyre (Convener), Dr. Burgess, Revs. J. C. Milliken, R. W. Macaulay, W. C. Radcliffe, W. Floyd Shannon, J. R. Blanchard, and Messrs. J. H. Balfour, A. G. Proudfoot, W. G. Crane, with the Clerks and the Law Agent.

Selection
Committee.

9. The following were appointed a Committee of Selection:—Revs. V. Clark Duff (Convener), John Edwards, Allan MacKillop, D. A. Cameron, A. R. Osborn, J. McD. Forsyth, and Messrs. W. Christie, L. K. McNab, G. G. Meredith.

Ballot
Scrutineers.

10. The following were appointed Scrutineers of Ballot:—Messrs. A. L. Pryde (Convener), Wm. Urquhart, A. G. Proudfoot, D. K. Picken.

Petitions.

11. It was agreed that the Petitions from Home Missionaries and Students be remitted to the College Committee with instructions to report to a future Sederunt.

12. It was agreed that Presbytery Clerks be instructed to forward to the College Committee all Petitions from Home Missionaries and Students, with relative papers, in time for publication in the White Book.

Year
Book.

13. The Rev. J. G. Scarfe gave notice that when the report of the Year Book is received he would move:—

"That the name of the publication be changed to 'The Biennial Record of the General Assembly of Australia,' to be issued in the year alternate to that in which the General Assembly of Australia meets.

"That prior to the sittings of each General Assembly of Australia, a precis of necessary information be forwarded by the officials of the State Assembly to the Editor. This matter, including the following, to be printed in the General Assembly of Australia Blue Book, namely, any official change, alteration of Presbytery inductions, demissions and deaths of Ministers.

"That each Presbytery in every State be asked to devise a means for purchasing and supplying every Minister and representative elder within their bounds with a copy of the Biennial Record."

14. The Rev. George Tait gave notice:—

Women
as
Elders.

"(1) That when the Returns on the Remit relative to the Eligibility of Women for the Eldership are before the House he would move:—

“That the Assembly approve the Remit, and declare that women sent by the States as representative elders shall be placed on the Roll.’”

“(2) That when the Deliverance on the Report on a Junior Catechism is before the House he would move:—

“That the following words be inserted in the motion:—and further instruct the Committee to prepare a Senior Catechism.’”

15. Authority was granted to the Presbytery of Flinders to meet on Thursday, at 5.15 p.m., in view of the urgent necessity of considering three important calls, on the understanding that this permission should not form a precedent.

Authority
to Meet.

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

SECOND SEDERUNT.

At Melbourne, and within Scots Church, Collins Street, on Thursday, 9th September, 1926, at 10 a.m., and within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, at 11 a.m.

17. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was observed, the Moderator presiding, the Rev. Professor Angus, the Rev. Professor Macintyre and the Rev. Dr. Borland assisting, and the Assembly constituted.

Lord's
Supper.

18. The Minutes of the previous day were confirmed.

19. The Clerk raised the question whether Presbyteries could elect as their representatives Elders beyond their bounds.

Representative
Elders.

It was agreed that the Commissions of Elders elected by Presbyteries from Elders beyond their bounds be sustained for this Assembly, and the question of their eligibility be referred to the Code Committee with instructions to report to a future Sederunt.

20. The Roll was approved as follows:—

Roll.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Elected by Presbyteries.

Bathurst.

Rev. P. W. Pearson		Rev. W. G. Maconochie, M.A.
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The Clarence.

Rev. Frew Brown		Mr. B. Morrison
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Goulburn.

Rev. J. Keith Miller		Mr. A. Macintosh
William Beck		T. Elliot

The Hastings.

Rev. David Smith, M.A.		Mr. H. G. Barrie
John Walker		Percy Fleming

The Hawkesbury.

Rev. John Paterson	Mr. A. P. Biddle
Joseph Fulton	J. B. Brown
H. D. Mackie, B.A.	Maurice Kernott

The Hunter.

Rev. W. H. Bradley	Mr. J. F. Draffin
D. R. Hamilton	D. Murray
V. Clark-Duff, B.A.	D. J. Lobban

Illawarra.

Rev. J. H. G. Auld, B.A.	Mr. R. G. Crawford
G. M. Torbett	W. R. Richardson

Monaro.

Rev. J. N. McGee	Mr. John Jardine
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Moree.

Rev. Emlyn James	Dr. F. S. Stuckey
H. Bloomfield	

Murrumbidgee.

Rev. A. J. Eipper	Mr. C. McAllister
C. E. O. Keays	G. F. Simpson

New England.

Rev. E. N. McKie, B.A.	
A. P. Cameron, B.A.	

North Sydney.

Rev. Alex. Clark	Mr. Roland Love
J. J. Gilmore, B.A.	H. L. Atkinson
T. J. Williams	A. N. Campbell Scott
A. D. Marchant, B.A.,	Wm. Cowan
B.D.	

Orange.

Rev. R. G. Cruikshank	
H. G. Ford	

The Richmond.

Rev. David Finlayson	Mr. John Bryce
David Galloway	John Gow

Scone.

Rev. W. Spence	Mr. J. McLachlan
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Sydney.

Rev. A. D. Robertson	Mr. Patrick Smith
C. W. Willis	James Lavery
D. F. Brandt	R. Stevenson
J. C. Milliken	Andrew Fenwick
A. J. Doig, B.A.	J. T. Wishart
W. J. Grant, B.A.	John McRae
Alexander Fleming	John Clubb
R. J. H. McGowan	A. Nisbet
N. H. Joughin, M.A.,	William Urquhart
B.D.	

Wagga Wagga.

Rev. J. B. Galloway	Mr. D. Cameron
G. Edwards	John Ross
J. Lundie, M.A., B.D.	D. McIntosh

Young.

Rev. J. S. Rapkins	Mr. Hector Lamont
A. C. Smith	H. Brigden

Elected by State Assembly.

Rev. R. Scott-West, D.D.	Mr. W. G. Crane
John Burgess, M.A., D.D.	J. H. Beatson
R. G. Macintyre, M.A., D.D.	G. A. Clifton
S. Angus, Ph.D., D.D.	W. G. Geikie
A. Thain Anderson, M.A.	W. Wood
E. E. Anderson, M.A., D.D.	J. H. Balfour
A. S. McCook, B.A.	J. R. B. Campbell
G. A. Gordon, B.A.	W. G. L. Fairbairn
John Edwards, M.A.	D. Smith
John Flynn	J. G. MacKee
D. J. Flockhart, M.A.	H. Perdriau
G. R. S. Reid, M.A.	John Mars
W. G. Forsyth	James Bee, M.A., M.Sc.

QUEENSLAND.**Elected by Presbyteries.****Brisbane.**

Rev. Alexander Duff	Mr. S. Lamont
N. S. Millar, B. A.	Alexander Cairns
Allan MacKillop, B.A., B.D.	F. T. Grove, B.A.
W. Wilson Smith	James A. Macleod
William Meikle	James S. R. Wylie

Maryborough.

Rev. T. G. Allan	Dr. L. Morris
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Rockhampton.**Toowoomba.**

Rev. John Armour	Mr. A. Ellis
A. McIntyre Martin	R. Macalpine
J. H. Costello	J. Savage

Townsville.**Elected by State Assembly.**

Rev. W. H. Waters, B.A.	Mr. John Campbell
James Gibson, M.A.	A. S. Barr
Jas. Walker, M.A., B.D.	M. H. Finlayson
W. C. Radcliffe, B.A.	J. T. Robinson

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.**Elected by Presbyteries.****Adelaide.**

Rev. Dr. Davidson	Mr. A. D. Young
R. Mitchell	A. E. Lampe
A. C. Weber	L. V. M. Leal

Belalie.

Rev. J. M. Taylor	Mr. James Holdsworth
J. McD. Forsyth	Malcolm Campbell

Onkaparinga.

Rev. A. A. Mackenzie

Elected by State Assembly.

Right Rev. David Chapman	Mr. T. W. Tassie
Rev. W. Floyd Shannon, O.B.E., B.A.	T. Black

TASMANIA.**Elected by Presbyteries.**

Rev. W. Mabin	Mr. G. Bingham
A. W. Ivory	F. Burbury
C. H. Ball	F. Paine

Elected by State Assembly.

Rev. A. G. Mackintosh- Carter, B.A., B.D.	Mr. G. G. Meredith
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VICTORIA.**Elected by Presbyteries.****Ballarat.**

Rev. J. P. MacDougall, M.A.	Mr. W. Rain
John Walker	K. McLeod
J. Sinclair	A. J. White

Beechworth.

Rev. A. Wall	Mr. J. Whan
T. W. Darby	D. Smith
W. W. Ingram	W. Irvine

Bendigo.

Rev. D. Macfarlane	Mr. G. Mackay
W. Adams	W. D. Rees
J. A. Souter	D. Steele
W. J. Holt, M.A., B.D.	R. Ingram

Flinders.

Rev. D. Bruce	Mr. H. H. Kemp
A. Pye	Wm. Russell
T. C. Goble	F. Facey

Geelong.

Rev. J. Downey, M.A., B.D.	Mr. A. W. Harkness
T. J. Riddle, B.A.	J. Y. Venters
A. McK. Harrison	M. McColl
J. Glyn Jones	W. Anderson

Gippsland.

Rev. Geo. S. Brodie	Mr. D. Hopkins
W. D. Marshall, M.A.	H. Hopkins

Goulburn Valley.

Rev. John Meers	Mr. George Hosie
A. N. Northey	Hugh W. Fraser

Hamilton.

Rev. H. J. Saw	Dr. S. Connor
J. G. Scarfe	M. Miller

Macedon.

Rev. John Shaw	Mr. A. Buchanan
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Maryborough.

Rev. J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc.	Mr. Wm. McPherson
C. T. Fletcher	Wm. Peters

Melbourne North.

Rev. J. G. Owen	Dr. Montgomery Paton
J. E. Nicholls	Mr. R. Service
A. I. Davidson	G. L. Macandie
J. A. Forrest	W. H. Frist
P. J. Murdoch	S. J. MacLean

Melbourne South.

Rev. J. D. Landels	Mr. D. Kidd
W. A. Steveley, M.A.	F. Meldrum
E. A. Swan, B.A.	A. E. Goddard
E. W. Wallis	W. F. Jamieson
A. R. Osborn, M.A.	R. Bingham

Melbourne East.

Rev. E. H. Chapple, B.A.	Mr. A. J. Crystal
John Gray, M.A., B.D.	A. M. Kirkland
N. M. Jaboor, B.A.	G. G. Scott
W. Thomson	S. T. Marchant

Melbourne West.

Rev. F. Milne, M.A., B.D.	Mr. A. Baxter
J. Gibson	Geo. McKay
T. V. Charlton	C. Mackinnon
J. K. Robertson	C. T. Powell
D. Dow	A. W. Spear

Mortlake.

Rev. E. M. Baird, B.A.	Mr. G. S. Mackay
M. McQueen, M.A.	J. Bradshaw

Penola.

Rev. R. Rankin	Mr. M. D. Cameron
J. A. Pawson	D. McLeod

Seymour.

Rev. J. E. Coulter	Mr. A. D. Stewart
J. J. Hastie	James Morison

Western Plains.

Rev. A. S. Houston, M.A.	Mr. W. Oman
O. Jones	

Wimmera.

Rev. W. McIlroy	Mr. John Campbell
J. P. Schussler	Henry Newell

Elected by State Assembly.

Rt. Rev. J. Crookston	Sir John MacFarland
T. Brown, M.A.	Dr. W. A. Sanderson
Rev. George Tait, M.A.	Dr. Smyth
E. E. Baldwin, M.A.	Mr. J. M. Campbell
Dr. W. Borland	D. Macmillan
K. Forster, M.A., B.D.	L. K. McNab
Professor Smith, M.A.	A. G. Proudfoot
Professor Oxer, M.A., B.D.	J. Steele
R. W. Macaulay, B.A.	R. A. McIlwraith
T. W. Leggatt	J. Kelso
H. C. Matthew, M.A., B.D.	W. B. House
J. A. Crockett	G. F. Pitcher
D. A. Cameron, M.A.	A. L. Pryde
W. Goyen	D. K. Picken
J. C. Jamieson	W. Gray
J. A. Barber, B.A.	R. K. Gillespie

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.**Elected by Presbyteries.****Albany.**

Rev. J. Marshall		Mr. J. Barkley
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Fremantle.

Rev. E. W. Hogben		Mr. Robert Bracks
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Goldfields.

Rev. S. R. W. Richardson, M.A., B.D.		Mr. W. J. Adams
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Perth.

Rev. Neil McDonald		Mr. F. W. Berry
C. D. P. Taylor		G. F. Pitchford

Elected by State Assembly.

Rt. Rev. H. S. R. Innes, B.A.		Mr. W. Christie
Rev. J. R. Blanchard, B.A.		F. A. McMullen

Governor-General.

21. The reply of the Governor-General to the address of the Presbyterian Church of Australia was received, and read to the House by the Moderator.

Methodist Conference.

22. The communication from the General Methodist Conference of Australasia was received, and the Moderator asked to send a suitable reply.

Dr. Norman Maclean.

23. The Rev. Dr. Norman Maclean, of St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, was associated, introduced to and welcomed by the Moderator, and addressed the House, conveying to the Presbyterian Church of Australia the greetings of the Church of Scotland.

It was agreed to thank the Rev. Dr. Maclean for his address, and to ask him to convey to the Church of Scotland the cordial and affectionate greetings of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, and our earnest and prayerful hope for the reunion of Scottish Presbyterianism.

Dr. Borland.

24. It was moved by Professor Macintyre, and duly seconded:—

“That the Assembly offer its congratulations to the Rev. Dr. Borland, Convener of the College Committee, on the attainment of the Doctorate of Divinity from the University of Edinburgh.”

The motion was unanimously approved.

College Committee.

25. The Report of the College Committee was submitted by the Rev. Dr. Borland.

It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Borland, and seconded by the Rev. Allan MacKillop:—

“(1) That the Assembly receive the Report.

“(2) Thank the Convener, Secretary, Supervisors and Examiners for their services.

“(3) Express its deep sense of the loss sustained by the deaths of Professor Adam and Professor Rentoul, and convey

the sympathy of the Church to Mrs. Adam and Mrs. Rentoul and their families in their bereavement.

“(4) Approve the action of the Executive in issuing to Mr. W. F. McKenzie, B.A., the certificate for Exit under the special circumstances set forth in the Report.

“(5) Instruct the Committee to take all possible steps to improve the system of Examination for Exit.

“(6) Resolve that in future no honours be given on the result of the Exit Examinations, but that the matter of honours be left to each Theological Faculty.

“(7) Resolve that under the Rules of Admission to the Theological Hall the following be inserted:—‘Notwithstanding anything in these Rules, every candidate shall pursue his studies in a University, or under the Home Mission Course of Training, or by a combination of the two, for a period of at least three years, to the satisfaction of the College Committee, before admission to the Theological Hall, matriculation to count as one year.’

“(8) Approve the Regulation that where an examination under the Home Mission Course cannot be held at the Theological Hall of the State, the Supervisor must be approved by the Clerk of the Presbytery of the bounds.

“(9) Insert after Rule 1 for Home Mission Course of Training the following:—‘In the case of candidates who have been resident outside the Commonwealth, and who produce certificates of their educational qualifications, the College Committee shall determine whether such qualifications are equivalent to those which are required by Rule 1.’

“(10) Resolve that candidates for the Ministry taking the Home Mission Course shall be at least 23 years of age.

“(11) Approve the regulation that when granting concessions in special cases the General Assembly shall prescribe a specified time within which such concessions shall be available.

“(12) Instruct the College Committee—(a) That, subject to the provision that a candidate's course of study and examination in the Theological Hall shall extend over three years, and be approved by the Theological Faculty, he may be admitted to examination in any subject of the College Committee for Exit in any year of his course. (b) To keep a record of all such approved courses of study and examination.

“(13) Resolve that the subjects of English Bible and Christian Ethics be no longer separate subjects of the College Committee's Examination for Exit, but be included under other subjects of the Examination.

“(14) Resolve that men trained in other than the Presbyterian Church and received into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church shall spend at least one year in attendance at one of the Theological Halls of our Church, and pass an examination in such subjects (including the Church, Ministry and Sacraments) as shall be determined by the Faculty of the

Theological Hall which he attends, with the approval of the College Committee.

“(15) Resolve that men trained in other than the Presbyterian Church, and received into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church, shall be under the control of the Home Mission Committee of their State for a period of not less than two years.

“(16) Amend the Deed of Union, Article of Agreement VIII, in the way proposed in Appendix A, viz.:—

“(1) Substitute, in place of Deed of Union, Article VIII, Preamble and Sub-sections 5, 6, 7, 8, the following:—

“There shall be a system of Theological Training of the whole Church, as follows:—

“VIII 5. Candidates for admission to a Theological Hall shall produce evidence to the College Committee that they have obtained or qualified for a degree in some recognised University.

“VIII 6. Notwithstanding the provisions of VIII 5, students who have matriculated and partly completed a University Degree Course, or have completed the General Assembly's Home Mission Course of Training, and passed the prescribed examinations, may be admitted to the Entrance Examinations, subject to Rules of Admission to be determined from time to time by the General Assembly.

“VIII 8. The Examinations for Entrance and Exit shall be held at such times and in such places as shall be determined by the College Committee, with the approval of the General Assembly.

“VIII 9. Add to present 9, after the words ‘Entrance and Exit Examinations,’ ‘The General Assembly is empowered to add to, rescind or vary from time to time any Rules so framed or adopted.’”

“Declare the change of Interim Authority, and send down the proposed alterations to State Assemblies and Presbyteries for report to next Assembly.

“(17) Substitute for the Regulations under Article VIII of the Deed of Union the following:—

“(a) The College Committee shall prepare and revise from time to time rules for Entrance and Exit Examinations, and for the Training and Examination of Home Missionaries, to be approved by the General Assembly. It shall also prepare and publish a syllabus of work for each of the Examinations, containing all necessary information for candidates.

“(b) The Executive of the College Committee shall consist of the members of the State in which the Convener resides, five to form a quorum.

“(c) The Executive shall exercise the powers of the Committee in dealing with candidates, and conducting Examinations under the existing Rules. It shall report to the College Committee any special cases dealt with by it, and shall be empowered to recommend such amendments of procedure as may be necessary from time to time.’

“(18) Declare that neither the Sacrament of Baptism nor that of the Lord’s Supper may be dispensed by Home Missionaries, except in accordance with the action of the General Assembly of 1924, and the Regulations for carrying it out. Instruct State Assemblies to take steps to ensure that the regulations regarding the Administration of Sacraments by Home Missionaries shall be complied with.”

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. Professor Smith, and seconded by the Rev. Dr. Anderson:—

“That the word ‘separate’ in Clause (13) be omitted, and the words ‘examined on by the several faculties’ substituted for the words after the words ‘but be.’”

The amendment was rejected.

Clauses (14) and (15) were postponed.

The consideration of the Deliverance was postponed.

26. The Overture from the New South Wales Assembly, relative to the Reception of Ministers was submitted, and was supported by the Rev. V. Clark-Duff, and the Rev. D. J. Flockhart.

Overture:
Reception
of
Ministers.

It was moved by the Rev. K. Forster, and seconded by the Rev. A. S. McCook:—

“That the Overture be sustained in as far as it raises the issue, and sent to the College Committee and the Reception of Ministers Committee, with the Revs. V. Clark-Duff and D. J. Flockhart added, with instructions to report to a later Sederunt.”

The motion was approved.

26a. Consideration of the Report of the College Committee was resumed.

College
Committee.

Clauses (14) and (15) were withdrawn.

The remainder of the Deliverance was approved.

27. The Report of the Committee on the attitude of the Church to its creed was submitted by Dr. E. E. Anderson, who moved:—

Church and
Creed.

“(1) That the Report be received.

“(2) That the Committee be continued and instructed to seek permission to incorporate, in their next Report, the Memorandum on the attitude of Churches holding the Westminster Confession of Faith, prepared by the Committee of the United Free Church of Scotland on the Revision of the Confession.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. G. A. Gordon, and approved.

Mr. J. H.
Beynon.

28. It was agreed to send the Petition of Mr. J. H. Beynon to the Committee on the Reception of Ministers, with instructions to report to a future Sederunt.

Beneficiary
Funds.

29. Mr. A. G. Proudfoot gave notice that when the Report on the Beneficiary Funds is before the House he would move the following Deliverance:—

“(1) That the Report be received, and the Committee be thanked.

“(2) That the Assembly approve tentatively of the adoption of a Beneficiary Fund scheme for aged and infirm ministers and the widows and orphans of ministers, with benefits on the following basis (modelled on the Victorian scheme), namely:—

“(a) Ministers: Pension of £150 per annum upon retirement at age 65.

“(b) Widow: Pension of £78 per annum.

“(c) Orphans: Allowance of £26 per annum for each, until age 18.

“(d) Provision for ministers becoming infirm before the pension age, this provision, if possible, to be part of the direct benefits given by the fund.’

“(3) That the Committee forthwith communicate with the bodies controlling the existing Beneficiary Funds of our Church within Australia, and submit to them questions to the effect of those set out in the Report, together with a copy of this Deliverance and an explanatory statement, and report fully on the subject to the next General Assembly.

“(4) That the Committee be reconstituted and reappointed as follows:—Revs. J. R. Blanchard, Dr. Burgess, J. L. Cope, R. C. Foyster, J. Heyer, G. A. Gordon, W. Gray, H. S. R. Innes, John Paterson, W. C. Radcliffe, W. H. Steele, W. Tait and Messrs. J. H. Beatson, W. G. Crane, G. Roland Love, A. M. Laughton, A. Mayes, F. A. McMullen, A. L. Pryde, W. Wood and A. G. Proudfoot (Convener).”

Representa-
tion of
Boards of
Management.

30. The Rev. Dr. Borland gave notice that when the Overture relative to Representation of Boards of Management is before the House he would move:—

“That the Assembly approve the Overture, and send the following Formula and Questions to Presbyteries and State Assemblies for report to the next Assembly:—

“ ‘FORMULA.

“ ‘I confess my faith in God, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord and Saviour.

“ ‘I own anew the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour and Lord; and will seek, in dependence on the Holy Spirit, to order my life in accordance to His will.

“ ‘I acknowledge as the Supreme Standard of Faith and Duty the revelation of God recorded in the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments, and perfected in Jesus Christ.

“‘I declare my loyalty to this Church and to the principles of Presbyterian polity.’”

“‘QUESTIONS.

“‘(1) Do you confess your faith in God, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord and Saviour?

“‘(2) Do you own anew the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour and Lord; and will you seek, in dependence on the Holy Spirit, to order your life in accordance with His will?

“‘(3) Do you acknowledge as the Supreme Standard of Faith and Duty the revelation of God recorded in the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments and perfected in Jesus Christ?

“‘(4) Do you declare your loyalty to this Church and to the principles of Presbyterian polity?

“‘(5) Do you accept the office of Elder in this Congregation, and, in so doing, promise to take your part in the administration of its affairs, and faithfully to discharge the duties of the Eldership?’”

31. The Rev. Norman S. Millar gave notice of his intention to move at a later Sederunt:—

Fire
Insurance.

“That the General Assembly affirm the desirability of establishing a Federal Fire Insurance Scheme for Church Properties.”

“Appoint the following Committee to formulate a scheme, and report to next General Assembly, viz.:—

32. The Rev. R. W. Macaulay gave notice that, at a future Sederunt, he would move:—

League of
Nations.

“That the General Assembly, believing it to be the clear duty of the Christian Church to give positive and earnest teaching as to the necessity of propagating the spirit of friendship between nations, and the substitution of the rule of law for the arbitrament of war;

“Believing, also, that the League of Nations is a potent instrument for promoting peace, and that its efficient working depends largely on the moral support of Christian people:—

“(1) Resolve to re-affirm, and hereby do re-affirm, the decision of last General Assembly to enrol itself as a corporate member of the League of Nations Union, and direct the Finance Committee to pay the membership fees when due.

“(2) Instruct Presbyteries and Sessions to take action during 1927, and also in subsequent years, to bring the urgency of the matter before their members, with the twofold aim of inducing Congregations to join the League of Nations Union as corporate members, and of inducing members and adherents of the Church to join the League of Nations Union as individual members; and to report to next General Assembly through their State Assemblies as to the result.

“(3) Instruct Ministers and Home Missionaries to include in their public prayers frequent petitions for the growth of a peaceable spirit among the nations, and in their sermons to stress the importance of Christians working and praying for peace on earth and goodwill among men.”

Board of
Missions.

33. The Convener of the Board of Missions gave notice that, when the Deliverance of the Board's Report is before the House, he would move the following addition:—

“That the Assessment for the next two years from October 1, 1926, be as follows:—

“Victoria	£1400
“New South Wales	1200
“South Australia	140
“Tasmania	97
“Western Australia	120

“£2957”

34. The Assembly adjourned to meet at 7.30 o'clock, which having been publicly intimated the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

THIRD SEDERUNT.

At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, on Thursday, 9th September, 1926, at 7.30 p.m.

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

35. The Report of the Business Committee was approved.

Welfare of
Youth.

36. The Report of the Welfare of Youth Committee was submitted by the Rev. W. H. Waters, who moved:—

“(1) That the Assembly receive the Report, thank the Committee, and especially the Convener.

“(2) Express appreciation of the faithful services of teachers, leaders and helpers in the work of winning the young to Christ.

“(3) Congratulate the New South Wales workers on the success of the recent State Convention; commend the National Convention in 1927 to the attention of all workers, and express the hope that its meetings may contribute richly to the progress of religious education in the Commonwealth.

“(4) Rejoice in the good result of the special efforts put forward during Children's Year, and recommend that similar work may be done at regular intervals.

“(5) Recommend that the Scholars' Book of Memory Lessons be used in all our Sunday Schools.

“(6) Express the Assembly's gratitude for faithful endeavours to meet the needs of the adolescent.

“(7) Thank the Youth Departments of New South Wales and Victoria for their generosity in freeing their agents for work in South Australia and Western Australia.

“(8) Express the Assembly’s gratification at the successful inauguration of the Presbyterian Publications Committee, approve the same on the conditions indicated in the Report, and tender special thanks to the Victorian Assembly for consenting to the appointment of the Rev. W. Goyen as manager.

“(9) Heartily congratulate the Welfare of Youth Departments of the various States on the progress which has paved the way for the establishment of a Commonwealth Department.

“(10) That the following be the Committee:—New South Wales, Revs. D. McKay Barnett, A. J. Eipper, D. J. Flockhart, J. B. Galloway, N. H. Joughin, G. R. S. Reid, Mr. J. A. Paterson; Victoria, Revs. W. Goyen, Dr. Hunter, J. C. Jamieson, J. Mackenzie, H. Clark, A. I. Davidson, J. K. Robertson, Professor J. Smyth, Messrs. L. K. McNab, J. Kelso, A. Dean; Tasmania, Rev. A. W. Ivory; Queensland, Revs. W. H. Waters, A. Duff, W. W. Smith, R. Millar, J. P. Chalinor; South Australia, Revs. R. Campbell, W. F. Shannon, D. Chapman; Western Australia, Revs. H. R. S. Innes, N. McDonald, E. C. Day; Convener, Rev. J. Mackenzie.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. J. H. G. Auld.

The consideration of the Deliverance was postponed.

37. The Overture relative to the appointment of a Commonwealth Board of Religious Education was introduced by the Rev. W. Goyen.

Board of
Religious
Education.

It was moved by the Rev. Wm. Goyen, and seconded by the Rev. G. R. S. Reid:—

“That the Assembly sustain the Overture, give *interim* authority to the following proposals, and send the proposals to Presbyteries and Assemblies for report to next Assembly:—

“The General Assembly, at each ordinary meeting, shall appoint a Board for the management and administration of Welfare of Youth work, which shall be called ‘The Board of Religious Education.’

“(a) The Board of Religious Education shall consist of 20 members, Ministers and Elders, 14 of whom shall be appointed on the nomination of the State Assemblies, four by Victoria, four by New South Wales, three by Queensland, one by Tasmania, one by South Australia, one by Western Australia, and six by the General Assembly itself. Should a State Assembly fail to nominate, the General Assembly shall appoint in its stead.

“(b) Local Committees shall be appointed, as at present, by the State Assemblies, for the purpose of stimulating interest in Youth Work, supervising local activity and collecting money, and these Committees shall report to the Board of Education as well as to their own Assemblies.

“(c) The money received by the State Assemblies for the support of Welfare of Youth work shall be held by their respective treasurers for local purposes, and no part of this money shall be allocated to the expenses of the Board without the consent of the local Welfare of Youth Committee. The

income and expenditure of the Board, the appointment and duties of officers who may be employed, shall be regulated and controlled by mutual agreement between the Board and the Welfare of Youth Committees in the various States.

“(d) The Board shall take into consideration the views of State Committees with regard to local work, and shall co-operate with them in every possible way.

“(e) The Board shall appoint an executive, and the place of meeting of this executive shall be in Melbourne, unless otherwise ordered by the General Assembly.”

The motion was approved.

38. The consideration of the Deliverance on the Welfare of Youth was resumed.

The following clause was added to the Deliverance:—

“(11) That the following be the representatives of the General Assembly of Australia on the Board of Religious Education:—Revs. J. Mackenzie (Convener), J. B. Galloway, J. C. Jamieson, N. H. Joughin, Dr. Smyth and Mr. William Gray.”

The Deliverance was approved.

39. The Report of the Australian Inland Mission was submitted by the Rev. J. A. Barber, who moved:—

“That the Assembly:—

“(1) Receive the Report.

“(2) Express devout thankfulness to God for the increasing measure of usefulness and success with which He has blessed our work.

“(3) Thank all our voluntary workers in every State for their unremitting labours.

“(4) Rejoice in the widespread acknowledgment of the good work done by our ministers and our most efficient staff of nurses. Record the Assembly's warm appreciation of the late Rev. F. G. H. Brady, and request the Moderator to convey to Mrs. Brady the sympathy of the members in her bereavement, and their appreciation of her services since her husband's death.

“(5) Rejoice over the establishment of Homes at Lake Grace, Alice Springs and Marble Bar.

“(6) Commend the work of the Mission to the various States for increased support corresponding to the increase in our work.

“(7) Fix the Budget for maintenance only at not less than £9,000 per annum for next two years.

“(8) Fix the amount likely to be needed for Repairs and Building Purposes at £9,000.

“(9) Authorise the Board to continue the effort to raise the Property Fund to £25,000.

“(10) Re-appoint Rev. John Flynn as Superintendent for another period of six years.

“(11) That cordial thanks be given to the H. V. McKay Charitable Trust for their offer.

Welfare of
Youth.

Inland
Mission.

“(12) That authority be given to the Board to continue enquiries, and that, if working arrangements be made satisfactory to the Controller of Civil Aviation, experiments be carried out, provided that a further sum of £5,000 be raised before a start of operations.

“(13) That the following constitute the Board for the next two years:—Revs. A. Thain Anderson, M.A. (Convener), A. J. Doig, B.A., J. Flynn, T. Morgan, W. G. Forsyth, G. M. Scott, J. C. Milliken, G. Cameron Wood, J. A. Barber, D. A. Cameron, J. Barnaby, Jas. Walker, W. C. Radcliffe, D. Chapman, H. C. Matthew, E. C. Day; Messrs. Atkinson, Sneddon, Wood and D. Macmillan.

“That the members of the Councils be as follows:—
 New South Wales—Revs. G. Cameron Wood (Convener), G. McL. Scott, John Flynn; Hon. T. Brown; Messrs. Wm. Wood, T. Ramage, J. Inglis, F. Bruce, A. G. Congreve, M. D. McFarlane, L. Blanchard; Misses H. L. Allen, M. Brodie, M. Cole, M. Colley, E. Congreve, F. Glasson, J. Smith, D. Streatfield, M. Watson, J. Baird, D. Stuckey, J. Urquhart, A. Edmondson, E. Campbell and Sister A. Levick. Victoria—Revs. J. A. Barber (Convener), D. A. Cameron, J. Barnaby, P. L. Forster, H. C. Matthew, J. A. Forrest, F. H. L. Paton, D. Millar, C. Harland; Messrs. D. Steel, D. J. Souter, W. G. Moss, J. C. Beattie, A. Fussell, T. McClelland; Misses Gillespie, Davies, Jack; Mrs. H. C. Matthew; Mr. L. W. Thompson. Queensland—Revs. Hubert Robertson, James Walker (Convener); Messrs. John Campbell, J. A. Douglas, F. R. Lloyd; Mesdames J. K. Stewart, E. T. Francis, Teys; Misses M. Smith, C. M. Macintosh, Renton, Walls, M. Brown, G. Cleland, Cairns; Rev. John Armour; Mr. W. R. Parker; Miss Martha Burns. Western Australia—Mr. E. A. Black (Convener); Revs. A. Crow, E. W. Hogben, N. McDonald, J. R. Blanchard; Messrs. J. Hope, G. F. Pitchford, J. F. Allen; Major McLennan. South Australia—Revs. D. Chapman (Convener), Dr. J. A. Seymour, A. C. Weber, F. H. Patterson, A. A. McKenzie, R. Mitchell; Misses E. C. Gordon, A. F. Mitchell, A. Love.”

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

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

FOURTH SEDERUNT.

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, on
 Friday, 10th September, 1926.*

The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment.

41. The minutes of the previous day were confirmed.

42. The Overture from the New South Wales Assembly anent the Marriage of a Deceased Husband's Brother was introduced by the Rev. Dr. Burgess.

Deceased
 Husband's
 Brother.

It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Burgess, seconded by the Rev. D. F. Brandt, and approved:—

“That the Overture be sustained, adopted *ad interim*, and remitted to State Assemblies and Presbyteries under the Barrier Act, with instructions to report to next Assembly.”

Supply in
Vacant
Charges.

43. The Overture from the New South Wales Assembly, anent Supply in Vacant Charges, was introduced by the Rev. Dr. Burgess.

It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Burgess, seconded by the Rev. A. J. Eipper, and approved:—

“That the Overture be sustained, and that the Regulations on the Reception of Ministers (B2 and C2) be amended by the omission of the words regarding preaching in vacancies.”

Board of
Missions.

43a. The Report of the Board of Missions was submitted by the Rev. T. Watt Leggatt, who moved:—

“That the Assembly:—

“(1) Receive the Report and thank the Committee and Convener, also the Executive in Perth, the Church Office Staffs in Sydney and Melbourne, and the Foreign Missions Office in Melbourne for their valuable services.

“(2) Express deep thankfulness to God for His loving care of our Missionaries on all our fields, for their devotion, and the manifest tokens of Divine blessing on their labours.

“(3) Approve the recommendations of the Report as follows:—

“(a) Authorise the Board to increase the Fraser Scholarships to candidates in training as occasion may require; but only within the revenue for the current year.

“(b) Fix the salary of Mr. G. I. Beard at £300 per annum from July 1, 1926, and discontinue allowances for children.

“(c) Fix the Grant to Queensland at £750 per annum for the next two years from October 1, 1926, on the understanding that if the whole amount is not required, the Queensland Church will not ask for it.

“(d) Authorise the Board, as speedily as possible, to procure a larger vessel with auxiliary power to replace the ‘W. S. Rolland,’ and request the Foreign Mission Committees to make special appeals for the necessary funds.

“(e) Approve of a deputation being sent to Port George IV to report on the present conditions and prospects of the Mission, and authorise the Board to make such alterations and improvements in the equipment and methods as may be found necessary after receipt of that Report.

“(f) Request the Queensland Assembly to release the Rev. W. F. McKenzie from Aurukun to undertake the work in Port George IV.

“(4) Thank the Foreign Missions Committees of New South Wales and Victoria for their diligence in keeping the deplorable conditions of the natives of the New Hebrides under the Condominium before the Authorities, and request them to continue their efforts on every suitable occasion until better conditions are established.

“(5) Regret that in the present circumstances it is not possible for our Churches to undertake the responsibility of work in the Mandated Territory of New Guinea and Malaya.

“(6) Thankfully acknowledge an increasing interest and sense of responsibility in the community for the welfare of the Aborigines, and urge Ministers to impress upon their Congregations the need of greater prayer and liberality for the prosecution of the work of God among the Aborigines.

“(7) Request the Moderator, in the name of the Assembly to send a letter of greeting and encouragement to each of our Missionaries on the various fields, assuring them of the Church's constant remembrance of their work of faith and labour of love, and praying that God may preserve them in health, keep their hearts in His peace and abundantly prosper their work.

“(8) Give thanks to God for the splendid services rendered to the Missions of our Church over the long period of fifty years by the late Rev. W. Watt, Secretary of the Board of Missions; and

“(9) Thank God for the life and work of the late Mrs. J. H. Goodlet, President of the Women's Missionary Association of the Church in New South Wales, and record the Assembly's high appreciation of her lifelong interest and help in the work of Missions.”

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

44. The Archbishop of Melbourne was introduced to the Moderator by the Rev. James Crookston. He was welcomed by the Moderator, and addressed the House, conveying to the Presbyterian Church of Australia his personal greetings, and the greetings of the Synod of the Melbourne Diocese.

Archbishop
Lees.

It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Macintyre, and seconded by the Rev. John Walker:—

“That the Assembly welcome the visit of His Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, and thank him for his kindly words of greeting, and express through him the cordial and Christian regards of this Assembly to the Church of England in Australia.”

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

It was agreed to ask the Moderator to visit the Anglican Synod of Melbourne, and convey to it the greetings of this Assembly.

45. It was agreed that nominations for Committees close on Monday at 1 p.m.

Nominations.

Jewish
Mission.

46. The Report on the Jewish Mission was submitted by the Rev. A. Yule.

It was moved by the Rev. R. J. H. McGowan, and seconded by Mr. P. Smith:—

“That the Assembly:—

“Receive the Report; thank the Committee and Con-
vener; re-appoint the Committee (with the exception of the
Rev. R. W. Rock, deceased); express high appreciation of Miss
Richards’ loyal service, and the earnest hope of this Assembly
that Mr. Ettmann will be led to resume his work in Australia.”

The motion was approved.

Western
Australia.

47. The Overture from Western Australia, relative to the
shortage of Ministers in Western Australia, was introduced and
supported by the Rev. H. S. R. Innes and the Rev. J. R.
Blanchard.

It was moved by the Rev. J. R. Blanchard:—

“That the Assembly sustain the Overture, and:—

“(1) Appoint a Special Committee to do its utmost to
secure that a Minister be settled in each Congregation at present
vacant in Western Australia, and to facilitate the transference
of Ministers as between Western Australia and the other States,
so that future vacancies shall be of the shortest possible dura-
tion.

“(2) Recommend the Theological Halls of Melbourne
and Sydney to assist the Theological Hall in Perth in training
students for the Ministry when required, such students to return
to Western Australia for ordination and service on the comple-
tion of their course.

“(3) Re-affirm, as a matter of great urgency, the need
for the immediate creation of a Federal Beneficiary Fund.”

Consideration was adjourned.

Federal
Capital.

48. The Report relative to his visit to the Federal Capital
was submitted by the Rev. J. Crookston.

The Report was received.

The House sat in private.

The Report of the Committee on the Federal Capital
was submitted by the Rev. W. Grant Forsyth, who moved:—

“That the Assembly—

“(1) Receive the Report, thank the Moderator-
General for his diligence, and approve of the
action he has taken.

“(2) Thank the Home Mission Committees of Vic-
toria and New South Wales for financial assist-
ance rendered to the work in Canberra.

“(3) Recognise the Federal Territory as within the
jurisdiction of the Assembly of New South
Wales, except in so far as that jurisdiction may
be limited or modified by decision of the
General Assembly of Australia.

- “(4) Agree to the appointment of a Minister to the Cathedral Parish at a stipend of £1000, and manse or manse allowance of £150, £500 of which shall be guaranteed by the Church in Victoria, and an equal amount by the Church in New South Wales, for two years, subject to the approval of their respective Assemblies.
- “(5) Appoint a Building Committee with full Assembly powers to obtain plans for the Cathedral Church, Hall, Manse and necessary Offices, and to select a plan and to proceed with the erection of the buildings.
- “(6) Appoint the Minister of Canberra as also Commissioner of Assembly to organise and collect throughout the Commonwealth the sum required for the erection of buildings and the endowment of the Cathedral parish.
- “(7) Appoint an Executive Committee with whom the Commissioner may consult from time to time, and who shall assist in every way in their power.
- Authorise the Commissioner to appoint Committees in each State to co-operate with and assist him.
- “(8) Earnestly request all Ministers, Sessions, and Boards of Management to encourage and assist the Commissioner in this great undertaking for the Church of Australia, and confidently call upon our men and women whom God has blessed with means to give liberally to secure for our historic and beloved Church a strong position of influence and usefulness, for all time, in the Capital City of Australia; and urge all our people to help according to their ability.
- “(9) Empower the Executive Committee, if they see fit, to secure sites in other suburbs of Canberra for ecclesiastical purposes.
- “(10) Make provision, in the event of a vacancy occurring between Assemblies, for the appointment of a successor, and authorise the Moderator-General, the ex Moderators-General, and the State Moderators of Victoria and New South Wales in such event to act as a Selection Committee (the Moderator-General being Convener), and the Presbytery of Goulburn to induct the Minister thus selected.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. D. A. Cameron.

Nos. 1 and 2 were approved.

At this stage the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

The House resumed, and the Clerk reported that the Committee had not completed its work, and asked leave to sit again.

The Report was approved and the leave granted.

Deaconess
Training.

49. The Rev. Karl Forster gave notice of his intention to move, when the Report of the Deaconess Training Institute is before the House:—

“That the Assembly receive the Report, thank the past-convener, Rev. G. M. Connor, M.A., for his services to the Institute, express appreciation of the fact that students from most of the States have been in training during the past two years, and that a full complement of students is now in training, and commend the work of the Institute to the interest and support of the whole Church.”

Finance
Committee.

50. Mr. A. L. Pryde gave notice that when the Report of the Finance Committee is before the House he would move:—

“That when members attending the Assembly require to spend two or more nights in the train they be paid the proportion of expenses calculated on first-class fares.”

51. The Rev. G. S. Brodie gave notice of his intention to move at a later Sederunt:—

Prohibition.

“That this Assembly express its appreciation of the ordinance which prohibits the sale of liquor within the Federal Territory. (2) Strongly urge that the ordinance shall be maintained until the proposed referendum be taken. (3) And express the hope that when the referendum is taken the vote will be to support the prohibition of the sale of liquor.”

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

FIFTH SEDERUNT.

At Melbourne and within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, on Friday, 10th September, 1926, at 7.30 p.m., the Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was duly constituted.

52. The Report of the Business Committee was approved.

Federal
Capital.

53. The Clerk reported that in Committee the following changes had been made in the Deliverance relative to Canberra.

(3) All the words after the words “New South Wales” were omitted, and the following words inserted:—
“and request the Assembly of New South Wales to transfer such portion of the Federal Territory, including Canberra, as may be agreed upon between the Assembly of Australia and the Assembly of New South Wales.”

(4) The words “that the following be the conditions of the” were inserted after the word “Agree.” The

word "Canberra" was substituted for "Cathedral." The words "for a term of four years till 31st December, 1930," were inserted after the word "Parish." The words "Appoint the following Committee to nominate a Committee for the selection of a Minister of Canberra, with instructions to report this evening:—Revs. Professor Angus (Convener), J. R. Blanchard, W. G. Forsyth, D. A. Cameron, W. C. Radcliffe."

The Report was approved.

54. The House continued consideration of the Deliverance of the Committee on the Federal Capital.

The Committee to nominate a Committee to nominate a Minister for Canberra recommended that the following Committee be appointed:—

The Moderator-General (Chairman), Revs. Dr. Borland, Jas. Gibson, R. W. Macaulay, Dr. Davidson, Dr. Macintyre, Dr. Burgess, D. A. Cameron, Dr. Angus, J. R. Blanchard, W. C. Radcliffe, W. Floyd Shannon, J. H. G. Auld, Thos. Brown, W. Grant Forsyth, and Messrs. G. F. Pitchford, William Gray, James Bee, Walter G. Crane.

The recommendation was approved.

The House went into a Committee of the whole.

The House resumed.

55. The Clerk reported that the following changes were made in the Deliverance:—

In No. 5 the word "Cathedral" was omitted. The words "Sunday School" were inserted after the word "Church." The word "and" before the word "select" was omitted. The words "or such portions thereof as may be approved by the Executive" were added.

In No. 6, "Canberra" was substituted for "Cathedral."

In No. 7, the words "with financial control and with the powers conferred on it under clause 5" were inserted after the word "Committee." The words "raising funds" were added to the clause.

The words "That the Executive Committee be instructed to take into consideration the desirability of starting a Boys' School" were inserted as 8 (a).

In No. 9 the words, "in the Federal Territory for ecclesiastical and educational purposes" were substituted for the words after the word "sites."

In No. 10 the words "in the pastorate" were inserted after the word "vacancy." After the word "successor" the words "for the remainder of the term up till 31st December, 1920," were inserted.

The last line was omitted.

It was agreed that the following be a Committee to nominate a Building Committee and an Executive Committee:—Revs. D. A. Cameron (Convener), Dr. Bor-

land, Dr. Macintyre, Professor Smyth, W. C. Radcliffe, John Walker and Mr. W. G. Crane and Mr. H. H. Kemp, with instructions to report on Monday.

56. The Report was approved, and the Deliverance as amended was approved.

The Deliverance, as amended, is as follows:—

- “(1) Receive the Report, thank the Moderator-General for his diligence, and approve of the action he has taken.
- “(2) Thank the Home Mission Committees of Victoria and New South Wales for financial assistance rendered to the work in Canberra.
- “(3) Recognise the Federal Territory as within the jurisdiction of the Assembly of New South Wales, and request the Assembly of New South Wales to transfer such portion of the Federal Territory, including Canberra, as may be agreed upon between the Assembly of Australia and the Assembly of New South Wales.
- “(4) Agree that the following be the conditions of the appointment of a Minister to the Canberra Parish for a term of four years till December 31, 1930, at a stipend of £1,000, and manse or manse allowance of £150, £500 of which shall be guaranteed by the Church in Victoria, and an equal amount by the Church in New South Wales, for two years, subject to the approval of their respective Assemblies.
- “(5) Appoint a Building Committee with full Assembly powers to obtain plans for the Church. Sunday School, Hall, Manse and necessary Offices, to select a plan and to proceed with the erection of the buildings, or such portions thereof as may be approved by the Executive.
- “(6) Appoint the Minister of Canberra as also Commissioner of Assembly to organise and collect throughout the Commonwealth the sum required for the erection of buildings and the endowment of the Canberra parish.
- “(7) Appoint an Executive Committee, with financial control and with the powers conferred on it under Clause 5, with whom the Commissioner may consult from time to time, and who shall assist in every way in their power in raising funds.
- “Authorise the Commissioner to appoint Committees in each State to co-operate with and assist him.
- “(8) Earnestly request all Ministers, Sessions, and Boards of Management to encourage and assist the Commissioner in this great undertaking

for the Church of Australia, and confidently call upon our men and women whom God has blessed with means to give liberally to secure for our historic and beloved Church a strong position of influence and usefulness, for all time, in the Capital City of Australia; and urge all our people to help according to their ability.

- “(8a) That the Executive Committee be instructed to take into consideration the desirability of starting a Boys’ School.
- “(9) Empower the Executive Committee, if they see fit, to secure sites in the Federal Territory for ecclesiastical and educational purposes.
- “(10) Make provision in the event of a vacancy in the pastorate occurring between Assemblies, for the appointment of a successor for the remainder of the term up till 31st December, 1930, and authorise the Moderator-General, the ex-Moderators-General, and the State Moderators of Victoria and New South Wales, in such event to act as a Selection Committee (the Moderator-General being Convener).”

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, on Monday, 13th September, 1926, at 10 a.m.

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

56. The Rev. John Gray gave notice of his intention to move, when the Report on the Junior Catechism is before the House:—

Junior
Catechism.

“That all the words after ‘material’ be omitted, with the view of inserting other words, viz.:—‘. . . Send the revised draft down to State General Assemblies and Presbyteries, receive returns, and report to the next General Assembly of Australia.’”

57. The Rev. N. H. Joughin gave notice of his intention to move, when the Report on the Junior Catechism is before the House:—

“That all words after ‘instruct the Committee’ be omitted, with a view to inserting other words, viz.:—“To approach the owners of the Junior Catechism published by the Victorian Welfare of Youth Department, with a view to its being revised by the Presbyterian Board of Religious Education, and published by the General Assembly of Australia, and refer back to the Committee the Junior Catechism submitted to this Assembly for revision and issue as an Intermediate Catechism.’”

Reception of
Ministers.

58. The Report on the Reception of Ministers was submitted by the Rev. A. S. McCook.

The House sat in private.

The Report recommended that the Petition of the Rev. Frank Charles be granted, subject to attendance for three years at a Theological Hall, passing the Exit Examination in all subjects except Hebrew, and producing satisfactory evidence of full ordination.

The recommendation was approved.

The Report recommended that the Petition of the Rev. A. W. Cooper be granted, subject to attendance for two years at a Theological Hall, and passing the Exit Examination in all subjects except Hebrew.

The recommendation was approved.

The Report recommended that the Petition of the Rev. W. E. Crawford be not granted.

It was agreed to grant the Petition subject to Mr. Crawford taking two years in the Theological Hall at Brisbane, passing the Examination without Hebrew, and serving after his induction for five years in Queensland.

The Report recommended that the Petition of the Rev. W. R. Elvery be not granted.

The recommendation was approved.

It was agreed that this Petition be not printed in the Blue Book.

The Report recommended that the Petition of the Rev. S. T. Knight be granted.

The recommendation was approved.

The Report recommended that the Petition of the Rev. T. B. Smith be not granted.

The recommendation was approved.

The Report recommended that the Petition of the Rev. H. W. Whittle be granted subject to attendance for three years at a Theological Hall, and passing the Exit Examination in all subjects except Hebrew.

The recommendation was approved.

The Report recommended that the Petition of the Rev. A. T. Thompson be granted.

The recommendation was approved.

The Report recommended that the Petition of the Rev. Thomas Gibson be granted, subject to attendance for one year at Perth Theological Hall, and passing the Exit Examination in all subjects except Hebrew.

The recommendation was approved.

It was intimated that the Petition of Mr. J. H. Beynon was withdrawn.

The House resumed in public.

59. The Rev. A. S. McCook moved that the Schedule presented by the Committee on the Reception of Ministers be approved.

The motion was seconded and approved.

60. It was moved by the Rev. J. Edwards, seconded and approved:—

“That the Committee on Reception of Ministers be instructed to issue a certificate of status to each Minister received by the Assembly on his fulfilment of the conditions laid down by the Assembly.”

61. The Report on Christian Unity was submitted by the Rev. Jas. Crookston, who moved:—

Christian
Unity.

“(1) That the Report be received.

“(2) That the Assembly recognise and welcome the earnestness of purpose and brotherliness of spirit manifested in the conferences which have been held with reference to the Lambeth Appeal on Reunion, and cordially respond to the call for closer fellowship among the various branches of the Church of Christ, with the hope that this fellowship may still more fully manifest to the world the unity that is in Jesus Christ.

“(3) That the Assembly record its opinion that such conferences can only be as between Churches meeting on equal terms, and ought to be unrestricted as to all questions of ecclesiastical order, and further that the Assembly declare its conviction that closer fellowship and co-operation towards Reunion must be based on the full recognition by the conferring Churches of one another's Church standing, and of the equal validity of one another's orders and sacraments, and that such mutual recognition should be accompanied by acts of unity in the fellowship of the Lord's Table, thus exhibiting the holy unity of that fellowship, and as an inspiration to co-operation in the Lord's work.

“(4) That the Assembly feel it due to all parties to those conferences to make it clear that it cannot countenance any proposal which would involve an act of re-ordination, whether absolute or *sub-conditione*, as a condition of ministering in a re-united Church.

“(5) That the Assembly rejoice in the assurance that we are so much at one with the conferring Churches on vital and fundamental matters of faith, and is prepared on the basis of the foregoing statements to continue conference, with the prayer that the spirit of Love and Truth may guide us all in the way of Him Who is the ever Living Lord and Head of His Church.”

“(6) That the Report on co-operation be received, and the Committee instructed anew in the terms of last Assembly's decision.”

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

62. The Rev. W. McDonald, of Epsom, Auckland, being present, was introduced to the Moderator and associated.

Rev. W.
McDonald.

Christian
Unity.

63. It was moved by the Rev. Norman S. Millar, and seconded by the Rev. John Walker:—

“That the Assembly affirm the desirability of securing reciprocity as between the conferring Churches on the matter of Church attendance and Religious Instruction in their respective Schools and Colleges.

“And refer this declaration of its mind to the Committee on Christian Unity for enquiry and report.”

The motion was approved.

Nominations.

64. It was agreed to extend the time for receiving nominations for Standing Committees until 5 p.m. to-day.

Dr. J. D.
Jones.

65. Dr. J. D. Jones being present, was asked by the Moderator to address the House.

Dr. Jones addressed the House, and conveyed to the Presbyterian Church of Australia the greetings of the Congregational and Free Churches of England.

It was unanimously agreed that the Assembly welcome the presence of Dr. Jones, thank him for his address and greetings, and ask him to convey to the Free Churches at home the greetings of this Assembly.

Federal
Capital.

66. The Moderator intimated that the Committee of selection had unanimously agreed to nominate the Rev. John Walker, of St. Andrew's, Ballarat, as Minister of the Canberra Parish.

67. It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Macintyre, and seconded by the Rev. Dr. Borland:—

“That the Assembly appoint the Rev. John Walker, Minister of St. Andrew's Church, Ballarat, as Minister of the Parish of Canberra (on the terms and conditions set forth in the Deliverance of this Assembly), the bounds of the said parish to be determined by the Commission of Assembly relating to Canberra to be hereafter appointed, and further appoint the said Rev. John Walker as Commissioner of Assembly to raise the necessary funds in the terms set forth herein. That this appointment take effect at a date to be determined by the said Commission of Assembly.”

The motion was unanimously approved.

The Moderator intimated to Mr. Walker his appointment.

Mr. Walker intimated his acceptance of the appointment.

68. The following were appointed Special Commission of the General Assembly, with full power to take all necessary steps to facilitate and effect the settlement of the Rev. John Walker, Minister of St. Andrew's, Ballarat, into the Parish of Canberra, and authority to deal finally with all questions involved in this settlement, including property:—Revs. Prof. Macintyre (Chairman), Dr. Burgess, the Procurator, Revs. W. G. Forsyth, Dr. Borland, D. A. Cameron, Mr. A. G. Proudfoot, Revs. R. W. Macaulay, James Gibson.

69. The Clerk was instructed to send an extract minute of the proceedings relative to Canberra to the Presbytery of Goulburn.

70. The Assembly instructed the Commission to intimate to the Congregation of St. Andrew's, Ballarat, the decision of the Assembly at such time as they may determine.

71. The Rev. D. A. Cameron was appointed to preach at St. Andrew's, Ballarat, on Sunday first and explain the situation.

72. The Report of the Committee appointed to nominate Building and Executive Committees recommended that the following be appointed:—

Building Committee:—Revs. Dr. Borland (Convener), Professor T. J. Smith, Professor F. E. Ozer, John Walker, J. R. Blanchard, N. Millar, Dr. Macintyre, Dr. Angus, Dr. Davidson; Messrs. H. H. Kemp, Herbert E. Ross, Andrew Reid, A. Kemp, T. M. Shakespeare, E. Smith, J. M. Pringle, H. D. McBean, J. F. Grove; Sir John MacFarland, with power to co-opt.

Executive Committee:—Right Revs. Dr. R. Scott West, J. H. G. Auld, D. Chapman, W. H. Waters, H. S. R. Innes, T. Brown, Revs. Dr. Macintyre, Dr. Burgess, J. B. Galloway, A. S. McCook, W. G. Forsyth, A. Thain Anderson, Dr. Borland, D. A. Cameron, J. Mackenzie, John Walker, D. Macrae Stewart, Messrs. George Aitken, W. G. Balfour, W. P. Shaw, H. B. Lewis, Geo. McKay, Alexander Mair, D. G. Lumsden, A. G. Proudfoot, G. F. Pitcher, A. L. Pryde, W. Gray, John Ross (junior), Colonel Murdoch, R. Gillespie, A. Reid, W. H. Mackay, Jas. M. Dunlop, W. Wood, J. R. B. Campbell, J. H. Beatson, J. H. Balfour, with power to co-opt.

The Report was approved.

73. The Committee on Canberra was discharged with special thanks to the Convener.

74. The Report of the College Committee relative to Petitions from Students and Home Missionaries was submitted by the Convener of the College Committee and received.

Petitions
from
Students,
etc.

75. The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of Mr. A. E. Jones be not granted, but that Mr. Jones be recommended to proceed with and complete the regular Home Mission Course.

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. A. W. Ivory, and duly seconded:—

“That the word ‘not,’ and all words after ‘granted’ be omitted.

The amendment was rejected.

The recommendation was approved.

76. The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of Mr. George McGregor be not granted.

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

“That the word ‘not’ be omitted.”

It was agreed to limit speeches on the Petitions before the House.

The amendment was rejected, and the motion approved.

77. The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of Mr. J. E. Moffatt be not granted.

The recommendation was approved.

The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of Mr. A. J. C. Tebbitt be not granted.

The recommendation was approved.

78. The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of Mr. A. G. Wilson be granted in so far as that Mr. Wilson be allowed to take the Entrance Examination without Hebrew, the subjects of the Entrance Examination being left to the College Committee.

The recommendation was approved.

79. The Report recommended that the prayer of the Petition of Mr. O. R. St. J. Palmer be not granted.

It was moved as an amendment, and seconded, that the following words be added to the motion:—"But that Mr. Palmer be allowed to sit for the Exit Examination in three subjects, Theology, Church History and Old Testament, after taking another year at the Hall."

The amendment was approved.

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

"That the following words be added to the motion:—"That it be an instruction to the Executive not to regard this case as a precedent.'"

The motion was approved.

The motion as amended was approved.

80. The Rev. D. A. Cameron gave notice that at a future Sederunt he would move:—

"That a Committee on Social Services be appointed to report on the existing social agencies of the Church throughout Australia, and advise on the extension of charitable, philanthropic and redemptive work," and if the motion be carried, would nominate the following as the Committee:—Right Rev. Thos. Brown, Revs. V. C. Bell, Dr. Macintyre, P. L. Forster, E. H. McL. Shugg, D. A. Cameron (Convener), and Messrs. J. R. B. Campbell and Geo. McKay."

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

SEVENTH SEDERUNT.

At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, on Monday, 13th September, 1926, at 7.30 p.m.

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

81. The Report of the Business Committee was approved.

82. The following were appointed the Committee on Christian Unity:—The Rev. Dr. Macintyre (Convener). *New South Wales*—Rev. Professor Macintyre (Convener), Right Rev. R. Scott West, D.D., Revs. Professor Angus, D. F. Brandt, D. P. Macdonald, V. Clark-Duff, Professor Anderson, G. R. S. Reid, T. J. Williams, G. A. Gordon, J. H. G. Auld; Messrs. W. G. Geikie, W. Wood; Dr. Murray; Messrs. S. J. Carruthers, W. G. Crane. *Victoria*—Mr. J. M. Campbell (Convener); Revs. Professor Oxer, Dr. Mathew, Geo. Tait, P. J. Murdoch, J. Walker, J. Mackenzie, A. Irving, Davidson, Professor Smith, D. A. Cameron, B. T. Buntine, J. Gillies, P. L. Forster, W. H. Cooper; General Clark; Messrs. D. Macmillan, L. K. McNab, A. L. Pryde. *Queensland*—Revs. W. C. Radcliffe (Convener), A. M. MacKillop, G. K. Kirke, John Sinclair, Jas. Gibson, Jas. Walker, N. Millar, H. Robertson, M. Henderson; Messrs. J. K. Stewart, A. S. Barr, S. Lamont. *South Australia*—Revs. W. Floyd Shannon (Convener), Dr. Seymour, R. Campbell, D. Chapman, Dr. Davidson, A. C. Weber, J. MacDougall Forsyth, Professor Rennie; Messrs. A. D. Young, M. F. Culliford. *Tasmania*—Revs. W. Mabin (Convener), G. M. Baird, J. C. Jones, J. F. Sims, R. Rankin, A. G. Mackintosh Carter; Messrs. R. R. Henry, G. G. Meredith, F. Paine, F. Burbury. *Western Australia*—Revs. J. R. Blanchard (Convener), A. Crow, E. C. Day, Geo. Tulloch, H. S. R. Innes; Mr. J. Bray; Professor A. D. Ross; Messrs. F. A. McMullen, G. F. Pitchford.

Christian
Unity.

83. The Report on the Church Hymnary was submitted by the Right Rev. Dr. R. Scott West, who moved:—

Church
Hymnary.

“That the Assembly receive the Report and reappoint the Committee; and record the special thanks of the Assembly to the Convener.

“Direct the Committee to communicate with the Finance Committee regarding Royalties.”

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

84. The consideration of the Overture from Western Australia was resumed.

Western
Australia.

The motion recorded in Minute 47 was seconded by the Rev. W. Goyen, and approved, and the following Committee was appointed in terms thereof:—Director of Home Missions in Victoria, Superintendent of Home Missions in New South Wales, Dr. Angus, Dr. Anderson, Professor Oxer (Convener) and Revs. R. W. Macaulay and James Gibson.”

84a. The Report of the Naval and Military Committee was submitted by the Rev. Dr. Borland, who moved:—

Naval and
Military.

“That the Assembly—

“Receive the Report and thank the Committee, especially the Vice-Convener. Recall the distinguished services rendered to the Church and the nation by the late Rev. Professor J. Laurence Rentoul, O.B.E., D.D., in the office of Chaplain-General, and express the Church’s deep sense of loss sustained through his death, and its sincere sympathy with his widow and family in their bereavement; appoint Rev. W. Floyd Shannon,

O.B.E., B.A., as Chaplain-General and Presbyterian Representative on the Naval Chaplains' Representative Committee; re-appoint the Committee, to consist of the Chaplains in the different States, the Chaplains in the State wherein the Chaplain-General is resident to act as the Executive, the Chaplain-General to be Convener."

The motion was seconded by the Rev. D. Dow and approved.

Women as
Elders.

85. The Returns on the Remit on the Eligibility of Women for the Eldership were submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee.

It was moved by the Rev. G. Tait, in accordance with notice of motion:—

"(1) That the Returns be received.

"(2) That inasmuch as the State Assemblies are at present the final authority in this matter, the Assembly declare that the Assembly approve the Remit, and declare that names of women sent by the States as representative elders shall be placed on the Roll."

The motion was seconded by the Rev. J. R. Blanchard.

The Moderator declared that, in view of the disapproval of the majority of the Assemblies and Presbyteries, the Remit lapsed.

Union of
Victoria and
Tasmania.

86. The Returns on the Remit relative to the Union of Victoria and Tasmania were submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee.

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

Union of
Victoria
and South
Australia

87. The Returns on the Remit relative to the Union of Victoria and South Australia were submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee.

The Remit was approved, and declared the law of the Church.

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

EIGHTH SEDERUNT.

At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, on Tuesday, 14th September, 1926, at 10 a.m.

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

The minutes of the previous day were confirmed.

Finance
Committee.

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

"That the Assembly—

"(1) Receive the Report.

“(2) Authorise the payment of the expenses of members travelling to the Assembly on the same basis as formerly, namely:—That members attending the General Assembly in September, 1926, 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 rates allowed by the railway and steamship companies), proportion of steamer fares at second-class rates to be paid only where rail transit is not available, viz.:—(a) Those paying less than £1 nothing; (b) those paying from £1 to £4 to receive half; (c) those paying from £4 upwards to receive three-quarters, provided that no one in class (b) shall pay less than £1 himself, and no one in class (c) less than £2, an exception being made in the case of the delegates from Western Australia, who receive their proportion of fares at first-class rates as in the case of last Assembly. Resolve that when members attending the Assembly require to spend two or more nights in the train, they be paid the proportion of expenses calculated on first-class fares.

“(3) Resolve that the honorarium to the Moderator be £50 per annum, to the Senior Clerk of Assembly £30, and to the Junior Clerk £20 per Assembly.

“(4) Authorise the assessment for General Assembly's expenses on the following basis, namely:—New South Wales £205/6/9; Victoria £205/6/9; Queensland £60/12/-; South Australia £34/15/6; Tasmania £34/15/6; Western Australia £34/15/6. Also authorise the transference from the General Assembly Expenses Fund to the Travelling Expenses Fund of such sum as may be required for the payment of the members, on the basis set forth in clause 2.

“(5) 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 Fraser Foreign Missions Endowment Fund Account; also the sum of £26 per annum from the Home Mission Department for rent of room.

“(6) Confirm the payments made by the Finance Committee on behalf of the Year Book, and fix the annual honorarium to the Editor at £21.

“(7) Approve and adopt the balance-sheet.

“(8) Authorise the payment of the sum of £20 per annum to the General Presbyterian Alliance, London.

“(9) Appoint Mr. J. R. B. Campbell, of Sydney, Convener, in place of Mr. W. G. Crane, resigned.”

The motion was seconded by Mr. A. L. Pryde and approved.

89. It was moved by Mr. A. L. Pryde:—

“That the Assembly place on record its appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. Crane as Convener of the Finance Committee during the past fourteen years.”

Mr. W. G.
Crane.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. A. S. McCook, and unanimously approved, and the Moderator conveyed the thanks of the Assembly to Mr. Crane.

Statistics.

90. The Report on Statistics was submitted by Mr. W. G. Crane, who moved:—

“(1) That the Report be received.

“(2) That the various States be urged to furnish, promptly and as completely as possible, when called upon, details as set forth in this Report, so as to make future comparisons more valuable.

“(3) That Mr. S. J. Carruthers be appointed Convener.”

“(4) That the attention of State Assemblies, Presbyteries and Sessions be called to the serious discrepancy between the number of Presbyterians returned at the Commonwealth Census of 1921 (quoted in the Church's Year Book for 1926) and those shown in the tables submitted with the Statistics Committee's Report as being under pastoral supervision by our Church, and that they be urged to take such action as may be practicable to secure the adhesion of those of its people who are not now in touch with the Church to which they claim to belong.”

The motion was seconded and approved.

Next Meeting of Assembly.

91. The Request from the Queensland State Assembly that the next meeting of this Assembly be held in Brisbane was submitted by the Convener of the Business Committee.

It was moved by the Rev. W. H. Waters, and seconded by the Rev. Norman S. Millar:—

“That the Assembly meet at Brisbane, in St. Andrew's Church, on the second Wednesday of September, 1928, at 7.30 p.m.”

The motion was approved.

Immigration.

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

“That the Assembly—

“(1) Receive and adopt the Report.

“(2) Regret the decrease in the number of migrants landed in Australia during the last two years, but recognise the wisdom of the Government in not bringing to Australia a greater number of migrants than the country can absorb, and of a kind likely to injure our own workers in any way.

“(3) Express the hope that the Commission appointed by the Commonwealth Government for further developing the resources of Australia will be successful, so as thus to lead to an increase in the number of migrants from Great Britain.

“(4) Express congratulation on the success gained by Church nomination, specially in that secured to Church of New South Wales through the visit to the Homeland of the Convener of the Migration Committee in that State, the Rev. J. C. Milliken.

“(5) Commend the action of the Victorian Assembly in deciding to extend its nomination system of families, and trust it will be successful.

“(6) Rejoice in the founding of the Big Brother Movement through the patriotic action of its Founder, Mr. R. Linton, of Melbourne, in using his means and giving his services in an honorary capacity in forming this valuable aid to immigration, and in superintending its administration, and commend it to the sympathy and support of the Ministers and members of the Church of Australia.

“(7) Rejoice in the continued success of the New Settlers' League in fostering and promoting immigration, and in assisting the Commonwealth and State Governments in its administration, in encouraging land settlement, improving country conditions, and seeing to the welcoming of migrants when they land, and by continuing to care for their welfare afterwards, specially in time of adversity and difficulty, and in bringing women migrants together for social intercourse and pleasure.

“(8) Appoint the Immigration Committee as follows:—The Victorian members to be the Executive; Revs. Dr. W. Borland (Convener), D. A. Cameron, Hugh Jones, W. Thomson, J. C. Milliken, G. McL. Scott, James Marshall, H. S. R. Innes, A. C. Weber, Hugh Morris, Alex. Duff, W. C. Radcliffe, C. H. Ball, G. M. Baird, Messrs. C. Mackinnon, D. Macmillan, J. Downs, W. Urquhart, R. Bracks, J. Shepherd, A. S. Barr, W. Gray, A. Johnstone and F. Paine.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. J. C. Milliken.

Mr. W. Banks Amery, Commissioner of the Colonial Office to Australia, addressed the House.

It was moved by the Rev. Wm. Thomson, and seconded by the Rev. H. S. R. Innes:—

“That the Assembly express its cordial thanks to Mr. Amery for his interesting and inspiring address.”

93. The Rev. Dr. Norman Maclean addressed the Assembly, and invited the Church of Australia to share in the scheme for a Presbyterian Church and Hostel in Jerusalem.

Church and
Hostel at
Jerusalem.

It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Macintyre, and seconded by Mr. D. Murray:—

“That the House thank Dr. Maclean for his address, and warmly commend the scheme for a Church and Hostel in Jerusalem to the liberality of our people.”

The motion was unanimously approved.

The minutes of the previous day were confirmed.

94. According to notice, the Rev. Norman S. Millar moved:—
“That the General Assembly affirm the desirability of establishing a Federal Fire Insurance Scheme for Church Properties.

Fire
Insurance.

“Appoint a Committee to formulate a scheme, and report to next General Assembly.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. R. W. Macaulay, approved, and the following Committee appointed in terms thereof:—Messrs. S. J. Carruthers, J. R. B. Campbell, J. M. Carroll, A. W. Harkness, Revs. W. C. Radcliffe, N. S. Millar, D. Chapman, Messrs. F. A. McMullen, G. G. Meredith. Convener, Rev. N. S. Millar.

Beneficiary
Fund.

95. The Report on a Beneficiary Fund was submitted by Mr. A. G. Proudfoot, who moved:—

“(1) That the Report be received, and the Committee be thanked.

“(2) That the Assembly approve tentatively of the adoption of a Beneficiary Fund scheme for aged and infirm ministers and widows and orphans of ministers, with benefits on the following basis (modelled on the Victorian Scheme), namely:—

“(a) Ministers: Pension of £150 per annum upon retirement at age 65.

“(b) Widow: Pension of £78 per annum.

“(c) Orphans: Allowance of £26 per annum for each, until age 18.

“(d) Provision for ministers becoming infirm before the pension age, this provision, if possible, to be part of the direct benefits given by the fund.’

“(3) That the Committee forthwith communicate with the bodies controlling the existing Beneficiary Funds of our Church within Australia, and submit to them questions to the effect of those set out in the Report, together with a copy of this Deliverance and an explanatory statement, and report fully on the subject to the next General Assembly.

“(4) That the Committee be reconstituted and reappointed as follows:—Revs. J. R. Blanchard, Dr. Burgess, J. L. Cope, R. C. Foyster, J. Heyer, G. A. Gordon, W. Gray, H. S. R. Innes, John Paterson, W. C. Radcliffe, W. H. Steele, W. Tait, and Messrs. J. H. Beatson, W. G. Crane, G. Roland Love, A. M. Laughton, A. Mayes, F. A. McMullen, A. L. Pryde, W. Wood and A. G. Proudfoot (Convener).”

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

Year
Book.

96. The Report on the Year Book was submitted by the Rev. J. R. Blanchard, who moved:—

“(1) That the Assembly receive the Report, and thank the Committee, especially the Convener.

“(2) Express gratification at the way the Editor, Rev. J. R. Fiddian, M.Sc., has carried out his work, and thank Miss Lamont for her services as bookkeeper.

“(3) Instruct the Committee to continue the publication of the Book in its present form.

“(4) Request State Assemblies and Presbyteries to take definite steps to secure an adequate circulation of the Year Book among the office-bearers and members of the Church.

“(5) Appoint the following as correspondents for the several States:—New South Wales, Mr. S. J. Carruthers; Queensland, Mr. J. Campbell; South Australia, Rev. R. Campbell; Tasmania, Rev. G. M. Baird; Western Australia, Rev. E. C. Day.

“(6) Continue the honorarium to the Editor at twenty guineas.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. James Walker.

97. By leave of the House, the Rev. J. G. Scarfe withdrew the amendment of which he had given notice.

The motion was approved.

98. The Report on a Book of Order was submitted by the Right Rev. Dr. R. Scott West, who moved:—

Book of
Order.

“That the Assembly receive the Report, reappoint the Committee with instructions to complete the first part of the Book; direct this Committee to make a selection of passages of Scripture for responsive reading in connection with Church services, and to arrange with the Hymnary Committee for their insertion at the back of the Hymn Book.”

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

99. The Report of the Home Mission Committee (other than A.I.M.) was submitted by the Rev. John Walker, who moved:—

Home
Missions.

“That in view of the urgency of the Home Mission problem throughout Australia, and the practical impossibility of its being adequately dealt with in at least two of the largest States, the Home Mission Committee of the General Assembly of Australia be directed to meet every year to devise means of help, as required; travelling expenses to be met from the Assembly Fund.

“That the Committee’s recommendation that the children of the Church throughout Australia be urged to have a Home Mission Money Box in their homes, in which they may put pennies for the Home Missions of South and Western Australia, be approved.

“That the Home Mission Committee be authorised to appoint a Delegate, or Delegates, to visit the States, and personally get in touch with Home Mission problems, and make progress reports for national action to the Home Mission Committee of Australia.

“That the very urgent need of many more students for the Holy Ministry be definitely and seriously brought before our people throughout Australia.

“That the Church in each State immediately consider the importance of establishing Home Mission Residential Colleges.

“Rejoice at the report from Queensland of an increasing number of Australian-born youths volunteering for Home Mission Work.

“Express great gratification at the increased energy of the Church, especially in New South Wales and Victoria, in supplying the Spiritual Ordinances of our Holy Faith in the rapidly-increasing suburbs of Sydney and Melbourne, and also in Brisbane and Adelaide.

“Draw attention to the growing number of Immigrants coming to Australia now—about one-fourth of whom are Presbyterians—and to the great and pressing duty which this lays upon the Church and its Home Mission organisations.

“The Assembly notes with high approval and thankfulness the growing and splendid Social Work of the Church in some States. Also that the increasing number of Deaconesses, and the great value of their work in our large parishes, and specially in the Capital Cities, is noted with strong approval; and the Assembly commends this movement for further extension.

“The Assembly urges the Ministers and Home Missionaries of the Church to remember in Public Worship, along with our Foreign Missions, the great and growing Home Mission responsibilities and enterprises of the Church.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. D. A. Cameron.

It was agreed to delete the second paragraph.

The motion as thus amended was approved.

Unification.

100. The Report on Unification was submitted by the Rev. John Walker, who moved:—

“That the Assembly—

“(1) Receive the Report and thank the Committee for their service.

“(2) Discharge the Committee.”

The motion was duly seconded, and approved.

101. It was moved by the Rev. D. A. Cameron:—

Social Services.

“That a Committee on Social Services be appointed to report on the existing Social Agencies of the Church throughout Australia, and advise on the extension of charitable, philanthropic and redemptive work, and that the following Committee be appointed:—Right Rev. T. Brown, Revs. V. C. Bell, Dr. Macintyre, P. L. Forster, E. H. McL. Shugg, D. A. Cameron (Convener), and Messrs J. R. B. Campbell and Geo. McKay.”

The motion was duly seconded and approved.

Next Assembly.

102. The Rev. James Gibson gave notice of his intention to move at a later Sederunt:—

“That it be an instruction to the Business Committee to arrange for public meetings in addition to the opening meeting in connection with the General Assembly of 1928.”

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

NINTH SEDERUNT.

At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, on Tuesday, 14th September, 1926, at 7.30 p.m.

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

103. The Report of the Business Committee was approved.

104. It was moved by the Rev. J. Crookston:—

“That this General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, now in session, most heartily pass a resolution of sincere sympathy with those who are sorrowing, and those who are hurt and maimed as a result of this day’s railway disaster in New South Wales.”

Railway
Disaster.

The motion was unanimously approved, the House standing, and the Moderator led in prayer.

105. According to arrangement, a Demonstration was held in connection with the Australian Inland Mission. Lantern slides illustrative of the field were shown by the Rev. J. Andrew Barber, B.A., Convener of the Victorian Inland Council. Addresses were delivered by the Right Rev. R. Scott West, D.D., Moderator-General, the Rev. James Crookston, ex-Moderator-General; the Rev. John Flynn, Superintendent of the Inland Mission; and the Rev. A. Thain Anderson, Chairman of the Inland Mission Board.

A.I.M.
Demon-
stration.

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, Collins Street, on Wednesday, 15th September, 1926, at 10 a.m.

The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and was constituted.

106. The Minutes of the previous day were confirmed.

107. The Rev. R. W. Macaulay, by leave of the House, moved the motion of which he had given notice in the following form:

League of
Nations.

“That the General Assembly, believing it to be the clear duty of the Christian Church to give positive and earnest teaching as to the necessity of propagating the spirit of friendship between nations, and the substitution of the rule of law for the arbitrament of war;

“Believing, also, that the League of Nations is a potent instrument for promoting peace, and that its efficient working depends largely on the moral support of Christian people:—

“(1) Resolve to re-affirm, and hereby do re-affirm, the decision of last General Assembly to enrol itself as a corporate member of the League of Nations’ Union, and direct the Finance Committee to pay the membership fees when due.

“(2) Request Presbyteries and Sessions to take action during 1927, and also in subsequent years, to bring the urgency of the matter before their members, with the twofold aim of inducing Congregations to join the League of Nations Union as corporate members, and of inducing members and adherents of the Church to join the League of Nations Union as individual members; and to report to next General Assembly through their State Assemblies as to the result.”

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

108. It was agreed that, in the event of the Moderator-General visiting New Zealand, he be commissioned to represent this Assembly, and to convey to the Church of New Zealand the cordial Christian greetings of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

New
Zealand
Church.

109. It was moved by the Rev. G. S. Brodie, in accordance with notice of motion:—

Prohibition.

“That this Assembly express its appreciation of the ordinance which prohibits the sale of liquor within the Federal Territory; (2) Strongly urge that the ordinance shall be maintained until the proposed referendum be taken; (3) And express the hope that when the referendum is taken the vote will be to support the prohibition of the sale of liquor.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. J. H. G. Auld, and approved.

Question VI
at
Ordination.

110. The Returns on the Remit relative to Question VI at Ordination and Induction were laid on the table by the Convener of the Business Committee.

The Remit was approved, and declared the law of the Church.

Junior
Catechism.

111. The Report of the Committee on a Junior Catechism was submitted by the Rev. Professor Smith, who moved:—

“That the Assembly approve the Report; thank the Committee, and especially the Convener and the Secretary, the Rev. E. E. Baldwin, and others indicated in the Report. Re-appoint the Committee, with the addition of the Revs. John Gray, K. Forster and R. W. Macaulay, and power to co-opt others. Instruct the Committee again to re-draft the whole material and send it to Presbyteries for suggestions, and report to next Assembly. Authorise the payment of not more than £10 for the Committee’s expenses.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. E. E. Baldwin.

The Rev. N. H. Joughin moved the amendment of which he had given notice, in the following form:—

“That all words after ‘instruct the Committee’ be omitted, with a view to inserting other words, viz.:—‘To approach the owners of the Junior Catechism published in Victoria, with a view to its being revised by the Board of Religious Education and submitted to next Assembly, and refer back to the Committee the Junior Catechism submitted to this Assembly for revision and issue as an Intermediate Catechism.’”

The amendment was rejected.

The motion was approved.

The Rev. George Tait moved the amendment of which he had given notice, relative to a Senior Catechism.

The amendment was seconded by the Rev. J. H. G. Auld.

The Moderator ruled that the amendment was out of order.

112. The Overture relative to the representation of Boards of Management in Church Courts was introduced by the Rev. George Tait.

Representa-
tion of
Boards of
Management.

It was moved by the Rev. George Tait, and seconded by the Rev. G. S. Brodie:—

“That the Assembly approve the Overture, and, under the relative Article in the Deed of Union, send the following Formula and Questions to Presbyteries and State Assemblies for report to the next Assembly:—

“ ‘FORMULA.

“ ‘I confess my faith in God, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord and Saviour.

“ ‘I own anew the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour and Lord; and will seek, in dependence on the Holy Spirit, to order my life in accordance with His will.

“ ‘I acknowledge as the Supreme Standard of Faith and Duty the revelation of God recorded in the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments, and perfected in Jesus Christ.

“ ‘I declare my loyalty to this Church and to the principles of Presbyterian polity.’ ”

“ ‘QUESTIONS.

“ ‘(1) Do you confess your faith in God, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord and Saviour?

“ ‘(2) Do you own anew the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour and Lord; and will you seek, in dependence on the Holy Spirit, to order your life in accordance with His will?

“ ‘(3) Do you acknowledge as the Supreme Standard of Faith and Duty the revelation of God recorded in the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments and perfected in Jesus Christ?

“ ‘(4) Do you declare your loyalty to this Church and to the principles of Presbyterian polity?

“ ‘(5) Do you accept the office of Elder in this Congregation, and in so doing, promise to take your part in the administration of its affairs, and faithfully to discharge the duties of the Eldership?’ ”

The motion was approved.

113. The Reference from South Australia was received, appreciation of the work of the Men’s League expressed, and the parties informed that the Request could not be granted.

Men’s
League.

Suva.

114. The Report from the Synod of Melbourne relative to Suva was submitted.

It was agreed to:—

- (1) Receive the Report.
- (2) Assure the Congregation at Suva, and its Minister, of our interest and sympathy in their difficult and responsible work.

Code
Committee.

115. The Report of the Code Committee was submitted, and it was agreed:—

(1) To receive the Report as printed in the White Book.

(2) To declare that paragraph 7, p. 31, as it appears in the Victorian Code, constitutes no part of the Deed of Union, but is a Regulation.

(3) That under Section III of the Articles of Agreement, Presbyteries cannot appoint as representatives Elders beyond their bounds.

Overture re
Reception of
Ministers.

116. The Report of the College and Reception of Ministers Committees, relative to the Overture from the New South Wales Assembly, was submitted by the Rev. Karl Forster, who moved:—

“(1) That the Assembly approve of the deletion of paragraphs 14 and 15 of the Report of the College Committee.

“(2) That Chapter VII of Rules and Forms: Regulations under Article IX C.—Ministers and preachers of other Denominations, be amended as follows:—

“‘Rules 1, 2 (as amended), 3 and 4 to remain as at present.

“‘Rules 5 and 6 to be deleted, and the following new rules substituted as follows:—

“‘Rule 5.—Subject to the right of the General Assembly to deal with all applications as it deems fit; if the General Assembly grant the Petition, and the Petitioner be received, he shall spend at least one year in attendance at one of the Theological Halls of the Presbyterian Church, and pass the Exit Examination in such subjects (including the Church, Ministry and Sacraments) as shall be determined by the Faculty of the Theological Hall which he attends, with the approval of the College Committee. Thereafter, he shall serve under the Home Mission Committee of his State for a period of one year.

“‘Rule 6.—When the foregoing conditions have been satisfied, the College Committee shall be empowered to issue a certificate of status in accordance with the conditions laid down by the General Assembly at the time of his reception.

“‘Rule 7.—The College Committee shall report all such cases to the following meeting of the General Assembly.’”

The motion was duly seconded and approved.

117. The Report of the Deaconess Training Institute was submitted by the Rev. Karl Forster, who moved:—

Deaconess
Training.

“That the Assembly receive the Report, thank the past-Convener, Rev. G. M. Connor, M.A., for his services to the Institute, express appreciation of the fact that students from most of the States have been in training during the past two years, and that a full complement of students is now in training; and commend the work of the Institute to the interest and support of the whole Church.”

The motion was duly seconded, and approved.

118. The Report on Home Religion was submitted by the the Rev. G. R. S. Reid, who moved:—

Home
Religion.

“That the Assembly—

“(1) Receive and approve the Report, and thank the Committee, and especially the Convener.

“(2) Express its gratification at the increasing demand for the Family Altar Card, and its thankfulness that many Congregations throughout the Commonwealth are encouraging family worship.

“(3) Again urge upon all Ministers and Kirk Sessions the desirability of circulating the Family Altar Card as widely as possible, and thus promoting the practice of Home Religion.

“(4) Appoint the following Committee to make arrangements for the preparation and issue of the Family Altar Card, and also to make inquiries regarding additional aids for devotional purposes:—Revs. G. R. S. Reid (Convener), J. B. Galloway, G. M. Connor, W. Goyen, N. H. Joughin, and Messrs. R. K. Gillespie, John Mars, Wm. Gray and G. S. Mackay.”

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

119. The Report on the Sunday School Hymnal was submitted by the Rev. W. Goyen, who moved:—

Sunday
School
Hymnal.

“That the Assembly receive the Report, express special thanks to the Convener for his long and careful service, so freely and cheerfully rendered; thank and discharge the Committee; adopt the recommendations of the Report; and instruct the Board to prepare and publish the new book as early as possible.”

The motion was seconded and approved.

120. The Report of the Scrutineers was submitted by the Rev. E. E. Baldwin, who moved:—

Ballot.

“That the Report be received and approved; the name of the Rev. Dr. Mathew added to the College Committee; and the Clerks instructed to incorporate the results in the Blue Book.

“That the following Conveners be appointed:—Judicial Committee, the Right Rev. the Moderator; Board of Missions, the Rev. T. W. Leggatt; Code, the Rev. G. Tait and Mr. J. M. Campbell; College, Rev. Dr. Borland; Finance, Mr. J. R. B. Campbell; Home Missions (A.I.M.), Rev. A. Thain Anderson;

Reception of Ministers, Rev. A. S. McCook; Statistics, Mr. S. J. Carruthers; Year Book, Rev. R. A. Green."

The motion was duly seconded and approved.

Business
Committee.

121. The following Business Committee was appointed to prepare the Business for the next Assembly:—

Revs. Dr. Macintyre (Convener), Dr. Burgess, Dr. E. E. Anderson, John Edwards, J. C. Milliken, A. Thain Anderson, N. S. Millar and W. C. Radcliffe; Messrs. Wm. Wood and J. G. McKee, with the Clerks and the Law Officers.

Home
Mission
Committee.

122. The following were appointed as the Home Mission Committee of Australia (other than A.I.M.):—

New South Wales—Revs. A. J. Doig, W. G. Forsyth, A. S. McCook, W. G. Sharpe and A. D. Robertson; Mr. W. Wood.

Queensland—Revs. James Gibson, James Walker and W. C. Radcliffe.

South Australia—Revs. Dr. Seymour, W. F. Shannon and D. Chapman.

Tasmania—Revs. G. M. Baird, J. C. Jones and A. G. Mackintosh-Carter.

Victoria—Revs. D. A. Cameron (Convener), A. D. Leckie, R. W. Macaulay, P. L. Forster and John Walker; Messrs. A. G. Proudfoot and A. L. Pryde.

Western Australia—Revs. J. R. Blanchard, A. Crow and E. C. Day.

Thanks.

123. It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Macintyre:—

"That the cordial thanks of the Assembly be given to the authorities of Scots Church, the Hospitality Committee of Victoria—and especially its Convener, the Rev. A. I. Davidson—and to all who have provided hospitality to members of Assembly."

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

Press.

124. It was moved by the Rev. John Walker:—

"That the Assembly express appreciation of the faithful services of the Melbourne press."

The motion was duly seconded, and unanimously approved.

Moderator's
Committee.

125. It was moved by the Rev. Dr. Macintyre:—

"That a Moderator's Committee be appointed to arrange the finances and fix the times of Moderatorial visits for all the States and to aid the Moderator in any way possible in his official representation of the Church—the executive to be the members in the home State of the Moderator for the time being.

Committee.—*New South Wales*—Right Rev. the Moderator, Messrs. W. Wood, M. S. Grant and J. R. B. Campbell; *Queensland*—Rev. W. C. Radcliffe and Mr. J. K. Stewart; *South Australia*—Revs. W. Floyd Shannon and Dr. Seymour;

Western Australia—Revs. H. S. R. Innes and E. C. Day; *Victoria*—Revs. J. A. Barber and D. A. Cameron, and Mr. A. L. Pryde. Mr. J. R. B. Campbell, Convener.”

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

126. It was moved by the Rev. James Gibson, in accordance with notice of motion:—

Next
Assembly.

“That it be an instruction to the Business Committee to arrange for two public meetings in addition to the opening meeting in connection with the General Assembly of 1928.”

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

127. The Minutes of this Sederunt were confirmed.

128. The business of the General Assembly now being concluded, the Moderator delivered a brief address. The Assembly joined in singing the last verses of Psalm 122, after which, the Moderator having intimated that, in pursuance of the General Assembly’s appointment, the next General Assembly would be held at Brisbane, in St. Andrew’s Church, on the second Wednesday of September, 1928, at 7.30 p.m., the Session was closed with the Benediction.

Close of
Assembly.

R. SCOTT WEST,
Moderator-General.

GEORGE TAIT,
Clerk.

APPENDIX

STANDING COMMITTEES

Judicial Committee (38).

Rev. A. Thain Anderson
 Principal E. E. Anderson
 E. E. Baldwin
 Dr. Burgess
 J. A. Crockett
 A. Crow
 J. Edwards
 J. B. Galloway
 James Gibson
 R. W. Macaulay
 Dr. Macintyre
 J. Mackenzie
 Dr. Mathew
 S. Martin
 A. M. MacKillop
 P. J. Murdoch
 W. C. Radcliffe
 W. F. Shannon
 Dr. Seymour
 Professor T. J. Smith
 G. Tait
 C. A. White
 James Walker

Mr. J. H. Balfour
 J. H. Beatson
 J. M. Campbell
 W. G. Crane
 J. A. Ferguson
 F. T. Grove
 P. R. Henry
 J. Kirkland
 G. C. Ligertwood
 Sir John MacFarland
 Mr. John Nicholson
 A. G. Proudfoot
 Professor A. D. Ross
 Dr. W. A. Sanderson
 Mr. J. K. Stewart

Convener: Right Rev. the Moderator.

Board of Missions (20).

Rev. G. M. Baird
 D. F. Brandt
 J. A. Crockett
 A. Fleming
 W. Gray
 N. Hey
 E. W. Hogben
 G. K. Kirke
 T. W. Leggatt
 H. C. Matthew

Rev. R. J. H. McGowan
 J. Paterson
 F. H. L. Paton
 Mr. W. Christie
 Dr. Currell
 Mr. W. G. Geikie
 R. K. Gillespie
 R. A. McIlwraith
 J. S. Walker
 W. Wood

Convener: Rev. T. W. Leggatt.

Code (20).

Rev. A. T. Anderson
 E. E. Baldwin
 J. R. Blanchard
 Dr. Burgess
 D. Chapman
 R. W. Macaulay
 Dr. Macintyre
 A. G. Mackintosh-Carter
 Norman S. Millar
 W. C. Radcliffe
 G. Tait

Mr. J. M. Campbell
 J. A. Ferguson
 F. T. Grove
 G. Johnston
 G. C. Ligertwood
 A. G. Proudfoot
 Dr. W. A. Sanderson
 Mr. Henry Scott
 W. Wood

Conveners: Rev. G. Tait and Mr. J. M. Campbell.

College (20).

Rev. A. T. Anderson
 E. E. Baldwin
 Dr. Borland
 D. F. Brandt
 J. R. Blanchard
 H. M. Burns
 J. A. Crockett
 J. Edwards
 K. Forster
 J. Gillies

Rev. Principal Henderson
 H. S. R. Innes
 J. C. Jones
 R. W. Macaulay
 Dr. Mathew
 A. S. McCook
 Norman S. Millar
 Dr. Seymour
 T. Jamieson Williams
 Mr. D. K. Picken

Convener: Rev. Dr. Borland.

Finance (20).

Rev. W. A. S. Anderson
 W. C. Radcliffe
 Mr. J. H. Beatson
 E. A. Black
 J. R. B. Campbell
 S. J. Carruthers
 W. Christie
 W. G. Crane
 J. A. Ferguson
 R. K. Gillespie

Mr. M. S. Grant
 P. R. Henry
 J. Kirkland
 Sir John MacFarland
 Mr. D. Macmillan
 F. A. McMullen
 A. L. Pryde
 A. F. Whitehill
 W. Wood
 A. D. Young

Convener: Mr. J. R. B. Campbell.

Home Missions, A.I.M. (20).

Rev. A. Thain Anderson
 Principal Anderson
 J. A. Barber
 D. A. Cameron
 J. A. Crockett
 A. Crow
 A. J. Doig
 J. Flynn
 W. G. Forsyth
 W. J. Grant

Rev. A. D. Leckie
 A. S. McCook
 J. C. Milliken
 T. Morgan
 W. C. Radcliffe
 Dr. Seymour
 James Walker
 Mr. A. S. Barr
 D. Macmillan
 W. Wood

Convener: Rev. A. Thain Anderson.

Reception of Ministers (20).

Rev. Principal Anderson
 A. Thain Anderson
 Dr. Angus
 Dr. Borland
 D. A. Cameron
 E. C. Day
 A. J. Doig
 K. Forster
 W. Grant Forsyth
 Principal Henderson

Rev. A. MacKillop
 A. S. McCook
 W. C. Radcliffe
 Professor T. J. Smith
 G. Tulloch
 James Walker
 A. C. Weber
 Dr. R. Scott West
 Mr. A. L. Pryde
 W. Wood

Convener: Rev. A. S. McCook.

Statistics (20).

Rev. D. M. Barnet
 D. Chapman
 E. H. Chapple
 F. A. Darling
 J. R. Fiddian
 W. Gray
 F. L. Heriot
 R. W. Macaulay
 N. McDonald
 W. Meikle

Rev. W. Huey Steele
 Mr. John Campbell
 S. J. Carruthers
 W. G. Crane
 W. B. House
 A. S. Lang
 J. G. MacKee
 R. A. McIlwraith
 F. A. McMullen
 W. Tulloch

Convener: Mr. S. J. Carruthers.

Year Book (20).

Rev. D. M. Barnet
 R. Campbell
 E. F. Cameron
 F. A. Darling
 J. R. Fiddian
 R. A. Green
 H. S. R. Innes
 A. W. Ivory
 A. M. Ogilvie
 H. Robertson

Rev. W. F. Shannon
 James Walker
 A. Yule
 Mr. John Campbell
 F. A. McMullen
 W. G. Crane
 A. W. Glencross
 A. S. Lang
 A. L. Pryde
 W. Tulloch

Convener: Rev. R. A. Green.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

A.I.M. Councils.—See Minute 39, Paragraph (13).

Attitude of the Church to Her Creed.—Rev. Dr. E. E. Anderson, Convener. *New South Wales*: Revs. A. Thain Anderson, E. E. Anderson, Dr. Angus, D. F. Brandt, Dr. Burgess, J. Edwards, D. J. Flockhart, G. A. Gordon, A. S. McCook, R. J. H. McGowan, Dr. Macintyre, J. C. Milliken, G. R. S. Reid, W. P. Stewart, Dr. R. Scott West and T. J. Williams; Messrs. A. G. Baxter, J. H. Beatson, W. G. Geikie and W. Wood; Rev. Dr. E. E. Anderson, Convener. *Queensland*: Revs. R. Bardon, J. Gibson, J. A. Hunter, A. M. MacKillop, W. C. Radcliffe and J. Walker; Messrs. W. W. Briggs, J. Campbell and J. K. Stewart; Rev. W. C. Radcliffe, Convener. *South Australia*: Revs. J. A. Boyd, Dr. Davidson, Dr. Seymour, W. F. Shannon and F. S. Souter; Professor Rennie, Dr. C. Duguid and Mr. G. C. Ligertwood; Rev. Dr. Seymour, Convener. *Tasmania*: Revs. G. M. Baird, A. G. Mackintosh-Carter and W. Mabin; Messrs. P. R. Henry, G. G. Meredith and Dr. Storrer; Rev. W. Mabin, Convener. *Victoria*: Revs. Dr. Borland, D. A. Cameron, W. H. Cooper, J. Gillies, Dr. S. F. Hunter, John Mackenzie, Dr. Mathew, P. J. Murdoch, F. H. L. Paton, A. G. Roy, Professor T. J. Smith, George Tait; Sir John MacFarland; Messrs. J. M. Campbell, D. Macmillan, L. K. McNab, D. K. Picken and A. G. Proudfoot; Rev. F. H. L. Paton, Convener. *Western Australia*: Revs. J. R. Blanchard, E. C. Day, H. S. R. Innes and J. Marshall; Professor A. D. Ross; Messrs. P. C. Anderson, F. W. Berry and W. Christie.

Beneficiary Fund.—Mr. A. G. Proudfoot (Convener); Revs. Dr. Burgess, E. F. Cameron, G. Carson, J. L. Cope, R. C. Foyster, G. A. Gordon, W. Gray, J. Heyer, J. Paterson, W. C. Radcliffe, W. H. Steele and W. Tait; Hon. John Murdoch; Messrs. J. Beatson, W. G. Crane, John Kirkland, A. M. Loughton, A. Mayes, A. L. Pryde and W. Wood.

Board of Religious Education.—General Assembly's Representatives: Revs. J. Mackenzie (Convener), J. B. Galloway, J. C. Jamieson, and N. H. Joughin; Dr. Smyth; Mr. William Gray.

Book of Common Order.—Rev. Dr. R. Scott West (Convener), Rev. Dr. Borland (Vice-Convener), Revs. Dr. E. E. Anderson, Dr. Angus, Dr. Davidson, J. B. Galloway, J. Gibson, G. A. Gordon, R. W. Macaulay, Æ. Macdonald, Dr. Mathew, D. Millar, P. J. Murdoch, W. H. Steele and D. Macrae Stewart.

Business.—Rev. Dr. Macintyre (Convener); Revs. A. Thain Anderson, Dr. E. E. Anderson, Dr. Burgess, John Edwards, Dr. Macintyre, Norman S. Millar, J. C. Milliken and W. C. Radcliffe; Messrs. J. G. McKee and William Wood; with the Clerks and the Law Officers.

Christian Unity.—*The Rev. Prof. Macintyre* (Convener). *New South Wales:* Rev. Prof. Macintyre (Convener), Right Rev. R. Scott West, D.D., Revs. Prof. Angus, D. F. Brandt, D. P. Macdonald, V. Clark-Duff, Professor Anderson, G. R. S. Reid, T. J. Williams, G. A. Gordon, J. H. G. Auld; Messrs. W. G. Geikie, W. Wood; Dr. Murray; Messrs. S. J. Carruthers, W. G. Crane. *Victoria:* Mr. J. M. Campbell (Convener); Revs. Professor Oxer, Dr. Mathew, Geo. Tait, P. J. Murdoch, J. Walker, J. Mackenzie, A. Irving Davidson, Professor Smith, D. A. Cameron, B. T. Buntine, J. Gillies, P. L. Forster, W. H. Cooper; General Clark; Messrs. D. Macmillan, L. K. McNab, A. L. Pryde. *Queensland:* Revs. W. C. Radcliffe (Convener), A. M. MacKillop, G. K. Kirke, John Sinclair, Jas. Gibson, Jas. Walker, N. Millar, H. Robertson, M. Henderson; Messrs. J. K. Stewart, A. S. Barr, S. Lamont. *South Australia:* Revs. W. Floyd Shannon (Convener), Dr. Seymour, R. Campbell, D. Chapman, Dr. Davidson, A. C. Weber, J. MacDougall Forsyth, Professor Rennie; Messrs. A. D. Young, M. F. Culliford. *Tasmania:* Revs. W. Mabin (Convener), G. M. Baird, J. C. Jones, J. F. Sims, R. Rankin, A. G. Mackintosh-Carter; Messrs. P. R. Henry, G. G. Meredith, F. Paine, F. Burbury. *Western Australia:* Revs. J. R. Blanchard (Convener), A. Crow, E. C. Day, Geo. Tulloch, H. S. R. Innes; Mr. J. Bray; Professor A. D. Ross; Messrs. F. A. McMullen, G. F. Pitchford.

Federal Capital.—*Special Commission.*—Rev. Professor Macintyre, Convener; Revs. Dr. Borland, Dr. Burgess, D. A. Cameron, W. G. Forsyth, J. Gibson, R. W. Macaulay, Dr. Macintyre; Mr. A. G. Proudfoot and the Procurator.

Building Committee.—Revs. Dr. Borland (Convener), Professor T. J. Smith, Professor F. E. Oxer, John Walker, J. R. Blanchard, N. Millar, Dr. Macintyre, Dr. Angus, Dr. Davidson; Messrs. H. H. Kemp, Herbert E. Ross, Andrew Reid, A. Kemp, T. M. Shakespeare, E. Smith, J. M. Pringle, H. D. McBean, J. F. Grove; Sir John MacFarland, with power to co-opt.

Executive Committee.—Right Revs. R. Scott West, J. H. G. Auld, D. Chapman, W. H. Waters, H. S. R. Innes, T. Brown, Revs. Dr. Macintyre, Dr. Burgess, J. B. Galloway, A. S. McCook, W. G. Forsyth, A. Thain Anderson, Dr. Borland, D. A. Cameron, J. Mackenzie, John Walker, D. Macrae Stewart; Messrs. George Aitken, W. G. Balfour, W. P. Shaw, H. B. Lewis, Geo. McKay, Alexander Mair, D. G. Lumsden, A. G. Proudfoot, F. G. Pitcher, A. L. Pryde, W. Gray, John Ross (junior), Colonel Murdoch, R. Gillespie, A. Reid, W. H. McKay, Jas. M.

Dunlop, W. Wood, J. R. B. Campbell, J. H. Beatson, J. H. Balfour, with power to co-opt.

Fire Insurance.—Rev. Norman S. Millar (Convener); Revs. D. Chapman, N. S. Millar and W. C. Radcliffe; Messrs. J. R. B. Campbell, J. M. Carroll, S. J. Carruthers, A. W. Harkness, F. A. McMullen and G. G. Meredith.

Home Missions (other than A.I.M.).—Rev. D. A. Cameron, Convener. *New South Wales:* Revs. A. J. Doig, W. G. Forsyth, A. S. McCook, W. G. Sharpe and A. D. Robertson; Mr. W. Wood. *Queensland:* Revs. James Gibson, James Walker and W. C. Radcliffe. *South Australia:* Revs. Dr. Seymour, W. F. Shannon and D. Chapman. *Tasmania:* Revs. G. M. Baird, J. C. Jones and A. G. Mackintosh-Carter. *Victoria:* Revs. D. A. Cameron (Convener), A. D. Leckie, R. W. Macaulay, P. L. Forster and John Walker; Messrs. A. G. Proudfoot and A. L. Pryde. *Western Australia:* Revs. J. R. Blanchard, A. Crow and E. C. Day.

Immigration.—Rev. Dr. Borland, (Convener); Revs. G. M. Baird, C. H. Ball, Dr. Borland, D. A. Cameron, Alex. Duff, H. S. R. Innes, Hugh Jones, James Marshall, J. C. Milliken, Hugh Morris, W. C. Radcliffe, G. McL. Scott, W. Thomson and A. C. Weber; Messrs. A. S. Barr, R. Bracks, J. Downs, W. Gray, A. Johnstone, C. Mackinnon, D. Macmillan, F. Paine, J. Shepherd and W. Urquhart; Victorian members to be the Executive.

Jewish Mission.—Rev. A. Yule, Convener. Revs. J. Alexander, D. M. Barnet, R. J. H. McGowan, T. Morgan, F. H. L. Paton, D. Ross, D. W. Smith, D. M. Stewart, A. Torrens, W. A. Williams and A. Yule; Messrs. G. A. Clifton, R. K. Gillespie, G. Lewis, L. K. McNab, C. E. Rennie, P. Smith, J. S. Walker and A. B. Wilson.

Junior Catechism.—Rev. Dr. Borland, Convener. *Victoria:* Revs. E. E. Baldwin, Dr. Borland, K. Forster, W. Goyen, J. Gray, J. C. Jamieson, R. W. Macaulay, J. Mackenzie, Professor Smith, D. Macrae Stewart and G. Tait; Messrs. A. Fussell, W. Gray and L. K. McNab. *New South Wales:* Revs. Dr. Burgess, D. J. Flockhart, J. B. Galloway, N. H. Joughin, Professor Macintyre and G. R. S. Reid. *Queensland:* Revs. J. Gibson and R. Millar. *South Australia:* Revs. R. Campbell, Dr. Seymour and F. S. Souter. *Western Australia:* Revs. H. S. R. Innes and N. McDonald; Messrs. J. W. Berry and J. Shepherd; with power to co-opt others.

Moderator's Committee—Mr. J. R. B. Campbell, Convener. *New South Wales:* Right Rev. the Moderator, Messrs. W. Wood, M. S. Grant and J. R. B. Campbell. *Queensland:* Rev. W. C. Radcliffe and Mr. J. K. Stewart. *South Australia:* Revs. W. Floyd Shannon and Dr. Seymour. *Western Australia:* Revs. H. S. R. Innes and E. C. Day. *Victoria:* Revs. J. A. Barber and D. A. Cameron, and Mr. A. L. Pryde.

Publications.—Rev. J. Mackenzie, Convener. *New South Wales:* Revs. D. McKay Barnet, A. J. Eipper, D. J. Flockhart, J. B. Galloway, N. H. Joughin, G. R. S. Reid; Mr. J. A.

Paterson. *Victoria*: Revs. W. Goyen, Dr. Hunter, J. C. Jamieson, J. Mackenzie, H. Clark, A. I. Davidson, J. K. Robertson, Professor J. Smyth; Messrs. L. K. McNab, J. Kelso, A. Dean. *Tasmania*: Rev. A. W. Ivory. *Queensland*: Revs. W. H. Waters, A. Duff, W. W. Smith, R. Millar, J. P. Chalinor. *South Australia*: Revs. R. Campbell, W. F. Shannon, D. Chapman. *Western Australia*: Revs. H. S. R. Innes, N. McDonald, E. C. Day.

Religion in the Home.—*Rev. G. R. S. Reid, Convener.* Revs. J. B. Galloway, G. M. Connor, W. Goyen and N. H. Joughin; Messrs. R. K. Gillespie, John Mars, William Gray and G. S. Mackay.

Social Services.—*Rev. D. A. Cameron, Convener.* Revs. T. Brown, V. C. Bell, D. A. Cameron, P. L. Forster, Dr. Macintyre and E. H. McL. Shugg; Messrs. J. R. B. Campbell and Geo. McKay.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OTHER PAPERS

PRESENTED TO THE

General Assembly of Australia



MELBOURNE, SEPTEMBER, 1926

Communications

I.—FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

The Right Rev. the Moderator
and Members of the General Assembly of
Scots Church.

Gentlemen,

I am gratified to receive your assurance of loyalty to the Throne and Person of His Majesty the King, whom I have the honour to represent in the Commonwealth.

Her Excellency and I thank you most cordially for the welcome you have extended to us, and for your kind wishes to us and our family.

I pray that my term of office may be one of prosperity and happiness to the whole Commonwealth, and that the Church, by the realisation of its ideals, may increasingly influence the lives of the people of Australia.

STONEHAVEN,
Governor-General.

Melbourne, November 26, 1925.

II—THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH OF AUSTRALASIA.

Brisbane, May 31, 1926.

The Clerk of the Federal Assembly,
Presbyterian Church of Australasia.

Reverend and Dear Sir,

The General Conference of the Methodist Church of Australasia now in session at Brisbane desire to convey to your Federal Church Court very sincere greetings of goodwill.

The matters pertaining to Church Reunion received careful and sympathetic consideration, and a standing committee was approved.

The Conference prays that God's Holy Spirit may guide us in all our acts thereto.

I remain,

Faithfully yours,

FRANK LADE,
Secretary of the Conference

III—INVITATION FOR NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Presbyterian Church of Australia (State of Queensland).

Extract Minute.

At Brisbane, and within Ann Street Church, the 18th day of May, 1926, which day the State Assembly of Queensland being duly constituted.

Inter Alia: Invitation to G.A.A.

Pursuant to notice, the Rev. N. S. Millar moved that a communication be sent from this Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Queensland to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, inviting the General Assembly to meet in Brisbane in 1928.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. A. Duff, and approved. Closed with prayer.

Extracted from the records of the State Assembly by me,

S. MARTIN,
Clerk.

May 24, 1926.

Overtures

I—RELATIVE TO THE APPOINTMENT OF A COMMONWEALTH BOARD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, on June 11, 1926, the Welfare of Youth Committee of the General Assembly of Australia met at 2.30 p.m., and was duly constituted.

Inter alia: It was agreed that the following Overture be submitted to the General Assembly of Australia at its meeting in Melbourne in September next:—

Whereas

- (a) It has been found beneficial to the various States to co-operate in Welfare of Youth Work, in the preparation of an Australian course of graded lessons, in the production and distribution of Sunday School literature, educational pamphlets and all organising facilities, and in the visitation of weaker States by the Agents of Welfare of Youth Departments; and whereas
- (b) The further development of Sunday Schools and other Youth agencies is hindered by the lack of a Commonwealth policy and programme in religious education, and by the difficulty of coordinating the various activities among the young people of our Church; and whereas
- (c) A greater uniformity and more thorough co-operation would lead to the elimination of much fruitless experiment and unnecessary expenditure; and whereas
- (d) By the formation of such a Department the whole work of religious education would be placed upon a sounder basis and given a larger opportunity for further development; and whereas
- (e) As the result of hearty co-operation on the part of Committees in recent years the formation of a Commonwealth Department has practically begun, has already proved beneficial, and promises, under official sanction, to be of great usefulness;

It is therefore humbly overtured to the Venerable the General Assembly by the Assembly's Welfare of Youth Committee that

The General Assembly, at each ordinary meeting, shall appoint a Board for the management and administration of Welfare of Youth work, which shall be called "The Board of Religious Education."

- (a) The Board of Religious Education shall consist of 20 members, Ministers and Elders, 14 of whom shall be appointed on the nomination of the State Assemblies, four by Victoria, four by New South Wales, three by Queensland, one by Tasmania, one by South Australia, one by Western Australia, and six by the General Assembly itself. Should a State Assembly fail to nominate, the General Assembly shall appoint in its stead.
- (b) Local Committees shall be appointed, as at present, by the State Assemblies, for the purpose of stimulating interest in Youth Work, supervising local activity and collecting money, and these Committees shall report to the Board of Education as well as to their own Assemblies.
- (c) The money received by the State Assemblies for the support of Welfare of Youth work shall be held by their respective treasurers for local purposes, and no part of this money shall be allocated to the expenses of the Board without the consent of the local Welfare of Youth Committee. The income and expenditure of the Board, the appointment and duties of officers who may be employed, shall be regulated and controlled by mutual agreement between the Board and the Welfare of Youth Committees in the various States.
- (d) The Board shall take into consideration the views of State Committees with regard to local work, and shall co-operate with them in every possible way.
- (e) The Board shall appoint an executive, and the place of meeting of this executive shall be in Melbourne, unless otherwise ordered by the General Assembly.

Closed with prayer.

Extracted from the minutes of the Welfare of Youth Committee, this 20th day of July, 1926, by me.

JAS. B. GALLOWAY, Acting Convener.

Motion.—That the Overture be sustained, and declared to have interim authority, and that it be sent down to State Assemblies and Presbyteries under Article XIII of the Deed of Union for report to next Assembly.

II—ANENT MARRIAGE OF DECEASED HUSBAND'S BROTHER.

(Transmitted by the N.S.W. Assembly, May 15, 1926.)

Whereas the General Assembly of Australia resolved that the words "except the case of a deceased wife's sister" should be added to the following clause in Chapter XXIV, iv, of the Confession of Faith: "The man may not marry any of his wife's kindred nearer in blood than he may of his own, nor the woman of her husband's kindred nearer in blood than her own." (G.A.A. Blue Book, 1912, Minute 53; 1914, Minute 113): Whereas the marriage of a woman with her deceased husband's brother implies the same relationship as the marriage of a man with his deceased wife's sister; and whereas marriage with a deceased husband's brother is now legal within portion of the Commonwealth of Australia:—

It is humbly overtured by the New South Wales Assembly to the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia to add to the amended clause in the Confession of Faith, quoted above, the words "or the case of a deceased husband's brother," and to enact and declare that marriage between a woman and the brother of her deceased husband shall not be visited by any ecclesiastical censure or disability, either upon the Minister celebrating it, or upon the parties contracting it.

Dr. Burgess was appointed to support the Overture in the Assembly.

JOHN BURGESS,

Clerk of N.S.W. Assembly.

III—ANENT SUPPLY IN VACANT CHARGES.

(Transmitted by the N.S.W. Assembly, May, 15, 1926.)

Whereas, prior to the formation of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, the following was the law of the New South Wales Church regarding admission to the Pulpit: "The right of admission to the Pulpit belongs exclusively to the Minister, except when the Minister is under censure or process or when the Charge is vacant, in which cases the right reverts to the Presbytery"; whereas this right has not been surrendered or transferred to the General Assembly of Australia under the Deed of Union:—

It is humbly overtured by the General Assembly of New South Wales to the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia to omit from the Regulations on the Reception of Ministers, B2 and C2, the words, "he shall not be allowed to preach in any vacant Charge," thus amending the Regulation that it may read as follows:—

2. If the Presbytery is fully satisfied on all these points, the applicant may be recommended to the local Home Mission Committee for temporary employment, but any such employment by the Home Mission Committee or by the Presbytery shall not be held to commit the General Assembly to receive the applicant as a Minister or Licentiate of the Church;

Or to deal otherwise with the Overture as to the Assembly may seem fit.

Dr. Burgess was appointed to support the Overture in the Assembly.

JOHN BURGESS,

Clerk of N.S.W. Assembly.

IV—ANENT THE RECEPTION OF MINISTERS FROM OTHER THAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES.

(Transmitted by the N.S.W. Assembly, May 19, 1926.)

It is hereby humbly overtured by the New South Wales General Assembly to the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia to amend the Regulations regarding the Reception of Ministers from other denominations as follows:—

That Clauses 2, 5 and 6 in Section C be omitted.

That Clause 1 be as at present.

That the other Clauses be:—

2. To ensure that every applicant shall have attained the standard of educational fitness, and that he understands the nature of the Presbyterian system, he shall, **subsequent to his application, and prior to his acceptance, attend—**
 - (a) One of our Theological Halls for at least two (2) years, or
 - (b) Serve within the bounds of a Country Presbytery for at least two (2) years, or
 - (c) Attend for not less than one year at a Theological Hall, and serve for at least one year within the bounds of a country Presbytery.
3. All applications, with accompanying documents, shall be forwarded by the Presbytery to the College Committee, which shall determine the course of study or probation to be pursued by applicant and upon the completion thereof shall issue a certificate thereanent to the Presbytery for communication to the Committee on Reception of Ministers.
4. Same as the present 3.
5. Same as the present 4.
6. If the General Assembly of Australia grant the Petition, the Applicant shall then be received, and be eligible for a call.

The Revs. V. Clark-Duff and D. J. Flockhart were appointed to support the Overture in the Assembly.

JOHN BURGESS,

Clerk of N.S.W. Assembly.

V—ANENT REPRESENTATION OF BOARDS OF MANAGEMENT IN PRESBYTERY AND ASSEMBLY.

Overture on simplifying the formula and questions at the Ordination or Induction of Elders, with a view to securing the services of more men of business energy and ability in the government of the Church, in its Kirk Sessions and Higher Courts.

Whereas the General Assembly of Victoria dealt with the question of the representation of Boards of Management in Presbytery and General Assembly, as set forth in the Minute and Report hereto appended,

It is hereby humbly overtured to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to take the whole situation into consideration, and to simplify the present Formula and Questions at the Ordination or Induction of Elders or to deal otherwise with the matter as it deems fit.

The Overture to be supported by the Revs. W. Borland and George Tait.

W. BORLAND,

Convener of the Victorian Assembly's Committee.

Minute of General Assembly of Victoria, May 10, 1926.

The Report of the Committee on Representation of Boards of Management was submitted by the Rev. Dr. Borland, who moved:—

“That the Assembly approve the Report and instruct the Committee to submit an Overture to the General Assembly of Australia in terms thereof.”

It was moved as an amendment by Mr. A. W. Spear, and seconded by the Rev. J. A. Forrest:—

“That all the words after ‘Assembly’ be omitted, with the view of inserting the words ‘refer the matter back to the Committee with instructions to confer with the following:—’”

The amendment was rejected.

It was moved as an amendment by the Rev. J. G. Sharpe, and seconded by the Rev. R. Nairn:—

“That the following words be added to the motion: ‘except in regard to the limitation of tenure.’”

The amendment was approved.

The motion, as amended, was approved.

Report above referred to on Representation of Boards of Management.

Two Overtures were presented to the General Assembly of 1925 (B.B., Appendix ii), which decided to sustain them in so far as they brought the matter before the House and appointed your Committee to consider the question, and, if deemed advisable, to draft an Overture to next General Assembly. Your Committee is of opinion that, to grant the prayer of Overture II (2) and "provide in each Presbytery a consultative Committee" (B.B., 1925, Appendix iii) would not solve the problem stated clearly in the preamble. While the provision (Overture II (1), B.B., 1925, Appendix ii) of a representative of each Board of Management to Presbytery and Assembly might solve part of the problem, it would involve changes in the fundamental principles of the Church's constitution which ought not to be considered until constitutional means of solution have been exhausted.

The Board of Management consists of the members of Session and Managers elected annually by members and adherents of the Congregation from among the members and adherents. The Board of Management is, therefore, at present represented by one of its members in Presbytery and Assembly. At present that representative is elected annually by the members of the Kirk Session, though there would seem to be no reason why the managers, being communicants of the Church, should not be given the right to share with the members of Kirk Session in that appointment. Nor is there any reason why, even now, the Board of Management should not use the services of the Representative Elder in such a way as to rectify the lack of understanding and support mentioned in the preamble of Overture II (2). Your Committee agrees with the preamble of Overture II (1), that the Church requires men of outstanding business ability to carry through its enterprises capably; but it is also convinced that only men of Christian character and experience, i.e., men who are fully qualified for the Eldership, should be entrusted with the guidance of the Church's enterprises. It believes, therefore, that the purpose aimed at would be better attained by removing any hindrance in the way of Christian men of business energy and ability taking their share in the government of the Church, which is at the hands of Ruling Elders. In so doing, they ought not to be required to make profession of piety or of doctrine more complex than is necessary, nor to serve as Elders for more than a definite period of years, which might be extended. Having these wider considerations of the Church's need in view, your Committee urges the General Assembly of Victoria to overture the General Assembly of Australia to take the whole situation into consideration, to take steps to simplify the present formula for Elders, and to limit their tenure of office in the Congregation they are directed to serve, or to deal otherwise, as may be for the best interests of the Church.

W. BORLAND, Convener.

OVERTURE FROM STATE ASSEMBLY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

To the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia.—

Your Petitioners respectfully show:—

- (a) That in the Presbyterian Church in Western Australia there are three vacant charges in the metropolitan area, and of the seven country charges four are vacant, while our work in the country is being crippled through lack of ordained Ministers, none being available within the State, and none appearing to be available elsewhere.
- (b) That of the fifteen Ministers in the Presbyterian Church in Western Australia, one is emeritus, one has retired from the work of a Pastoral Charge, another is over 70 years of age, while of the remaining eleven, seven came from New South Wales, two from Victoria, and one from Scotland. It is doubtful if any of these look upon Western Australia as their home, since all came to the State because of the need of Ministers in our Church there, and with the intention of returning after a period of service.
- (c) That three principal reasons can be given for this shortage of Ministers in Western Australia:—

1. Of the twenty Ministers whose fares were paid from the homeland by the Presbyterian Church in Western Australia, eleven have gone to the Eastern States, and only one is here now.
 2. Of the students for the Ministry from this State trained outside this State, none are serving their Mother Church.
 3. Those students trained here and who desire to join a Beneficiary Fund, must leave the State of Western Australia to do so, as our Church has no such fund.
- (d) That while the opportunities for service through the Ministry in Western Australia are great, the work is correspondingly exacting.
- (e) That there are several students preparing for the Theological Hall, and that when the present lecturers are called upon to lecture to the students in more than one year, the task will be beyond them, by reason of the other burdens of congregational and general Church work which rest upon them.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia will take these premises into account, and grant:—

1. That assistance be given the Church in Western Australia to fill her vacant Charges.
2. That it be made possible for Ministers and Missionaries who have faithfully served the Church for a period of years in this State, to find a new sphere of labour in their home State if so desired, and to make provision for the filling of the vacancy caused by the transfer.
3. That the General Assembly of Australia establish a Beneficiary Fund for Ministers of the Church in Western Australia, or, alternatively, establish a Federal Beneficiary Fund for Ministers of the Church throughout the Commonwealth of Australia.
4. That assistance be given to equip thoroughly our Theological Hall.
5. That the General Assembly take into consideration as a matter of urgency, the question of the alteration of the constitution of this Church to permit said Assembly to do all or any of the things so urgently required as set forth in the above overture.

Or to deal with the matter otherwise as the General Assembly in its wisdom may deem fit.

Representatives from Western Australia are appointed to support the Overture.

Petitions to be Received as Ministers

I.—REV. FRANK CHARLES.

The Manse, Walgett,

July 10, 1926.

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

I am desirous of placing my Petition to the above General Assembly for admittance into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in New South Wales.

I was born in Blackburn, England, age 39 years, single, and received my early education in Edinburgh and in Blackburn Grammar School, passing through these schools as a first-class student. After this training I took up special Mission work in the Presbyterian Church at Blackburn, England. After 12 months' work there I had full charge of a Mission Hall at Maryport, Cumberland, England. After four years' service I was able to take up special studies for the Free Church of England ministry, and entered their college at Tottington, England, when, after three years' study under Rev. G. Spencer, I successfully passed for

entrance into their Ministry, the course of my studies being Hebrew Language and Hebrew Old Testament, Old Testament Exegesis, portions of Greek Testament Exegesis, Church History, Homiletics, the examiner being Mr. G. Hugh Jones, M.A., B.D., for the Orders in the Free Church of England; other examinations I took under Dr. William Throughton being Systematic Divinity, Biblical Introduction, Comparative Religion, Church Polity. I passed these examinations, after which I was ordained by Bishop Throughton, which enclosed certificate verifies.

My first Church under this Ministry was at Accrington, England, which lasted for one and a half years; then war broke out, and I took up Y.M.C.A. Chaplain work with the Border Regiments, then with the Manchester Pals' Battalion, which enclosed letters speak of. After the war was over I took up a Chaplaincy with the National Sailors' Society, London, England, and from there was invited out to the Presbyterian Church of Canada. I had a very successful ministry in Canada, and was called home after 14 months' work in the Alberta Synod, through bereavement at home, intending to return to my work in Canada; but before being able to return to Canada I was asked by the Y.M.C.A. authorities if I would bring some young boys out to Australia, which I consented to undertake, with no intentions then of staying in Australia; but on my visiting the York Street offices of the Presbyterian Church I came out to Walgett for three months, and the Church Committee at Walgett invited me to continue my work with them, which has been now three years' work. My letters, of course, almost in every detail are in connection with my going to Canada, as I had no intention when leaving England for Australia of seeking ministry in this country. All my ministry was in good standing, being under no censure on any ground whatsoever.

I pray my Petition may have your consideration for the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.

Yours sincerely,

FRANK CHARLES.

Presbytery of Moree.

The Manse, Warialda, 16/7/26.

The Convener,

Reception of Ministers' Committee.

Dear Mr. McCook—By same mail I am forwarding to you an application from Rev. F. Charles, a Deacon of the Free Church of England, for admission as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. This matter came up at a meeting of the Presbytery of Moree on 13th inst., and a Commission, consisting of Revs. F. W. Wood, Emlyn James and myself, were appointed to deal with the Petition and report to your Committee. The Committee duly met, and their recommendation is as follows:—

That the Petition be received: and in view of the record of Mr. Charles' work for the Home Mission Committee at Walgett, where he has spent three years and given a measure of cohesion to a charge where he found drift and disorganisation, that he be encouraged to go forward to the full Ministry of our Church, by taking two years in the Theological Hall, or such period as may be deemed suitable by your Committee. So far as the Presbytery has had opportunity of judging, Mr. Charles is a man of earnestness and enthusiasm, combined with capacity for dealing with men.

Rev. F. W. Wood, interim Moderator, of Walgett charge, will forward a personal letter to you bearing on Mr. Charles' work at Walgett. This application is late, but the commission of the Presbytery trust that you will give it consideration.

I am yours most faithfully,

P. A. SMITH

(For Commission of Presbytery).

Documents accompanying Petition:—

1. Certificate of Ordination as Deacon by Bishop Troughton, of the Free Church of England.

2. Letter from Rev. G. Hugh Jones, Examiner, Margate, Eng.
3. Certificate from Minister and Session Clerk of St. George's Presbyterian Church, Blackburn.
4. Certificate from Fred. J. Parkinson, Member of Session, St. George's, Blackburn.
5. Letter from W. Burton, General Secretary, National Sailors' Society, London.
6. Certificate from Sydney Taylor, Hon. Secretary Y.M.C.A., Blackburn.
7. Letter from Geo. W. McCulloch, conveying resolution of Committee of Walgett Presbyterian Church.
8. Letter from Donald Mackie, Deputy-Registrar-General, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.
9. Letter from J. W. T. Borland, Captain S.S. "Bendigo."

II.—REV. A. W. COOPER.

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

The Petition of the undersigned Arthur William Cooper, respectfully sheweth:—

1. That your Petitioner was born in Walthamstow, in the County of Essex, England, on August 6, 1891, is married, and has two children.

2. That he received his early education at the "William Morris Higher Grade School," Walthamstow, where he gained a scholarship, but by force of circumstances he was compelled to leave at the age of 14, and entered the office of a large furnishing house, where he remained for five years.

3. That the call to labour in foreign fields was felt by him in his early years, and so, at the age of 17, he commenced to undertake preaching appointments as evangelist with "The Christian Community"—a society for preaching the Gospel in the Workhouses, Infirmaries, Lodging-houses and Gospel Halls of London.

4. That, as a very definite answer to prayer, the way opened for him in September, 1910, to enter the Bible Training Institute, Glasgow, where he remained for two years, gaining the diploma and obtaining considerable preaching experience.

5. That, although receiving offers to various spheres, he felt the need of obtaining the best educational equipment he could obtain for the work of the Christian Ministry.

6. That he made application for admission to Spurgeon's (Pastors') College, and, out of 300 applicants, 12 only were accepted, the petitioner being so favoured; and in August, 1912, he entered upon a four years' course of study. The following were the subjects taken during that course:—

General Subjects: Psychology, English Literature, Logic (Jevons), Euclid, History of Philosophy (Schweigler), Trench on Words, Greek History, Roman History, Butler's Analogy, Science (under Dr. Rankine, London University), Elocution (under Professor J. Richardson).

Languages—Greek (New Testament): John's Gospel, parts Philip-pians, Ephesians, 1st Thessalonians, 1st Peter.

Greek (Classical): Xenophon ("Anabasis"), Plato's Apologia (parts), and Plato's Republic (Books 2 and 3).

Latin: Cæsar, Horace's Epistles (Book I), Cicero (De Senectute), Cur deus Homo (St. Anselm).

Hebrew: Parts of Genesis, Joshua, Psalms and Isaiah (Hebrew is taken after the first six months in college).

Lectures by Principal (Dr. A. C. McCaig) on Doctrine of Man, Second Coming, etc., Homiletics, and Hodge's Theology.

7. That, whilst a student in the College, he was for six months Student-Pastor of Westminster (Romney Street) Baptist Church, London.

8. That he was ordained to the Baptist Ministry in September, 1916, and was co-Pastor of the Spring Hill Baptist Church, Birmingham.

9. That in 1918 he accepted a call to the Pastorate of the Shirley Baptist Church (Warwickshire), and after a very happy ministry of nearly three years he was, on account of his wife's health, compelled to resign, and therefore came to Australia (his wife's birthplace).

10. That he came with numerous testimonials concerning his work in England.

11. That he received a call to the Williamstown Church, where he remained for over two years.

12. That in September, 1923, the Church at Ballarat East invited him to the Pastorate, where he enjoyed a happy and successful ministry, until he decided to resign and undertake work in the Presbyterian Home Mission, pending the decision of the General Assembly regarding his Petition.

13. That he was a Minister in good standing of the Baptist Denomination, and under no censure, or liability to censure, on any ground whatever.

14. That his reason for seeking admission to the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church is that he feels it affords him a wider scope for ministry than does the Baptist Denomination.

15. That he holds the Bible to be the inspired Work of God, and the only rule for faith and practice, and further, that his understanding of the teaching of the New Testament is in accord with the doctrines held, maintained, and practised by the Presbyterian Church.

16. That your Petitioner is desirous of spending the best years of his life in the service and for the glory of his Lord in your Church, and trusts that his Petition will receive favourable consideration, and your Petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

ARTHUR WILLIAM COOPER.

Documents in support: Three letters relating to B.T.I. days; one letter relating to Westminster Baptist Church; letters relating to Ministry in Birmingham; letter from the Right Rev. T. Brown, M.A.; two letters relating to Ballarat Ministry.

St. Paul's Manse, Ballan,

8/6/26.

To the Rev. A. S. McCook, B.A.,

Convener of the Committee on the Reception of Ministers.

Dear Sir—At a meeting of the Ballarat Presbytery, held this day, inter alia, on the motion of the Rev. E. J. Welch and the Rev. F. L. Heriot, the Presbytery of Ballarat heartily recommended that the Petition of the Rev. A. W. Cooper to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to be received as a Minister in full standing, be granted; and the Presbytery appointed the Revs. J. Sinclair and J. L. Hurse to support the Petition."

Extracted by me,

EDWD. J. WELCH, Clerk.

III.—REV. WALTER EDWARD CRAWFORD.

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia.

The Petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth:—

That your petitioner was born in Sydney in 1872. He received his early education at Ashfield and Croydon State schools, where he secured

top place in the school. In a special class he prepared for the Junior, and was about to sit for it, with every assurance of a pass, when a brief illness overtook him, and he was prevented taking the examination. After a business career he was encouraged to prepare for the Ministry of the Methodist Church. During his business career he spent most of his leisure time studying under accredited tutors who were graduates. Subjects studied were English, History, Geography and Mathematics. Your Petitioner attended for three years at Newington College, Sydney, and passed in the following subjects:—Greek, Hebrew, Church History, Ethics, Systematic Theology, Apologetics, Old Testament Exegesis, and was ordained in the year 1906. His first appointment was Fiji, where he laboured for several years. On returning from Fiji, through ill-health, he took up work in Victoria, and laboured in the following Circuits:—Kilmore and Drouin.

Your Petitioner did not feel satisfied with the Methodist system of Church government, or some of its doctrines, and left the Church and took up work in the Baptist Church for a short time, but the most of his time since leaving the Methodist Church has been spent in supplying Presbyterian pulpits.

Your Petitioner is in full sympathy with the standards and doctrines of the Presbyterian Church and its government: the whole Presbyterian position is very attractive, largely because of his ancestry and affinities. Your Petitioner for many years has been a reader of the "British Weekly" and an ardent admirer of the late Robertson Nicoll, first editor, and the school he represented, including the literature by Denney, Dods, Fairbairn, Forsyth, Mackintosh and others. The press work and books of these men have kept your Petitioner nourished in the Scottish and Presbyterian outlook and ways, which correspond with his tastes and temperament.

Your Petitioner was for some time on the staff of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

Your Petitioner is at present working under the care of the Presbytery of Toowoomba, and they can vouch for my work.

Your Petitioner has pleasure in referring you to the following Ministers, who know me well:—Revs. W. H. Fitchett, S. J. Hoban, Dr. Carruthers and Dr. Prescott, Revs. W. C. Radcliffe, A. M. Martin and John Armour.

Your Petitioner attaches letters bearing on his studies, life and work.

Your Petitioner therefore prays your Venerable Court to receive him as a Minister into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church, eligible for a call.

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

WALTER EDWARD CRAWFORD.

June 30, 1926.
Presbytery of Toowoomba.

[Extract Minute.]

At Warwick, and within the Presbyterian Church, on Tuesday, March 2, 1926, which place and date the Presbytery duly met and was constituted with prayer, inter alia, a Petition, with relative documents, from Rev. Walter Edward Crawford, acting Presbyterian Minister at Pittsworth, to the General Assembly of Australia, praying to be received into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia as a Minister, was read and laid on the table.

It was resolved to transmit the Petition to the General Assembly, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted.

Extracted from the Records of the Presbytery of Toowoomba this 30th day of June by me—

A. M. MARTIN, Presbytery Clerk.

Documents accompanying Petition:—

- (a) License as Rector of St. Paul's, Stanthorpe, Diocese of Brisbane.
- (b) Copy of testimonial from Bishop Langley, of Bendigo.

- (c) Letter from Rev. Andrew Watson, of Warwick, Queensland.
- (d) Letter from Rev. Wm. Johnston, East Malvern.
- (e) Letter from Rev. James Walker, Convener Home Missions Committee, Queensland.
- (f) Certificate from Rev. James Gibson, Int-Moderator of Yangan Charge.
- (g) Letter from Rev. E. H. Vines, Balranald.
- (h) Letter from Rev. A. J. Eipper, Clerk, Presbytery of Murrumbidgee.
- (i) Letter from Rev. Thomas Morgan, Superintendent of Home Missions, N.S.W.
- (j) Report of visit to Wentworth by Rev. W. G. Sharpe, Organising Secretary, Sustentation Fund, N.S.W.

IV—REV. W. R. ELVERY.

[Petition not printed.]

V—PETITION FROM REV. THOMAS GIBSON.

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

The Petition of the undersigned respectfully showeth that:—

1. I, Thomas Gibson, was born in W.R., Yorkshire, on 28th February, 1890, and am not married.
2. I attended Cliff College, Sheffield, England, during the years 1914-1915, the outline of which course, together with books studied, and marks gained by me in the various examinations, are appended.
3. In March, 1915, the Principal of Cliff College, Dr. S. Chadwick, recommended me as a candidate for the Methodist Ministry in Ireland. (Copy of recommendation attached.)
4. During the years 1916-1920 inclusive I was a probationer of the Methodist Church in Ireland, the books studied by me and the marks gained in the examinations each year being attached.
5. In the year 1920 I was ordained as a Minister in full standing of the Methodist Church in Ireland.
6. While in Ireland I came into touch with the Rev. Bruce Little, Presbyterian Minister in charge of the people of Dungaroon. The following year, 1923, I resigned from the Methodist Church, and was appointed supply at Vinecast Congregation under the Rev. J. Forsythe as Interim-Moderator.
7. The appeal of the Rev. Alex. Crow, Commissioner of the Presbyterian Church in Western Australia, persuaded me to offer myself for work in that Church. I made this offer through the Irish Presbyterian Colonial Committee.
8. I landed in Fremantle, W.A., on 25th June, 1926, and proceeded at once, under the direction of the Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church in Western Australia, to take charge of the vacant congregation of Northam, where I am at present engaged.

Your petitioner humbly prays the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia to take these premises into account, and admit him as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church in Australia, or otherwise, as the Assembly in its wisdom may deem fit.

(Signed) THOMAS GIBSON.

J. R. BLANCHARD, Clerk Perth Presbytery.

Extract Minutes, Presbytery of Perth.

At Perth, the 19th day of August, 1926, the Presbytery of Perth met, and was constituted with prayer.

Inter alia:—Presbytery received a petition from the Rev. Thomas Gibson, together with relative documents, praying the General Assembly of Australia to admit him or otherwise as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Resolved:—"Forward the petition to the G.A.A., with the unanimous recommendation that—sustain the petition, and that Mr. Gibson be required to do one year in a Theological Hall, and pass the Exit in all subjects except the Hebrew language."

Closed with prayer.

Extracted from the Records of the Presbytery of Perth this 24th day of August, 1926, by me,

J. R. BLANCHARD, Presbytery Clerk.

Documents in Support of Petition.

1. Report from Dr. S. Chadwick, Principal of Cliff College, England.
2. Outline of studies taken at Cliff College, and examination results.
3. Statement of qualifications by Rev. Alex. Crow.
4. Letter from Rev. S. R. W. Richardson, Convener of Home Missions in Western Australia.
5. Letter from Rev. J. R. Blanchard, Clerk of Perth Presbytery.

VI—REV. SIDNEY THOMAS KNIGHT.

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

The Petition of the undersigned respectfully showeth:—

That he is a native of Australia, and was engaged in Home Mission work in New South Wales, where he served the Church with acceptance.

That he afterwards went to the United States of America, where he has since been engaged in Church work.

That he entered the Seminary of San Francisco at San Anselmo, and there pursued the full course for the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church.

That he graduated from the Seminary of San Anselmo in April of this year.

That in October of last year he was ordained in order that he might do special work at Lakeport, California.

That he is now acting as Religious Director in the Presbyterian Orphanage at San Anselmo, thereby acquiring experience in Welfare of Youth work.

That he is desirous of returning to Australia to take up work in one of the States, and, in the event of this Petition being granted, will sail immediately for Australia.

Your Petitioner attaches letters and documents bearing on his work and status.

Your Petitioner therefore prays to be received into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, and as, in duty bound, will ever pray.

SIDNEY T. KNIGHT.

Presbytery of Melbourne South.

The Manse, Sandringham.

13/7/26.

The Presbytery of Melbourne South at its meeting on July 12, 1926, considered the Petition of the Rev. Sidney T. Knight, and it was resolved "to transmit the Petition to the G.A.A. with the cordial recommendation of the Presbytery."

J. SMILEY, Clerk.

Documents accompanying Petition:—

- (a) Certificate of Ordination, Presbytery of Benicia, U.S.A.
- (b) Pastor's Commission for Service in Benicia Presbytery.
- (c) Letters of Commendation from:—
 - (1) Alvin B. Carr, Superintendent, Presbyterian Orphanage and Farm, San Anselmo, California.
 - (2) Rev. John M. Paxton, Vancouver, B.C.
 - (3) Rev. A. R. Osborn, East St. Kilda.

VII—REV. THOMAS BIGGART SMITH.

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

The petition of the undersigned, being an ordained Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, respectfully showeth:—

That he was born in the year 1877 at Dairy, Ayrshire, Scotland.

That he was educated at the Public School in Alloa, Scotland; and passed successfully the highest grade in the Public School.

That he graduated from and received diploma after two years and ten months' term in the Bible Training Institute of Glasgow, including the whole of the Bible, Old and New Testament, History and Exegesis, Apologetics, Ethics and Moral Philosophy, the rudiments of Greek, Grammar and Music, practical Mission work in the City of Glasgow and suburbs.

That he graduated from, and received diploma and ordination from, Manitoba College, Winnipeg, after the terms of three years (six months in college, the remainder spent on the Mission field). A year and a half almost was given on a Mission field before entering college.

Studies included:—Old and New Testament Introduction; Old and New Testament, Exegesis; Textual Criticism; Apologetics; Comparative Religion; Ethics (Menzies); Philosophy (Locke, Berkeley and Hume); English (Milton's Prose), Spenser, Ancient Ballads), Dogmatics, Systematic Theology, Church History, Homiletics, Church Procedure, Missions, New Test. Greek. Translation and Exegesis: Romans (Sanday and Headlam), James (Cambridge), Ephesians, and other parts.

This respectfully showeth the tenor of my life and work:—

At the age of 14 I entered business life, learning the trade of tailoring and cutting, and continued therein till the age of 26. During those years I took an active part in Y.M.C.A. work, Sunday Schools (when opportunity afforded); also in occasional City Mission work in Glasgow, where, for some years, I pursued my business vocation.

Obedient, at last, a deep desire to enter more fully into the work of the Master, I entered the Bible Training Institute. Finishing my course there, I applied for Home Mission work under the Canadian Presbyterian Church and received an appointment on the Western Prairies, in Alberta, a large district, being at that time composed of ranches, my audiences mostly cowboys. I "carried on" in this district for about a year and five months, entering Manitoba College at the beginning of October, 1907. The intervening summers between terms were spent on the Mission field, in (a) Saskatchewan and (b) British Columbia.

On concluding the Minister Evangelist course there, and being ordained for that work, after a short vacation home to Scotland I returned, and, under pressure, was tempted to stay in Quebec Province, there to take a B.D. course in McGill College, Montreal.

Returning to Winnipeg, I again undertook Home Mission work, and continued for almost four years in that work, having full power to administer the sacraments and the marriage ceremony.

In February of the year 1914 I came to Australia, chiefly for climatic reasons, though the fact of my people being all here was no small inducement. My appointments in Australia for Home Mission work have been briefly referred to.

Early in 1917 I applied for enlistment in the Australian Army Medical Corps for service abroad, and was accepted. After 15 months' service in the Base Hospital, Melbourne. I was embarked for France. I saw six months of service there. My army service in all was about two and a half years.

After discharge I took six months' training in Dookie Agricultural College (a course for returned men) with a view to the land. My wife's health forbade the step. I then took up my trade for about four years in Lancefield, Vic., assisting Church work there as organist for the Presbyterian Church, and supplying, especially my last year there, for the Methodist Church considerably.

My heart being still in the work of our Lord, and my wife's health being precarious, we decided that she take a trip home to Scotland whilst I again apply for Home Mission work in our Church.

The need in Queensland opened a way for me, and, as stated, I am now in Yangan, in the Toowoomba Presbytery, to whose care I am entrusting my petition.

Your petitioner begs the consideration that he has spent the best part of his years in the service of the Church, and prays your Venerable Assembly to receive him.

And your Petitioner will every pray.

THOMAS BIGGART SMITH.

June 15, Yangan, Queensland.

Addendum.—I regret exceedingly that just prior to my leaving Canada for Australia both diplomas—that of the Bible Training Institute and that of Manitoba College—were destroyed inadvertently, and fear that a certificate from the latter as to my graduation and ordination in the Minister Evangelist course will not reach me in time to present with these before your Venerable Court.

If not, there are fully-accredited Ministers within the Presbyterian Church who can testify to the accuracy of the facts, viz.: Rev. Jas. Smith, at present of North Geelong; Rev. D. W. Smith, St. Andrew's, Geelong; Rev. W. W. Smith, Toowong, Brisbane; my father and brothers respectively.

T. B. SMITH.

Documents accompanying Petition:—

- (a) Certificate from Rev. W. Wilson Smith, Toowong, Queensland.
- (b) I. D. Fleming, Whytevald Beach, Canada.
- (c) Andrew Baird, Acting-Principal, Manitoba College, Winnipeg.

Presbytery of Toowoomba.

[Extract Minute.]

At Warwick, and within the Presbyterian Church, on Friday, July 2, 1925, which day and place the Presbytery met and was duly constituted with prayer, inter alia—

A Petition, with relative documents, was received from Rev. Thomas Biggart Smith, Presbyterian Minister, supplying Yangan, to the General Assembly of Australia, praying to be received as a Minister into the Australian Church from Canada, was read and laid on the table.

It was resolved to transmit the Petition to the General Assembly simpliciter.

Extracted from the Records of the Presbytery of Toowoomba this 3rd day of July by me.

A. McINTYRE MARTIN, Presbytery Clerk.

VIII—REV. A. T. THOMPSON.

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

Venerable Sirs—

I desire to make application to be received as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. I am sending herewith my certificate of ministerial status in the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand, together with other documents from the Clerk of Assembly of the New Zealand Church.

I was ordained in New Zealand in 1904, after a four years' course in Arts, and a three years' course in Divinity. I hold the Master of Arts Degree of the University of New Zealand, with a Second Class Honours pass in Mental and Moral Philosophy, and the B.D. Honours of Yale University, with the B.D. of the Melbourne College of Divinity. I held

scholarships during my Arts and Divinity courses, and am a Downs' Prize-man of Yale.

I served the New Zealand Presbyterian Church from 1904 to 1918, as Minister, respectively of Thames, Masterton, and St. Andrew's, Christchurch, the Mother Church of Presbyterianism in Canterbury, having followed the Rev. John Mackenzie, now Minister of Toorak. As Minister of Masterton, I was responsible for the establishment of Solway (Girls') College, Masterton, and as Minister of St. Andrew's, Christchurch, took the initiative in establishing St. Andrew's Boys' College, Christchurch, to-day one of the leading Boys' Colleges in the Dominion.

In 1918, I resigned St. Andrew's, in order to become General Secretary for New Zealand of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and last year was appointed, by London, General Secretary for the Commonwealth.

It is not likely that I shall seek a parish in Australia, but I would like to be affiliated with my own Church in this land, and placed in some way under its jurisdiction. When called upon, as I frequently am in the ordinary course of my duties, to officiate in other Communions, Church of England, Methodist, etc., I would like to be able to do so as a recognised Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. I do not intend to make application to be received on the funds of the Church in any way, but I hope, nevertheless, to be able to serve my Church in every way possible.

My age is 49, and my place of birth Invercargill, New Zealand. I am a member of the Deepdene congregation, Melbourne.

Trusting my application may be received with favour,

I have the honour to be,

Yours obediently,

A. T. THOMPSON.

Extract Minute.

The Presbytery of Melbourne North having met and been duly constituted. Sederunt—Rev. F. H. Paton (Acting Moderator), etc.

Inter Alia.—"The Rev. A. T. Thompson wrote applying to be received as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, enclosing documents certifying to his status as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand." "The letters and documents were received, and the Rev. J. McMaster moved that on Mr. Thompson putting his letter in the form of a petition, his application and relative documents be forwarded to the Reception of Ministers' Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, with the Presbytery's recommendation."

Extracted from the Presbytery records by

G. M. CONNOR, Clerk.

Documents Accompanying Petition.

Certificates from Moderator and Clerk of New Zealand Assembly.

IX—REV. H. W. WHITTLE.

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

The Petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth:—

1. That your Petitioner was born at Paddington, Sydney, in the State of New South Wales on September 13, 1895, and is therefore now thirty-one years of age, is married, and has no children.
2. That your Petitioner was associated with St. John's Presbyterian Church, Paddington, until 1916, as a scholar in the Sunday School, and being ministered unto as an adherent by the Revs. J. Fulton, G. Chalmers and J. K. Miller.
3. That your Petitioner received his education at the Superior Public School, Albion Street, Paddington, and reached the highest grade. Leaving school at the age of fourteen years, your Petitioner prepared himself for a clerical position, attending the Metropolitan Business College and

Stott & Hoare's Business College for the purpose of studying phonography and bookkeeping, respectively. At the age of sixteen, your Petitioner made a confession of faith in Christ at the Sydney City Mission service, Paddington, and identified himself with that body as a voluntary worker, having charge of the open-air work for about three years.

Almost synonymous with this act came the call of the Ministry. Your Petitioner studied privately with the Rev. J. J. Mountain, now of Redfern Congregational Church, but at that time the Missioner at Paddington, a graduate of the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. The subjects studied were Homiletics and Theology. At the age of twenty years, your Petitioner was accepted for the Baptist Ministry, and served that Denomination for two and a half years as a Home Missionary at Walla Walla, Milthorpe and Black Mountain.

During his college course, covering a period of three years, he had charge of the Baptist Church at Sans Souci. A new Church was built there during his ministry. At the conclusion of his college course he was called to Lambton, in New South Wales, and in the year 1924 he was appointed Federal Home Missionary to Townsville, Queensland. He returned to New South Wales, and was called to the Tamworth Charge in 1925.

4. During his pre-college course, your Petitioner studied as follows:—

(a) Entrance Examination—Intermediate Standard.
English Grammar (Arnold & Scott's "Talisman," with notes).
Jose's Australian History.
Mathematics—First Four Rules.
Greek Grammar—Burnet's Greek Rudiments.

(b) Pre-college year:—
English Grammar (Nesfield).
English Literature—"Sesame and Lilies" (Ruskin), "Enoch Arden" (Tennyson), "Julius Caesar" (Shakespeare).
Baptist Polity—General Directory for Baptist Churches (Hiscox).

(c) College Course.

First Year (1919):—

Biblical Theology; Homiletics and Pastoral Theology; Greek Grammar—Burnet's Greek Grammar to the Verb; O.T. Exegesis, English; Genesis (Ryle); Psalms (Kirkpatrick), Books II and III; Church History—The Reformation Period (Lindsay); University—English I.

Second Year (1920):—

Biblical Theology; Homiletics, etc.; Greek, N.T.; Exegesis—Philippians; O.T. Exegesis (English); Prophets, O.T.; Church History—The Middle Ages (Sohm); Outlines of Church History (Robinson), Western Europe; Christian Psychology—"The Spiritual Ascent of Man" (Judd Jones); Bible Introduction, Epistles of N.T.; University—Philosophy I.

Third Year (1921):—

Systematic Theology—God, Man and Sin; Homiletics, etc. (Dr. Shedd's Book); Greek N.T. Exegesis—"John" (Reith); "Critical Introduction to N.T." (Peake); Church History—"The Renaissance and the Reformation"; Bible Introduction—Analysis of O.T. Books.

(d) Your Petitioner, being desirous of increasing his efficiency in the Christian Ministry, applied to the University of Queensland for permit to enrol as an external student under adult matriculation. The correspondence relative to this is attached. Petitioner's project was not carried through, owing to his return to New South Wales, but the books set were studied, and the work required was carried through by your Petitioner.

5. The reasons why your Petitioner severed his connection with the Baptist Church are as follows:—

(a) The influence of his early home training and association with the Presbyterian Church have coloured his concepts of worship, polity and doctrine. Failure to understand the position of the Presbyterian Church on the Sacrament of Baptism was the

cause of his seeking admission to the Baptist Denomination. Since then, through reading, discussion and wider intellectual outlook, he is able to see nothing in the Presbyterian doctrine at variance with the spirit of the New Testament, and your Petitioner's views on this question are attached.

- (b) The absence of prospect of the exercise of a ministry in keeping with your petitioner's outlook, viz., one wherein the fundamental doctrine of the Priesthood of all believers is recognised, and due recognition taken of and proper provision made for the exercise of the ministry.

6. The following are your Petitioner's reasons for seeking admission into the Presbyterian Church:—

- (i) An increasing conviction, born of experience, that the congregational form of government is ineffective in carrying through the ministry for which the Church stands, inasmuch as it prevents the development of a denominational consciousness and all that that makes possible.
- (ii) I have considered the definition of the Sacrament of Baptism taught and practised by the Presbyterian Church, viz., Presbyterian Standards regards the children of professing Christian parents as born into the membership of the Christian Church, and so possessing thereby the right to all the covenant blessings and privileges pertaining thereto, baptism being merely the sign, seal, confirmation and ratification of the fact. The reason for your Petitioner's acceptance of this position are:—
- (a) The sufficiency of the atoning work of Christ on the child's behalf until it arrives at the age of understanding in moral matters.
- (b) The vows taken by the parents at the baptism of the child. These are akin to those impressed by your Petitioner when parents have presented their children for dedication to God.
- (iii) The provision made for confession of faith in Christ by the one baptised prior to identification with the Church of Jesus Christ.
- (iv) The provision made for the baptism of adults upon confession of faith when they have not been baptised in infancy. Your Petitioner's position on this point has been to stress the spiritual significance of this Sacrament, rather than the form in which it was administered. In dedicating a child, cognisance was taken of the child's relationship to the Christian Church; the only difference being the absence of the confirming seal. In accepting the above position, your Petitioner conceives that, if the vows of the parents are kept, the child should naturally identify itself with the visible Church.

Your Petitioner submits the following documentary evidence in favour of his Petition:—

- (1) Diploma of the Baptist College of New South Wales.
- (2) Certificates of studies pursued from the Principal of the Baptist College of New South Wales, and the Registrar of the University of Sydney.
- (3) The statement of the requirements of Queensland for your Petitioner to fulfil when seeking adult matriculation as an external student.
- (4) Letters of recommendation from Rev. J. Faulkner, Presbyterian Minister of Tamworth; General Secretary of Baptist Union of New South Wales.; Congregational Minister of Redfern, and from the Secretary of the N. & N.D. Association.

And your Petitioner further respectfully requests that, in the event of his prayer being granted, permission be given to him to attend the Theological Hall in the State of New South Wales, and there work through a full divinity course as taught by the same Hall. And your Petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

HARRY W. WHITTLE.

Baptist Manse,
Tamworth,
May 7, 1926.

The Convener,
The Ministers' Reception Committee.

Dear Sir—I am enclosing herewith my Petition for admission into the Presbyterian Church as a Minister, together with the documentary evidence in support of the same. My reason for doing this is my recognition of the conflict between my outlook and that which is characteristic of the average congregation of the Baptist Church. This is the result of a Presbyterian Home training and association for twenty years with St. John's Presbyterian Church, Paddington. The ideals of worship, the concept of the ministry, and the higher standard of qualification required by the Presbyterian Church appeal to me, and indicate a sphere of service wherein I could serve.

It is only the consciousness of the call to the ministry, and the imperative necessity of obeying that impulse, that causes me to seek for service in another sphere, where expression can be given to these ideals. I have no desire to leave the ministry, but I cannot labour in one in which my services are indeed ineffective, because of the conflict already referred to.

I am, yours faithfully,

HARRY W. WHITTLE.

Minute extracted from New England Presbytery Records, under date May 27, 1926:—

"On the motion of the Rev. A. J. Carter, seconded by the Rev. A. M. Stevenson, M.A., it was resolved to forward the Petition of the Rev. H. W. Whittle, who is seeking admission to the Church as a Minister, to the Reception of Ministers' Committee, and the General Assembly of Australia, with the recommendation that the Prayer thereof be granted."

JOS. FAULKNER, Presbytery Clerk.

June 1, 1926.

Petitions for Ordination, etc., from Home Missionaries

I—MR. ALBERT E. JONES.

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

The Petition of the undersigned, being a Home Missionary of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, respectfully showeth:—

That he was born in the year 1881 at Coatbridge, Scotland, and that he was educated at the High School, Coatbridge. When in the Sixth Standard he left to take up a position.

That he was trained in Church work from infancy, and was ordained to the Eldership in Scotland at the age of 22 years. He was Superintendent of the Sabbath School for five years, and resigned these offices when leaving for Australia in 1909.

That he was Inducted as an Elder of St. Andrew's, Box Hill, Victoria, in 1915, and was recommended as a lay-preacher by the late Rev. J. C. Coutie, B.A. This work he was engaged in for eight years.

That, having removed from Box Hill, he resided in Kew, Victoria, and, while connected with that Church, was recommended by Rev. J. R. Anderson, M.A., as a suitable Assistant to the Rev. Alex. Stewart, M.A., of Essendon, under whom he laboured in that capacity for two and a half years.

That, during that period, he underwent a special course of training in History, Logic, Ethics, and especially in English and Greek, and also attended the June Home Mission Classes at Ormond College, and did the First and Second Years Course under Rev. J. Barnaby, M.A., B.D., who was in charge of Home Mission studies.

That, on the retirement of the Rev. Alex. Stewart he was appointed Home Missionary at Stanley, Tasmania, by the Home Mission Committee of Victoria.

That during the five years that he has been at Stanley the Congregation has increased to double its original number, and that there has been a steady growth of Church activities within the Parish.

That, it being the desire of the Congregation at Stanley that he should become their Minister, he wishes to be able to accede to the request, his sole object in seeking Ordination being that he may more efficiently carry on the work of the Church in this needy district to the glory of God.

The following testimonials are forwarded herewith in support of this Petition.

Your Petitioner therefore prays your Venerable Assembly to take these matters into consideration, and to ordain him to the Ministry of the Church.

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

ALBERT E. JONES.

Summary of Documents Attached.

- (1) Certificate from Rev. D. A. Cameron (H.M.).
- (2) Letter from Rev. K. Forster (Sec. Coll. Com.).
- (3) Letter from Rev. H. M. Burns (Ex-Mod.).
- (4) Letter from Rev. A. W. Ivory (Int. Mod. of Mr. Jones' Station).
- (5) Letter from Rev. A. E. Albury (Baptist Minister).
- (6) Letter from Rev. J. Barnaby (showing that Mr. Jones tried to join H.M. Staff in 1918. His family is now grown up.).
- (7) Letter from Session Clerk, when he left Box Hill.
- (8) Proof of Membership of Elders' Association.
- (9) Letter from late Rev. J. C. Coutie.
- (10) Letter from Mrs. Stewart (wife of Rev. Alex. Stewart, to whom Mr. Jones was Assistant).
- (11) Letter from Mr. W. H. Thompson (re Lay Preaching).
- (12) Letter from Rev. R. M. Fergus (re Mr. Jones' acceptance as H.M. in 1921, three years after first try).
- (13) Copy of letter from Mr. C. C. Smith, a very influential member of Stanley Board, showing the feeling regarding Mr. Jones. This is unanimous.
- (14) Letter from Rev. A. W. Ivory, at request of Dr. McCausland.
- (15) Petition from Members and Adherents of St. James' Presbyterian Church, Stanley, Tasmania. Signed by 208 Members and Adherents.

The Petition is forwarded simpliciter by the Presbytery of Tasmania.

II—MR. GEORGE MCGREGOR.

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

The Petitioner as undersigned is renewing his application, because he is convinced that the visible mark of Ordination as one set apart by the Church for a special branch of work would be helpful to his influence.

That, after twenty years' experience as a preacher to fallen and degraded men and women, and as the Church's representative in Christian philanthropy to the poorest of the poor, he feels that the declaration of the importance of his work and the appreciation that here is a sphere requiring special qualifications in the Church's representative, would give him both a quicker access and surer permanent standing with those long away from Church connection, and as a rule prejudiced as to the Church's interest in them.

Close connection with those down and out, and poor and miserable, always makes one aware that they think the Church not only ignores, but despises, them. The Ordination of special workers amongst them helps to remove this feeling, and makes them feel that the Church is as careful about whom it sends to them as to ordinary Congregations and Parishes.

Your petitioner repeats:—

That he was born in Scotland in 1875, and is married.

That he was educated at High School, Academy and a Business College at Glasgow, Scotland, receiving the Certificate of the London Society of Arts for business course.

That he was a Communicant of the Established Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

That he received two years' training in Bible Training Institute, Glasgow, and in 1905 joined the Staff of the Glasgow City Mission, where he received practical experience in slum and social institutional work.

That in 1906 he was accepted by the Established Presbyterian Church of Scotland as a Home Missionary, and appointed to the Mission of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, John Street, Glasgow.

That in 1910 he came to New South Wales, Australia, as an accredited Home Missionary to the Presbyterian Church of that State, and was appointed to the Kurri-Kurri, Weston Charge, in the Maitland Coalfields.

That in 1912 the Church of New South Wales appointed him as Immigration Agent, with the additional duty of assistant to Rev. J. Dill-Macky, D.D., Scots Church, Sydney.

That in 1914 he came to Melbourne, Victoria, and took charge of Collingwood and Fitzroy Branches of Melbourne City Mission.

That in 1918 he was appointed by the Home Mission Committee of the Victorian Presbyterian Church as Special Missioner to the congested city area around Young Street, Fitzroy, where he laboured for seven years. The work of this Mission is of the inner-suburban type, and is the Church's effort to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Ordinances of His Church to the lapsed masses of people where poverty and crime abound. The work has so grown that it became necessary to enlarge the buildings twice.

That, under your Petitioner's direction, the Helpers and Supporters almost entirely cleared off the debt incurred.

That in 1924 he was appointed Missioner to the Presbyterian and Scots Church Joint Mission, 99 Russell Street, Melbourne, which is the Central Social Agency of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, ministering to the large number of poor and needy in the centre of the city.

That to develop the Mission and social work of the Church further Ordination is a pressing necessity.

That your Petitioner prays your Venerable Court to consider his case sympathetically, and raise him to the status of a Minister of full standing.

Enclosed is a recommendation from the Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria; also letters of commendation from—

The Established Presbyterian Church of Scotland;
 Rev. J. Dykes Lang, City Mission, Glasgow;
 Rev. J. Paton, D.D., St. Paul's Church, Glasgow;
 Mrs. Paton, St. Paul's Church, Glasgow;
 Presbyterian Church of New South Wales;
 Scots Church, Sydney, New South Wales;
 Wm. Howat, Esq., Melbourne City Mission;
 Cr. A. Miller, J.P., Ex-Mayor, Fitzroy;
 Cr. A. Boell, J.P., Mayor of Fitzroy.
 A. Wheeler, M.B., C.M., Fitzroy;
 John Livingston, Esq., House of Representatives, Melbourne.
 And your Petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

GEORGE MCGREGOR.

Presbyterian & Scots Church Joint Mission,
 99 Russell Street, Melbourne, Victoria.
 May 26, 1926.

Presbytery of Melbourne East,
 "The Manse," Oakleigh, Victoria,
 14th June, 1926.

The Presbytery of Melbourne East, having met on June 14, and been duly constituted.
 Sederunt, etc.

Inter Alia.—Re Mr. George McGregor's Petition for Ordination.—It was moved, "That the Presbytery strongly recommend Mr. George McGregor for Ordination for Special Work, conditionally on his continu-

ing to work under the Home Mission Committee of Victoria, and agrees to forward his Petition to the General Assembly of Australia." The motion was duly seconded, and adopted unanimously.

Extracted from the Records of the Presbytery by—

E. H. CHAPPLE, Presbytery Clerk.

III—MR. J. E. MOFFATT.

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

The Petition of the undersigned John Elphinstone Moffatt respectfully showeth:—

That your Petitioner was born in Bombay, India, on November 20, 1872, is married, and has two daughters, one a fully qualified nurse. That he received his primary education in the Public School of Parramatta, New South Wales. That he was articled to the profession of an architect, serving his full term, and then practising in Sydney.

The call of the Ministry was ever paramount, and, giving up his profession, he entered upon a course of study to prepare for matriculation. He studied privately under the tutorship of Mr. (now Rev.) J. T. Dudley, B.A., of New South Wales, for two years to qualify for matriculation at the Sydney University, taking Latin, Greek and Mathematics.

The Petitioner, applying to the Home Mission Committee of New South Wales for Pastoral work, received an appointment at Botany, and, owing to the constant changes to various charges, where every effort was needed to organise and resuscitate depleted Congregations, the course of study was interfered with.

The College Committee granted the Petitioner a concession, and allowed the Petitioner to study for the third year of the Home Mission Course, taking such subjects as prescribed.

The Petitioner served under the Home Mission Committee of New South Wales, in the Charges of Botany, Queanbeyan, Hillston, Belmont and Dudley, building up each Charge to a position financially whereby an Ordained Minister could be called, also building a Church at Boolaroo and a Manse and Church at Dudley. The Petitioner can vouch for the statements made by the letters of commendation of the faithful and effective work done in the various Charges by the Interim Moderators and Presbyteries where the Petitioner laboured, and by the Conveners and the Financial Secretary of the Home Mission Committee of New South Wales.

In Queensland your Petitioner worked under the Toowoomba Presbytery with success and acceptance in the Charges of Warwick, Roma, Killarney, Dalby, Crow's Nest, Greenmount, Clifton, as Supply during vacancies, extending from months to three years. This can be certified by the written authority from the Interim Moderators and Session Clerks of the Charges.

Applying to be received as a Home Mission Agent by the Church of Queensland, your Petitioner was accepted, and successfully built up the Charges of the Pioneer and North Rockhampton and Yeppoon Home Mission. Both these Charges have been resuscitated, though when appointed were in a very low state.

During the whole period under which the Petitioner has laboured, the Petitioner has not neglected to become proficient in every department of the Church's organisation, nor failed to master the intricate problems confronting the age, relative to the Church's work.

The Petitioner is known to be an effective expounder of the Word, a good organiser, and a powerful influence with the younger generation.

Each Interim Moderator, Convener of Home Mission Committees, Session Clerk and Congregation bear testimony of the work done.

The Petitioner has faithfully, strenuously and efficiently served the Presbyterian Church of Australia for the term of over twenty-four years, giving the best of his early manhood for the upbuilding of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, through the channel of resuscitating the spiritual life of Congregations, building and renovating Churches and building a Manse, and now, ripe in and through the long experience of service,

seeks admission to be ordained a Minister in full standing of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Petitioner, during the war, served as a Y.M.C.A. Secretary in one of the Military Camps, and finally enlisted as a private, entering the Non-Commissioned Officers' School, passing for the rank of Sergeant, and was demobilised owing to the cessation of hostilities.

The Petitioner is in perfect health, and has years of faithful service yet to be accomplished.

Your Petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

J. ELPHINSTONE MOFFATT.

Letters of Commendation and Certificates.

Rev. J. E. Clouston, B.A., Convener, Home Mission Committee, N.S.W.

Rev. A. Thain Anderson, M.A., Clerk of the Hunter Presbytery.

Rev. S. Brown, Interim Moderator, Belmont-Dudley Charge of Minmi.

Rev. Richard Jennings, Interim Moderator, Hillston, Riverene Presbytery.

Rev. David Bruce, D.D., Convener, Home Mission Committee.

Rev. J. T. Dudley, B.A.

Mr. Jas. T. Provan, Session Clerk, St. Andrew's, Clifton, Queensland.

Mr. J. D. Henderson, Session Clerk, Roma, Maranoa, Queensland.

Rev. Richard Bardon, B.A., Interim Moderator, Pioneer Charge, Q.

Rev. Richard Bardon, B.A., Moderator, Kirk Session, St. Paul's, Mackay, Queensland.

Captain J. P. Ramkema, M.C.

A. C. Elphinstone, Esq., M.L.A.

Rev. J. A. Hunter, M.A., B.D., Minister of St. Andrew's, Rockhampton, Interim Moderator of North Rockhampton.

Mr. T. Woods, Session Clerk of North Rockhampton Charge.

Dr. Talbot, Medical Certificate, and others.

"The Manse," Mount Morgan,

June 4, 1924.

Rev. A. S. McCook, B.A.

To the Convener of General Assembly of Australia,

Reception of Ministers' Committee.

Dear Mr. McCook—At a meeting of Rockhampton Presbytery, held this day at 11 o'clock, which meeting of Presbytery was constituted with prayer—

Inter Alia: It was resolved that the Clerk of Presbytery send forward the Petition of John Elphinstone Moffatt, Home Missionary at North Rockhampton, to the Convener of Reception of Ministers' Committee.

Meeting closed with prayer.

Extracted from Minutes of Presbytery June 4, 1926, by my hand this 4th day of June, 1926.

Yours sincerely,

JAMES BLAKE, Clerk.

IV—O'BRIEN REYNOLDS ST. JOHN PALMER.

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

The Petition of the undersigned respectfully showeth:—

That your Petitioner has passed his 47th birthday, being born December 27, 1878, at Putney, near London, England. He was educated at the Royal High School, Edinburgh, and attended classes at Heriot Watt College, Edinburgh, and also at Durham College of Science, Newcastle-on-Tyne. He has served in the Home Mission Field for nine years, during which time he has passed all the prescribed examinations set by the College Committee for Home Missionaries.

After passing the entrance examination to the Theological Hall, he attended the lectures there for two years, but not being able to pass the sessional examinations, he feels that he will not be able to pass the exit examinations set by the College Committee.

In consideration of examinations passed and work done in the service of the Church, and having reached the age of 48, he now prays your Venerable Assembly to receive him as eligible to be licensed as a preacher of the Gospel, with a view to the Office of the Holy Ministry in the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

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

14/7/26.

B. R. PALMER.

PRESBYTERY OF SYDNEY.

At Sydney and within St. Stephen's Church, Phillip Street, on Tuesday, August 10, 1926, at 6.30 p.m., the Presbytery of Sydney met and was duly constituted.

Inter alia:

A petition for transmission to the General Assembly of Australia from Mr. O'Brien Reynolds St. John Palmer, Theological Student, praying to be received as eligible for Licence, was read and received.

On the motion of Dr. Macintyre, seconded by Rev. H. E. Thomas, it was resolved—"That the petition be forwarded to the General Assembly of Australia, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted."

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Extracted from the records of the Presbytery of Sydney this 11th day of August, 1926, by me,

JOHN EDWARDS, Presbytery Clerk.

Documents Accompanying Petition.

- (1) Letter from Superintendent of Home Missions, N.S.W.
- (2) Letter from Rev. Hilton E. Thomas.

V—MR. A. J. C. TEBBITT.

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 in 1873; that he came to Queensland sixteen years ago, and took up work for the Presbyterian Church.

Your Petitioner attended the National School in England, and received a good education up to Junior Standard.

Your Petitioner also took private tuition with a view of entering the Mission field.

Your Petitioner was a preacher for fifteen years in England, and had charge of a Church there for six years.

Your Petitioner has laboured with splendid success at the following places in Queensland:—Longreach, Rockhampton, Hamilton, Sandgate, Westbrook, Stanthorpe and Goondiwindi.

Your Petitioner is a married man with a family, and, owing to age and length of service to the Church, he humbly petitions the General Assembly to grant him Ordination, or, failing Ordination, grant him admission to the Theological Hall in Brisbane, and allow him to take a course of study prescribed by the College Committee of Australia.

Your Petitioner attaches letters bearing on his work and character, and your Petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

June 30, 1926.

A. J. C. TEBBITT.

PRESBYTERY OF TOOWOOMBA.

[Extract Minute.]

At Warwick, and within the Presbyterian Church, on the 2nd day of June, 1926, which day and place the Presbytery met and was constituted with prayer.

Inter Alia: A Petition, with relative Documents, was received from Mr. A. J. C. Tebbitt, Home Missionary at Goondiwindi, to the General Assembly of Australia, praying to be granted Ordination, and, failing Ordination, to be allowed to enter the Theological Hall, Brisbane.

It was resolved to transmit the Petition to the General Assembly, with the recommendation that the prayer thereof be granted.

Extracted from the Records of the Presbytery of Toowoomba, this 30th day of June, 1926, by me.

A. McINTYRE MARTIN, Presbytery Clerk.

Documents Accompanying Petition.

Certificates from:—

- (a) Rev. James Gibson, Brisbane.
- (b) Rev. William Johnston, East Malvern.
- (c) Mr. Wm. P. Adam, late Session Clerk, Pittsworth, Queensland.
- (d) Rev. Thomas Harvey, Organising Secretary, Presbyterian Soldiers' Memorial Fund, Queensland.
- (e) Rev. James Walker, Convener, H.M. Committee, Queensland.

VI—MR. A. G. WILSON.

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

The Petition of the undersigned respectfully showeth:—

1. That your Petitioner was born at Bendigo on February 20, 1885, and that he was baptised into the Presbyterian Church, of which his father has been an Elder for now over twenty years.
2. That he was educated at the Victorian State Schools, the Castlemaine Grammar School and the Castlemaine Technical School.
3. That for two years, 1905 and 1906, he was Assistant Art Master at the Castlemaine Technical School.
4. That at this time, being a member in full communion of the Church, he was also a teacher in the Presbyterian Sunday School at Castlemaine. Towards the end of 1905, he felt called to prepare himself for the Christian Ministry, and, to this end, began a course of study in his spare time, and engaged in local preaching under the direction of his Pastor, the late Rev. Hume Robertson, B.A.
5. That, early in 1907, he accepted a more remunerative appointment as an architectural draftsman under a two years' contract in Canton, China, his intention being to return to Australia at the completion of his contract, and to go on then with his plans for theological training.
6. That soon after reaching Canton he joined the Second Presbyterian Church (Chinese) in that city, and, ere long, was drawn into very close fellowship with the Missionary community and the Native Church, and came to realise, as never before, the supreme importance of Foreign Missionary work, and the pressing call for labourers in the foreign fields.
7. That this caused a change in his plans for a life-work, and, in 1909, at the close of his term of contract, he accepted the position of business manager of the Canton Medical Missionary Society's Hospital, the earliest established, and one of the largest Missionary Hospitals in the world, and this position he held for over four years.
8. That during these six early years in Canton he was the leader of a Bible Class, whose members were young men of the European business community, soldiers and naval men and members of the Maritime Customs Service.
9. That, upon his appointment to the Hospital, he took up the study of the Chinese language and the Cantonese colloquial, and thereupon took an active part in Christian work among the patients. A little later he became also Treasurer of the South China Medical College, and was appointed to supervise the religious work among the (Chinese) students. He has continued the study of Chinese language and literature to the present time.
10. That, in 1913, a movement being in progress for closer co-operation among the various Mission Hospitals and for the establishment of a

Union Medical College in Canton, your Petitioner saw that the appointment in his stead of a qualified medical man would strengthen the movement, and he voluntarily resigned his positions on the staffs of the Hospital and the Medical College to allow of such action being taken. He had been married in 1910, and now returned to Melbourne with his wife and child.

11. That, early in 1914, while in Australia, the Petitioner and his wife were appointed by the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America as Missionaries in full standing to their South China Mission, and the Petitioner was to be the Treasurer of that Mission. Owing to the misdirection of a cablegram from the Board of Foreign Missions' office in New York, news of that appointment did not reach them till several months later, when they had already accepted another position under the New Zealand Presbyterian Church.

12. That, in 1914, just before the outbreak of the world war, the Petitioner returned to Canton with Mrs. Wilson and family, having been appointed Building Supervisor to the Canton Villages Mission of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand, his duty being mainly to carry out an important programme of construction, including dwellings, schools and a hospital of 100 beds. The circumstances of the war seriously interrupted the plans of the Mission, but practically the whole programme was ultimately completed. Meanwhile, in 1916, the Petitioner and his wife were given full status as permanent members of the Mission. During the difficult years of the war, the Petitioner was compelled by circumstances within the Mission, to take a share in almost all branches of its work, including teaching in a boys' school, assistance in the hospital, and direct evangelistic work in Church and Sunday School. For six years he was Mission Treasurer, and for the year 1918-1919 he was Chairman of the Mission Council, and prepared the annual report covering all branches of the Mission's work for presentation to the General Assembly. This was published in full in the Assembly's Blue Book, and also in a Jubilee Issue that year of the Foreign Missions Committee's Report.

13. That, in 1920, while on furlough, he visited New Zealand, at which time Dr. John Kirk, M.B., F.R.C.S., a fellow-Missionary, and your Petitioner were appointed a special deputation to the Churches of the Dominion to give information regarding their Foreign Missionary enterprise. This involved visiting most of the cities and towns of New Zealand and speaking before numerous Presbyteries, Congregations and Societies of the Church. At a result, interest was quickened, and a substantial addition to the Foreign Mission funds obtained. During a period of three months, your Petitioner contributed a column of notes each week to the Church paper, "The Outlook," on the progress and experiences of the deputation.

14. That on other occasions during furlough he has conducted services and delivered lectures in a number of Presbyterian Churches in Victoria, and that he is now Superintendent of the Coburg Presbyterian Sunday School.

15. That the Petitioner and his wife have at all times enjoyed the confidence and esteem of their fellow-Missionaries, and have been enabled to carry out their work faithfully and to co-operate harmoniously with others.

16. That the Petitioner, his wife and family of seven children, have all enjoyed excellent health, and that the Petitioner has rarely in his life missed a day's work through sickness.

17. That, to enable the children to begin their education, Mrs. Wilson, during the past five years, has made a home for them in Melbourne, while the Petitioner has continued to carry on his work abroad. That he has now felt it necessary for the sake of the children to retire from the work in South China, and to remain with them in Australia.

18. That, continuing to have a zeal for our Lord's work, and an earnest desire to serve God and his fellow-men, your Petitioner feels that he can best do so, if the way be open, by fulfilling the purpose of his earlier years, and seeking entrance to the Ministry of his own Church.

19. That the necessity of supporting his large family raises serious difficulties, however, which seem to preclude his taking up a long course of study and training.

Your Petitioner therefore prays your Venerable Court to consider favourably the wide experience he has gained on the foreign field, and the long and faithful service he has rendered the Church there and, in view of his peculiar circumstances, to advise him whether a way is open, without imposing undue hardship on his family, for his entry into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Your Petitioner attaches copies of letters, etc., as noted hereunder, relative to his work and character.

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

ANDREW GORDON WILSON.

2nd July, 1926.

Documents Attached.

1. Letter of introduction, dated 1907, from the late Rev. Hume Robertson, B.A.
2. Letter of Dr. Andrew H. Woods, Chairman, Managing Committee, Canton Hospital, dated June 9, 1913.
3. Minute of the Mission Council of the Canton Villages Mission of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand, 1925.
4. Extract from the Records of the Foreign Missions Committee of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand, forwarded by Rev. Henry H. Barton, M.A., Foreign Missions Secretary, dated June 7, 1926.
5. Letter from Rev. Dr. Mathew, M.A., B.D., ex-Moderator-General, Presbyterian Church of Australia, dated July 1, 1926.
6. Letter from Rev. Graham H. Balfour, M.A., B.D., dated June 30, 1926.
7. Letter from Rev. F. A. Hagenauer, M.A.

PRESBYTERY OF MELBOURNE SOUTH.

"The Manse," Sandringham,

July 13, 1926.

Rev. A. S. McCook,

Convener, Receptions of Ministers' Committee.

Dear Mr. McCook—The Presbytery, at its meeting last night, considered the Petition of Mr. A. G. Wilson, of Coburg, and it was unanimously resolved "to transmit the Petition to the General Assembly of Australia, and cordially recommend it, from the point of view of the character, personality and great experience in Christian work of the Petitioner."

Yours sincerely,

J. SMILEY, Clerk.

Reports

REPORT ON THE ATTITUDE OF THE CHURCH TO HER CREED.

Your Committee, in accordance with the instructions of the General Assembly, have endeavoured to get into touch with the other Presbyterian Churches of the world, and ascertain the development of opinion in them. They have met with difficulty in obtaining full and accurate information in sufficient time to report. Such information is, however, practically complete in the case of the United Free Church of Scotland, though it has not arrived in time for your Committee to do more than present a summary of its procedure.

In 1920 a Committee on the Testimony of the Church was appointed. They drew up a Brief Statement of the Church's Faith, which was submitted to the Assembly of 1921, and commended to the interest and study of the members of the Church. They also reconsidered the whole matter of the Preamble, Questions and Formula for all officers, and the new forms proposed, after being transmitted to Presbyteries, were adopted by the Assembly of 1924, and became part of the law of the Church.

In 1923 a Committee was appointed to consider the question of framing a new Confession, and was instructed "to have especially in view

the relation of this Church to other Churches holding the Westminster Confession of Faith." They submitted to the Assembly of 1924 a memorandum giving an historical review of the facts and embodying an account of the methods of adjustment adopted up to date by the other Presbyterian Churches of the world. This is a very useful document, and largely summarises the information which your Committee was appointed to collate.

The Committee was continued with instructions "to consider the possibility of drawing up a doctrinal statement which would set forth with religious adequacy 'the sum and substance of the Christian Faith' in the language of our own time, and the lines on which such a statement might wisely be constructed."

In May of the current year, their report was presented. It recommended that any revision of the Confession should contemplate not one, but two, statements of doctrine. The first should be very brief, and have a credal character. A tentative form of such a credal statement was drafted. It is about the length of the Apostles' Creed, and is evidently modelled on it. The second consists of 16 Articles, and sets forth more fully the teaching of the Church on those primary religious issues on which the Christian Faith has a message for mankind.

In view of the fact, however, that the mind of their Church is pre-occupied with the question of Union with the Church of Scotland, the Committee did not feel that any good purpose would be served by their proceeding further with this revisory work, and merely printed their statement as a preliminary draft, and asked the Assembly to discharge them. The feeling appears to be that any further steps should be taken by the United Church, and, consequently, we need not expect any development of their position in the immediate future.

EDWARD E. ANDERSON, Convener

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON AUSTRALIAN BENEFICIARY FUND.

This committee, through the agency of the convener, is now strengthened by actuarial advice regarding the proper course for adoption to bring this intensely difficult problem to a head. In 1920, we included in our report certain principles derived from a study of other schemes and from personal inquiries, which, when submitted to the Assembly, met with general approval. They were in advance of any of the Presbyterian Provident Funds then in operation in Australia. But the committee has never actually submitted a scale of benefits for adoption with the amount of each benefit actually specified. We are advised that no solution can be attained until this is done. Since 1920 the Victorian Church, under the guidance of its actuary, Mr. Norris, F.I.A., has reconstituted and united its funds, and in a general sense it is correct to say that the Victorian Fund is now based on principles closely resembling, though not wholly identical with, those recommended in our 1920 report. For facility of reference, we include in Appendix A a reprint of our statement of those principles.

The Victorian Fund provides for benefits on the following scale:—

- (a) Ministers: Pension of £150 per annum upon retirement at age 65.
- (b) Widow: Pension of £78 per annum.
- (c) Orphans: Allowance at £26 per annum for each, until age 18.

As regards amount, these benefits are considered suitable for the Australian Fund, and are recommended for adoption, with the addition of such provision for infirmity of a Minister before attaining the age of 65, as may be actuarially advised. Our scheme of 1920 contemplated a benefit of this type in conjunction with the old age benefits. The Victorian scheme differs, in that it does not provide for infirmity before the retiring age as part of the direct insurance contract to the fund. We reported that "the acquisition of pension for a contributor who becomes permanently incapacitated before the annuity age is not easy to provide for in an annuity contract" (see 1920 report, page 87), and that was one reason why we discarded a proposal of providing for annuities through an assurance company, as it was thought that the benefit referred to could

be efficiently arranged through a Church scheme. In Victoria the rules provide that "If any member shall, before he attains the age of 65 years, satisfy the committee that he has become infirm and unable for active service in the Church, he shall be entitled to such annuity as shall be determined by the actuary to be equal to the value of his interest in the fund." In addition, there is a "Casualty Fund" established as an adjunct to the principal fund, the purpose of which is to provide additional annuities for such of the members as become annuitants under the rule just quoted. Mr. Norris, the actuary of the Victorian Fund, informs the convener that, as the result of an investigation of the experience of a large denominational superannuation fund in which he is now engaged, if he were again advising on the formation of a new fund, he would probably be able to provide for infirmity before the retiring age as part of the regular provident benefit. The scheme of contributions under the Victorian Fund is summarised in Appendix B hereto. Substantially, it appears to give effect to our recommendation that "the Minister, his widow and orphans, should be entitled to benefits at least double what his personal contribution covers." In Victoria it will be noticed the Minister provides a portion of the total cost per year of the combined benefits—viz., 5 per cent. of his stipend if his age at joining the fund does not exceed 30, and a higher percentage, leading to a maximum of 10 per cent., in the event of his joining at a later age. The congregation pays a yearly assessment of at least 2½ per cent. of its ordinary revenue, including sustentation and Church extension fund grants, towards the cost of the combined benefits. This principle is recommended, but these percentages and the particulars of the Victorian scale mentioned in Appendix B are only included for purposes of reference and general information, as the actual contribution can only be arrived at satisfactorily by an actuary after thorough investigation.

The critical point now appears again: What is going to be done as regards existing funds? Answers were obtained in the past from most of these funds, but these answers are now somewhat out of date, and, moreover, at the time information was sought, there was not a positive scheme of benefits placed before the controlling authorities. We are advised that the General Assembly should be asked whether it is prepared to accept the Victorian scheme as a tentative basis for an Australian beneficiary fund, and if it is prepared to do so, the deliverance containing its determination should be forwarded to each of the controlling funds, accompanied by questions to the following effect:—

- (1) Will your Assembly close its present fund as regards new entrants, and as an Assembly legislate that its new entrants to the Ministry must become entrants to the new fund, and will they make the necessary subsidising payments to the new fund?
- (2) Will your Assembly consider the question of ascertaining the cost of providing for the benefits of the new fund for present members of your fund, with the intention of providing those benefits as far as possible by the use of the capital of the present fund, together with annual contributions by Ministers and your Assembly or its congregations.

These are the ruling issues. Is the new fund to make a fresh start? And are the existing funds to cease operations as regards new entrants or not? Incidentally, there arises here the matter of expense. Even the preliminary inquiries involve some expense. The settlement of the scale of contributions and benefits for a new fund would involve some actuarial expense, though not a large amount. The valuations of the interest of members in existing funds, particularly the larger ones, would be a matter of heavy expense. Your committee cannot reasonably be expected to undertake these burdens. In the last-mentioned case, at least, it would have to be borne by the individual funds. We are informed that, should an Assembly be prepared to pay for such investigation, on receipt of certain information that the actuary would define, an estimate could be given of the cost. Further, we are advised that until these matters are disposed of, the aim in view cannot be attained.

The familiar point still exists as to whether, by an extension of the existing New South Wales and Victorian Funds, the whole provident needs of the Ministry in Australia may not be covered without the establishment

of an Australian Fund, but that is a matter already familiar to members of the Assembly, and it is not considered necessary to deal with it in this report. It may, however, be the subject of a statement by the convener when this report is submitted to the Assembly.

On the general question, the Victorian Fund as reconstituted is due for actuarial valuation at the end of this year, 1926, which, in the ordinary course, would be presented to the State Assembly in May, 1927; the fund, being in a transition stage, it is not considered likely that the Victorian committee or its actuary would be prepared to make any pronouncement regarding the future of that fund until after the results of that investigation are available.

The convener is indebted to Mr. Norris, the actuary of the Victorian Church's Fund, for assistance and advice.

For the committee,

A. G. PROUDFOOT, Convener.

Melbourne, 31st August, 1926.

APPENDIX A.

Working principles specified in the committee's report of 1920:—

1. Benefits for (a) Aged and Infirm Ministers; (b) Widows; and (c) Orphans of Ministers should be included in the scheme. If it is impracticable to provide all these forms of benefit, preference should be given in the order named.

2. All branches of benefit should be included under one principal administrative authority.

3. Contributions to the fund should be compulsory on all Ministers commencing duty under a prescribed age . . . not already connected with approved Church provident funds.

4. Ministers over the prescribed age and below some higher prescribed age to be allowed to join the fund, with proper safeguards as regards increased contributions, enabling the minister "to buy his status" in the Fund.

5. The right should be reserved to the administrative authority to be satisfied as regards the health of the contributor at the time of his connection with the fund. The strictness of practice would depend on various factors.

6. The principle of the parity of Ministers to be accepted as regards their pension benefits, and if any grading is admitted at all, "it should be according to years of service in the Presbyterian Ministry, and not according to salary." (U.S. Official Report, 1920.)

7. As regards pensions to widows and orphans, the number of children under a prescribed age (probably 16 or 18 years) may fairly be taken into account in fixing the benefits.

8. The Minister, his widow and orphans, should be entitled to benefits at least double what his personal contribution covers. The balance to be provided by (a) prescribed regular contributions by the Church, whether through congregations or other agencies; (b) endowments, collections, interest on investments, gifts and legacies, etc.

9. The scale of contribution should be computed by an actuary, and there should be regular periodical actuarial valuations, at periods of, say, five years.

APPENDIX B.

Victorian Fund: Contributions.

Extracts from Rules.

7. The rate payable annually in respect of all entrants after these Rules come into force is set out in the Subjoined Table II, and is the amount which is required to be contributed either by or on behalf of each

member, according to his age at the time of joining the fund. Of this amount the member shall contribute personally 5 per cent. of his stipend if his age at joining the fund does not exceed 30, and for each additional year he shall contribute an additional amount of one-half per cent. of his stipend, but not exceeding a total of 10 per cent. The balance required to be contributed shall be made up as provided for in Rule 10.

10. Each congregation shall pay into the fund a yearly assessment of at least 2½ per cent. of its ordinary revenue, including Sustentation and Church Extension Fund grants, for the year immediately preceding that during which the payment is made. Presbyteries are instructed, before any induction, to require of congregations that their contributions to the fund shall be regularly paid. In the case of each Professor and each Foreign Missionary, and Minister in any other office which entitles him to membership in the fund, and who was a member prior to these rules coming into force, there shall be paid out of the fund by which he is maintained a contribution amounting to three per cent. of his salary. In the case of any such person becoming a member after these rules come into force, the fund by which he is maintained shall pay the balance of the contribution required after deducting his personal payment, as provided for in Rule 7.

Table II.

Cost of Combined Superannuation, Widows' and Orphans' Benefits (abridged).

Age of Entrant.	Total Cost per Year.
25	£29 0 3
26	30 1 10
27	31 0 5
28	32 2 8
29	33 8 5
30	34 16 8
35	42 8 10
40	53 1 1
45	68 16 6
50	95 6 11

In the original table all ages from 25 to 50 inclusive are given. In the above extract a selection only is made in the case of ages exceeding 30.

A. G. PROUDFOOT, Convener.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MISSIONS, 1924-1926.

The direct administration of the Board is now confined to Port George IV, in West Australia; but it still exercises a keen and friendly interest in the work of the Gulf Stations to which the Church in Queensland is addressing itself with much energy—and to which the Board contributes an annual and decreasing subsidy.

Death of the Secretary.—The Board suffered a great loss in the death of the Rev. W. Watt, who passed to rest on March 29, at the age of 83. Mr. Watt spent 42 strenuous years on Tanna, where, after long toil, he had the joy of establishing a vigorous native Church, which numbered over 200 at the time of his retirement. He translated the whole of the New Testament and other books into the language of his people. In his later years he was an active member of the F.M.C. of Victoria, and for over eight years acted as secretary of the Board. He was careful and methodical, was highly esteemed by all the members, and kept in close and friendly touch with the Missionaries. To his widow and children we offer our sincere sympathy, and rejoice greatly that his son is setting himself to the ministry and his daughter, now nearing the end of a distinguished medical career, is likely to be appointed by the New South Wales Church to the Mission Hospital at Sholinghur, India.

Another great loss was sustained in the death of the Rev. F. G. H. Brady, whose advice and help while minister at Broome was most valuable, and whose kindly interest in the natives visiting the town as boat's crew was greatly appreciated. To Mrs. Brady the Board sends its deep sympathy.

The Board has also to report with deep sorrow that shortly after last Assembly the Rev. Alexander Stewart passed to his rest. Mr. Stewart was one of the most active members of the Board, and was for many years either its Secretary or Convener. He gave to its business his most earnest attention. Although compelled by failing health and impaired sight to resign, he kept unabated his keen interest in the work and in the Missionaries. The Board thanks God for his long and valued services, and commends Mrs. Stewart and family to the gracious comfort of God.

The Staff.—We rejoice to report that the Rev. W. F. McKenzie, B.A., having finished his Theological Course at Ormond College, was ordained, married, and returned to his Station at Aurukun in October last. Mrs. McKenzie is a daughter of a missionary-hearted and deeply evangelical Minister of the Church of England in Melbourne (Rev. W. T. C. Storrs). Like her husband, she is a graduate of Melbourne University, and holds the Diploma of Education. We congratulate the Queensland Church on the acquisition of such fine workers, and would have been glad if that Church had seen its way to release them for Port George. Miss Gladys Giles, a certificated teacher, also went from Melbourne to Mapoon in March of last year. Other changes in the Gulf Stations will doubtless be noted in the Queensland Report.

At Port George IV. Mr. and Mrs. Beard returned from furlough in March, 1925. Mrs. Paull's health broke down, and she had to return early last year, and, to our regret, Mr. Paull felt constrained to resign. In order that Mr. and Mrs. Beard might not be left alone—for Mrs. Beard had just sustained a serious injury to her arm—on the advice of Mr. Brady, the Board arranged that Captain Scott, a former employee of the Mission, should assist either on land or on the lugger for twelve months. He began at the end of July, 1925. Harry Shadforth, who has served the Mission for eight years, has been desirous of late of returning to Mapoon for the sake of his family. Through the kindness of Mr. Love, a successor has been found in Alfred, one of the best young men of Mapoon, who, with his wife Ina, we expect are now settled and at work at Port George IV. This overlapping of terms of service and salaries is a great drain on Mission funds, but is unavoidable when the Station is as barely manned, and when workers have to be transported over such long distances. We did not know how long Mrs. Beard would be left without womanly companionship, and so it was with very great relief that we received the offer of Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Holmes to take up work at Port George. They were somewhat beyond the age limit; but they had already given many years' service in North Queensland, and were well acquainted with the work. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes, with their daughter Jessie, left in time to catch the last trip of the "Rolland" for 1925, and are now at work. The Board is deeply grateful for such help, and highly appreciates the spirit that prompted such self-sacrificing offers; but it desires to state quite frankly its conviction—which is fully shared by our present workers themselves—that the arduous work of such a Mission as Port George, agricultural, medical, administrative and maritime, calls for younger men and women. We must keep steadily in view the appointment, when possible, of a young married ordained Missionary and a married couple as Assistant and Teacher.

Fraser Scholarship.—The present holders are Mr. G. K. Kirke, of Emmanuel College, Brisbane; Mr. Alex. S. Frater, of Scotch College, Melbourne; and Miss Janet P. Watt, Medical Student, Melbourne. Miss A. White, being unable to continue her studies, has refunded the amount paid to her. The Board has for some time felt that, as the expense of the University and Medical Courses are equally heavy for both men and women candidates, it ought to be allowed certain discretion in increasing the bursaries in deserving cases; but only with the limit of funds available for the current year.

Port George IV Station: House Accommodation.—The Board is only now learning how inadequate the house accommodation is at Port George. The Missionaries have borne much discomfort in order to economise

the Mission funds. The Assistant's house is low in the ceiling, the rooms are small, and the roof leaks, and there is little or no suitable timber in the vicinity for alterations. Surely, if men and women are ready to give their lives to this service, the Church should see that they have reasonable comfort. We do not ask our Missionaries on other fields to live in such conditions. We propose to add £200 to the estimates, spread over two years, for alterations and extensions.

Boat.—The "W. S. Rolland" has now been in service for ten years, and was not new when purchased. She is altogether too small and comfortless, and has suffered severely in many storms. We incur very grave responsibility when we allow our Missionaries and natives to travel in such a vessel, and it is by the mercy of God that, so far, any damage has only been to hull and cargo. The new boat must be larger—at least 25 tons (just about double the present size)—as we have undertaken to carry mails and stores for the Government Aboriginal Station at Walcott Inlet. We are glad, indeed, to maintain our present friendly relations with the West Australian Government, and the earnings for freight will largely reduce running costs. She must also be equipped with an auxiliary engine to enable her to proceed in calms, and carry her out of dangerous currents. The cost may be approximately £1000. Towards that the Board has been building up an Insurance and Replacement Reserve by laying aside 30 per cent. of the "Rolland's" earnings, and from the sale of produce. It now stands at £204, including a donation of £25 from Mrs. Dunlop, of Burwood, N.S.W. The ladies of the P.W.M.U. of West Australia and other friends have promised to help. The sale of the "Rolland" ought to bring in a little. Part of the Reserve Fund will have to be expended in repairing damage done to the "Rolland" in a recent storm. We are thankful, indeed, that the damage was not greater as the Drysdale Mission Boat was lost in the same gale.

The Board asks authority to procure at once a better and larger boat, with accommodation for Missionaries and crew, and that the State Foreign Missions Committees be requested to issue or allow an appeal throughout their congregations for the requisite funds. This, we believe, would be preferable to increasing the estimates. We are making enquiries, and hope to be able to place a statement before the Assembly.

Industrial and Agricultural.—By mutual arrangement the work at Port George IV is divided among the staff. Mr. Beard superintends the Agricultural and Industrial, Mr. Holmes takes charge of the Book-keeping, Medical and Religious work. Mrs. Beard is Matron, and Mrs. Holmes is the Teacher.

The Station suffered severely in last year's drought. Many cattle perished, and crops gave a poor return. This entailed heavy expense in purchase of food, and so little was available that few natives could be employed, so that cultivation was perforce hindered. This season copious rains have fallen, grass is abundant, the cattle are in good condition, and there has been a fair harvest of rice and other food crops. There are 55 acres cleared, and about 33 under cultivation. The N.W. Department has abandoned its Experimental Cotton Plot, and we have purchased a number of donkeys and useful implements at a cost of £29.

The School is under the capable oversight of Mrs. Holmes, a certificated teacher. The attendance is very small—only 15—but it will grow. Some 80 attend services on Sundays. No baptisms, or even decisions for Christ, are yet reported, which is doubtless owing to the frequent interruptions of the work by changes in the staff. The Station has been in existence for 14 years, and in that time we have had no fewer than 16 changes among our workers. We realise that the early years of any such enterprise on an isolated Station are full of unforeseen obstacles, and Port George has had its full share of difficulty and disappointment. Nevertheless, the need is there, and the people are friendly. "A great door and effectual is opened, and there are many adversaries." The opportunity and the obstacles are calls to renewed and sustained effort. We must hold on, and we must put more interest and prayer and money into our work there. It is estimated that the Mission is in touch with 350 natives. It is interesting to find visitors testifying to the value of the work of our Missionaries. Mr. J. De Lancourt, who, with a companion, is walking round Australia, was delayed for several weeks at Port George waiting for his supplies. In an article to the "Western Mail"

he writes as follows:—"On coming out of a wilderness of tangled grass and rough, boulder-strewn hills, this little patch of civilisation seemed a veritable oasis in a desert of loneliness and discomfort—nor do I regret the necessity which has held us here awaiting the arrival of the Mission Luggie. It has given me an opportunity of examining from every standpoint the work that is being done, and carefully weighing its value. Every day of my stay has produced fresh evidence that this station, at least, is carrying on a work which is of the greatest service, not to the natives alone, but to the whole State, and one deserving of the utmost possible assistance both from the Government and the State generally."

It is heartening also to note the change for the better in the attitude of the community to the aborigines. The old feeling of contempt for them as miserable wretches, without religion, differing little from brutes, has largely died out. Scientists are eagerly studying their language and customs as interesting survivals of a primitive people. On Economic grounds, their potential value as citizens and developers of the inland and far north are being increasingly recognised. Under training they have proved wonderfully well adapted for Australian tropical conditions, and sheltered from contamination by drink and vice they show healthy increase. Nor are their intellectual, moral and spiritual qualities to be despised, as we remember such men as David Unaipon, James Noble and Mamooos.

The findings of the late Australian Missionary Conference uphold and vindicate our own Missionary methods, and very gladly we recognise the growth of a civic and church conscience toward these people, of whom there are still some 73,000 in the Commonwealth. We welcome all awakening interest and sympathy as our allies as far as they go with us, but the Church's message of comfort and hope and uplift goes deeper and touches higher levels than material needs and economic possibilities.

We rejoice to see those wayward, wandering and degraded brothers and sisters recognised as fellow citizens and admitted to a share in the privileges and responsibilities of the State; but we never forget our duty towards them as men and women for whom our Blessed Lord gave His Life.

The Board also reports in regard to the matters referred to it by last Assembly:—

(1) That, as directed, the Resolutions of Assembly regarding the deplorable condition of the natives of the New Hebrides under the Condominium were placed before the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth, with a request that he cable the Resolutions to the Assembly of the League of Nations. The Foreign Missions and Public Questions Committees of Victoria are in constant communication with the authorities on this matter.

(2) In regard to the Overture as to the responsibility of our Church for a share in the evangelisation of the natives of the Mandated Territories of New Guinea, and the communication from the Presbyterian Church of England regarding providing ordinances for residents in British Malaya. The Board is seized with the importance and urgency of these efforts, but is of opinion that the present resources of the Church in Australia are fully taxed by its expanding obligations on the Home field, the Inland of Australia, and its missionary commitments among the Chinese and Aborigines in Australia, the New Hebrides, India and Korea.

Finance.—From the Balance-sheet, it will be seen that since last Assembly the Overdraft has been reduced only by £451. This is owing to:—

1. The replacement of sails and frequent repairs to the Luggie "Rolland."
2. The heavy travelling expenses consequent on unexpected and frequent changes on the Mission Staff.
3. The severe drought of last year, which affected the food crops, and necessitated larger purchases of rations.
4. The inability of the Church in W.A. to meet its Assessment, which is £194/17/6 in arrears. We have great sympathy for our brethren

in the West, with their small congregations and overwhelming Home Mission and Church Extension problems, and recognise the keen interest of the Church in the evangelisation of the Aborigines within their borders, and therefore heartily agree to their request for a conference between their representatives and the Board during the meeting of the Assembly, and suggest that the West Australian Assessment and its relation to the Board be dealt with in a Supplementary Report after the Conference has been held.

Meanwhile, the following proposals are submitted:—

1. That the joint salary of Mr. and Mrs. Holmes be £275 per annum, with no allowances.
2. That allowances for the children be discontinued in the case of Mr. and Mrs. Beard, and their joint salary be fixed at £300 per annum.
3. That a sum of £200, spread over two years, be placed on the Estimates for repairs and alterations to the houses, especially that of the Assistant, at Port George IV.
4. That a new Mission boat of 25 tons' burden, fitted if possible with an auxiliary engine, at a cost not exceeding £1000, be procured immediately, and an appeal made throughout the Church for the funds.
5. That the grant to Queensland be £500 per annum for the next two years, from October 1, 1926.
6. The Board strongly recommends that a deputation of at least two practical and experienced men be sent to visit the Mission at Port George, and report fully to the Board on the present condition of the work, its prospects, and what will be required in the way of Staff and material equipment for the proper oncarrying of the work. For that purpose, it is recommended that a sum of £200 be placed on the Estimates.

The Estimated Annual Expenditure for the next two years will be:—

Queensland Grant	£750
Salaries	575
Rev. N. Hey's Pension	32
Fares and Incidentals	150
Port George Boat and Station	400
Charge for Keeping Accounts	50
Broome Agency	50
Interest on Overdraft	150
Repairs and Alterations, Port George	100
General Expenses	100
Reduction of Overdraft	500
	£2857
Expense of Deputation to Port George	100
	£2957

The Board recommends that the Assessment be fixed after the Report of Conference with the West Australian representatives has been dealt with.

The thanks of the Board are given to the Auditor, the Office Staffs in Melbourne and Sydney, to the Executive in Perth, and to the Foreign Missions Office in Melbourne, for help in correspondence since the death of the Secretary.

Submitted in the name of the Board,

T. WATT LEGGATT, Convener.

BOARD OF MISSIONS.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FROM 8/8/1924 to
16/7/1926.**Receipts.**

Victoria, to 30/6/26	£2,681	0	0
New South Wales, to 30/6/26	1,886	0	0
South Australia, to 30/6/26	301	0	0
Western Australia, on account	195	2	6
Tasmania, to 30/6/26	172	10	0
Balance (deficiency)	1,611	6	4

Arrears—

Western Australia £194 17 6

£6,846 18 10

Payments.

Balance, Dr., 8/8/24	£2,061	7	5
Grant in aid Queensland Executive	1,750	0	0
Salaries—			
G. I. Beard, to 30/6/26	590	0	0
T. W. Holmes, to 30/6/26	165	14	0
N. A. Paull, to 30/6/26	303	5	0
Alwyn Beard, to 30/6/26	59	11	4
Boatman's wages	178	11	7
Boat maintenance, stores, etc.	838	16	6
Fares and incidental expenses	329	14	5
Pension (Rev. N. Hey)	64	0	0
Charge, keeping account, etc. (two years)	100	0	0
Broome agency (two years)	60	0	0
Interest on overdraft	239	2	0
Honorarium to Secretary	30	0	0
Grant to Coranderrk	10	0	0
Telephone, Convener	11	0	0
Printing, postages, cheque book, etc.	55	16	7

£6,846 18 10

JOHN FRASER FOREIGN MISSION SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

Receipts.

Balance, 8/8/24	£118	3	5
New South Wales Treasurership Committee	130	0	0
Refund of Scholarship—Miss Anna White	12	10	0

£260 13 5

Payments.

Scholarships—			
G. H. Kirke	£50	0	0
R. S. Blair	41	13	4
W. F. Mackenzie	25	0	0
A. S. Frater	8	6	8
Miss Janet P. Watt	55	16	8
Miss Anna White	8	6	8
Balance	71	10	1

£260 13 5

"ROLLAND" INSURANCE AND REPLACEMENT.

Receipts.

Balance, 8/8/24	£45	10	8
30 per cent. on earnings of "Rolland"	123	16	5
Donation for new boat from Mrs. Dunlop, of Burwood, N.S.W.	25	0	0
Interest	10	6	11

£204 14 0

Payments.

Balance in Savings Bank, 16/7/26	£204 14 0
	£204 14 0

A. L. PRYDE, Treasurer.

Examined and found correct—

MORTON, WATSON & YOUNG, Auditors.

19/7/26.

FOREIGN MISSIONS REPORT.**New South Wales.**

We are pleased to report that we have reason for thanksgiving to God that the work in each of our fields has proceeded satisfactorily.

Chinese Work.—The Rev. L. S. Leung has arrived from Canton, and has begun work among the Chinese in New South Wales. He graduated from the Union Theological College in Canton ten years ago, and is an earnest, effective speaker and evangelist. He was for five years Secretary of the Kwantung Evangelistic Association, which embraces all the Protestant Churches in the Province. We are greatly indebted to those faithful workers, both in Sydney and Newcastle, who bridged the gap between the death of Rev. J. Kem Yee and the arrival of Mr. Leung. It was through the kindly offices of Prof. McNeur, the Moderator of our New Zealand Church, that we secured Mr. Leung's services. He comes for a term of three years, with the option of extension to five years.

New Hebrides.—Dr. Ewen MacKenzie, to our great satisfaction, has taken charge of the work on the West Coast of Santo and in Malo, where he has been recently joined by his wife and daughter. The appointment of such experienced Missionaries as Dr. and Mrs. MacKenzie is a matter for great thankfulness, and already there has been progress and blessing. We are very grateful to the Rev. F. G. Bowie, M.A., of Tangoa, for valued help at Nagugu, extending over a lengthened period.

The Rev. D. L. and Mrs. Paterson, after many years' faithful work, are now settled in a busy parish in this State.

India.—The Rev. and Mrs. C. E. Turnbull very generously agreed to exchange stations with the Rev. V. W. and Mrs. Coombes. Mr. and Mrs. Turnbull have consequently had their headquarters at Sholinghur, and Mr. and Mrs. Coombes at Pallipet. From both centres there have been reports of a considerable number of baptisms, and though there has been persecution, the Christians have stood firm. Pastoral, evangelistic and educational work have each received earnest attention.

Dr. Mary Silver, of the Church of Scotland Mission, is in charge of the Goodlet Hospital, and we hope that she will be able to continue till an Australian doctor arrives. She and her husband (the Rev. Alexander Silver, M.A.) are at present in residence in the Medical Bungalow in Sholinghur and Mr. Silver is very kindly acting as Secretary of the Hospital. Negotiations are proceeding with the Church of Scotland in regard to co-operation between their Mission and ours, and as their district adjoins ours there would be many advantages if the work of both Missions could be co-ordinated.

Our last Assembly decided that the scale of salaries for India for both men and women should be the same as that of the United Free Church of Scotland, which has a large number of Missionaries in Southern India.

We need two Lady Missionaries, an educationalist and a Zenana worker; our work among the girls and women of India is seriously handicapped by this lack.

Home Base.—Our Budget for this year is £7000. Our work suffers at the Home Base through our not having a Foreign Missions Secretary to organise it. We are glad to say, however, that we have no debt outstanding, the shortage for 1925 being covered by a special appeal. In the previous year there was a credit balance.

We should like to commend to all the booklet written by Miss Symonds, B.A., "Seed-Sowing in Sholinghur," which is published by our Welfare of Youth Committee.

May God guide and bless the work.

ROBT. J. H. MCGOWAN, Convener.

NEW SOUTH WALES FOREIGN MISSIONS BOARD.

DISBURSEMENTS.	1924.			1925.		
Aborigines Mission	£1,259	6	5	£1,084	1	11
Chinese Mission	228	19	8	248	14	2
New Hebrides Mission	637	16	6	554	16	11
Indian Mission	3,397	6	8	3,277	17	11
Indian Hospital	648	1	2	628	13	0
Native Teachers, New Hebrides	80	0	0	31	1	7
Nogugu Mission, New Hebrides	271	2	5	411	14	6
Launch, New Hebrides	—	—	—	152	14	0
Reserve	350	0	0	—	—	—
	£6,872	12	10			
Balance, 1/1/1925	50	12	5			
	£6,923	5	3	£6,389	14	0

RECEIPTS.	1924.			1925.		
Aborigines Mission	£128	12	2	£94	10	1
Chinese Mission	111	3	1	39	10	5
New Hebrides Mission	106	6	2	112	4	3
Indian Mission	1,652	5	5	1,342	16	11
Indian Hospital	149	18	0	142	7	6
Native Teachers	14	4	0	14	0	0
Nogugu Mission	2	2	0	—	—	—
General Mission	4,728	14	5	3,177	14	6
	£6,893	5	3	£4,923	3	8
Transfer from Suspense	30	0	0	—	—	—
Transfer of Reserve	—	—	—	215	9	4
Balance, 1/1/1925	—	—	—	50	12	5
Debit Balance, 31/12/25	—	—	—	1,200	8	7
	£6,923	5	3	£6,389	14	0

Victoria.

Home Base.—The resignation, owing to ill-health, of the Rev. F. H. L. Paton, after eighteen years of untiring service to the Missionary enterprise of the Church, was deeply regretted by the whole Church. The Rev. H. C. Matthew was appointed in his place. In the past two years the Church has lost by death such warm friends of Missions as the Revs. A. Stewart, Professor Adam, R. W. Rock and W. Watt. The Rev. A. Stewart, shortly before his death, paid £1000 to the Foreign Missions Committee, as the nucleus of a fund to provide a Rest Home for Missionaries on furlough. A general plan for the union of the Foreign Mission Committee and the Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union has been submitted to, and is being considered by, the latter organisation. The Home organisation is being strengthened by the appointment of Foreign Missionary representatives in Presbyteries and Congregations. Very fine work has been done by the Mission Bands, the Presbyterian Girls' Association (P.G.A.), the Young Men's Bible Class Union (Y.M.B.C.U.) and the Fellowship Union in the support of Missionaries. The Public Schools, such as the Presbyterian Ladies' College, Scotch College and Geelong College, are definitely linked with missionary service in Korea.

Mr. Robert Brown, of Londonderry, presented the Committee with 200 copies of the Life of Mary Crawford Brown, for sale at 3/6 each, the money to be paid into the General Fund.

Since October, 1925, the Rev. Fred. J. Paton has been itinerating throughout the Church, and stirring up much interest in missionary work.

The Work Abroad.—In spite of shortage of workers, steady progress has been maintained in all fields. The Chinese in Victoria are kept in close touch with Church life through the faithful and diligent ministrations of the Superintendent and his Catechists, and Miss Sears and her voluntary workers carry on a successful work amongst the women and children. Efforts to combine our own work with the work of the Methodist Church have so far failed.

In the New Hebrides, the appointments of Dr. S. Heriot to Vila, Dr. W. Armstrong (John G. Paton Fund) to Tanna, and the Rev. J. Jones to Vila, have greatly strengthened our work and encouraged our Missionaries. The situation under the Condominium Government still bears hardly upon the work of the Missionaries. Abuses continue, such as the sale of intoxicants to the natives, the filching from the natives of their ancestral lands and illegal recruiting of women for shameful purposes. The Commonwealth Government has been informed from time to time about the conditions as they affect the natives and the Missionaries, and has been very sympathetic. The suggestion to have the situation created by the Condominium Government brought under the League of Nations was deprecated by the representatives of the Commonwealth Government. Much has been done by the Rev. F. J. Paton and others to arouse a healthy public opinion in Victoria on the matter. The Committee has got into touch with the French Protestant Churches through the Rev. Dr. J. K. Fleming. In spite of very great difficulties, the Church holds bravely on, and there are many evidences that the Holy Spirit is at work in the heart of the people, and they are being led into a deeper religious experience.

In Korea the Church has a staff of eighteen women Missionaries (under the P.W.M.U. of Victoria and Queensland) and eleven men Missionaries—one supported by South Australia—engaged in medical, educational and evangelistic work. Two secondary Schools, one for boys, and one for girls, have been erected in our province of South Kyung Sang. The Boys' School at Masan has been erected and equipped, at a cost of £9,000. The money was collected by special appeal and given as a memorial to the late Rev. D. M. Lyall, the first Principal of the School. The Girls' School has been built at Tongnai Naium, seven miles from Fusan. The Rev. G. Eagel, D.D., has just completed 25 years of service in Korea, and was thanked and congratulated by the Church for his abundant labours in Teaching and Bible Translation work.

The Rev. R. D. Watson, with Mrs. Watson, has returned to Korea after a short ministry at home. Mr. Watson came home on furlough, and the doctor's report on Mrs. Watson's health was so adverse that he was reluctantly compelled to resign, the doctor holding out no hope of a return to Korea within five years. But Mr. Watson's friends in Victoria and in Korea gave themselves to prayer with this result, which has given joy to all the friends of Missions.

The Rev. J. N. Mackenzie, besides his ordinary mission work, has the care of 450 lepers in the Leper Asylum at Fusan, and is building a Church for them to accommodate between 500 and 600. Dr. C. I. McLaren is detained in Korea owing to his wife's ill-health, but hopes to return on furlough as soon as Mrs. McLaren is allowed to travel. An effort was made to find a Principal for the Boys' School at Masan, but so far no appointment has been made. The opportunities for evangelistic and educational work in Korea are many and urgent, but the workers are few. Our Missionaries are all working beyond their strength, but report hopefully and enthusiastically about the work.

Financial.—For the two years receipts amounted to £31,606, and expenditure amounted to £35,565. The year 1925 ended with a deficit of £3,337, and a special effort is in progress to remove this debt. Since its inception the stamp bureau, under the charge of Mrs. Lyall, has brought in £650.

T. WATT LEGGATT, Convener.

Queensland.

Since their previous report the work on the several Stations has been faithfully and vigorously carried on, and is not without tangible tokens of the Divine approval and blessing. The results of the work are distinctly encouraging. The moral standard of the several communities is well maintained, although, as in other communities, lapses on the part of Church members have sometimes to be dealt with. The health of the people generally has been good, and no epidemic of a serious character has visited any of the Stations. The last hot season was very trying, owing to the drought. The heat was terrific, and severely tried the endurance of the Missionaries, but they stuck bravely to their posts.

The Mission Staff.—Mr. Harvey, Agricultural Assistant at Mapoon, has left, and Mr. and Mrs. MacCormack, after relieving at Weipa and Aurukun, and furlough, have returned to Mapoon. Miss Gladys M. Giles is now in charge of the School there. Mr. and Mrs. Gage have filled the vacancies at Weipa caused by the removal of Mr. and Mrs. Miller to Aurukun. By the marriage of Mr. MacKenzie to Miss Storrs, B.A., Dip.Ed. (Melb.), a valuable addition has been made to the Aurukun workers. Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Sydney have taken up work at Mornington Island as Assistant and teacher, respectively, thus providing much-needed relief for Mr. and Mrs. Wilson. During last wet season Mr. G. K. Kirke, Jun., acted as Assistant at Mapoon. At the time of reporting the Staffs are:—Mapoon, Rev. J. R. B. Love, B.A., and Mrs. Love, Mr. R. M. MacCormack and Mrs. MacCormack, Miss Gladys M. Giles; Weipa, Mr. Herbert Mayer and Mrs. Mayer, Mr. A. W. Gage and Mrs. Gage; Aurukun, Rev. W. F. MacKenzie, B.A., and Mrs. MacKenzie, B.A., Dip.Ed., Mr. C. J. Miller and Mrs. Miller; Mornington Island, Rev. R. H. Wilson and Mrs. Wilson, Mr. C. D. Sydney and Mrs. Sydney.

Industries.—Various forms of industry have been carried on with much energy and varying degrees of success. Beche-de-mer fishing at Mapoon shows diminishing returns, while at Mornington Island the results are splendid, and have materially assisted Mr. Wilson to reach record figures for Mornington Island industries in both the past years. Sandalwood seems to be cut out on the mainland reserves, at least in all accessible localities, but it is still plentiful on Mornington Island, and has helped to swell the Station returns. Cotton-growing has not so far proved successful, but the year's results at Weipa, though not yet realised, are stated to be more hopeful. The arid conditions and burning heat of the past summer have rendered all agricultural pursuits difficult, but it is hoped that the great efforts made will yet have a satisfactory return. Dugong fishing is a great standby for Mornington Island, providing food for the natives and oil for the market, though the demand for the oil is too restricted. A Fordson tractor has been procured for Weipa Station, and, in addition to being used for clearing and ploughing, provides power for a saw bench. As there is a quantity of good timber on the reserve, there is a hope this may become a source of profit to the Station, in addition to affording employment for a larger number of the Aborigines.

The cocoanut is one of the main products of the Stations, in which Mapoon easily excels, but at the other Stations, and particularly at Mornington Island and Weipa, extensive plantations are in progress, and their success will greatly increase the influence of the Stations.

The increase of the stock on the Stations receives the careful attention of the Missionaries, and the herds are gradually growing. At Weipa and Mornington Island there are large flocks of goats, whose utility for the sake of milk and meat is greatly prized.

The Mission Luggers, the "J. G. Ward" and the "Morning Star," are invaluable and indispensable factors in the work of the Stations. The "Sydney," being in bad order, and the cost of repair out of all proportion to its value and usefulness, was sold, and the proceeds appropriated for the purchase of a new boat, adapted to the exploration and supervision of the waterways in the Aurukun Reserve. The "J. G. Ward" now carries the stores and merchandise of all the mainland Sta-

tions, and up till the present has also carried stores for the Government Cattle Stations in the vicinity, from which some revenue was derived. This will now cease, but with an increase in the marketable products of the Reserves, and especially of timber, the Lugger should be very fully employed. Towards the end of the last monsoon season, both she and the "Matilda," the Mapoon fishing boat, suffered severe damage in hurricanes, though they fortunately escaped destruction. The "Morning Star" and the "Albinia" (a whale boat) are fully occupied at Mornington Island, but the need of a motor boat is greatly felt, and provision is being made out of the Station earnings to secure one, which will add to the comfort, security and efficiency of the Station. A movement is also on foot for obtaining a motor launch for Weipa, and a considerable sum is in hand for the purpose.

Education.—The Schools form one of the most vital and influential instruments for the uplift of the Aborigines. Mapoon has been fortunate in its School and its Teachers, and the accession to the Staff of Miss Gladys M. Giles, a trained and highly qualified teacher, is a source of deep thankfulness. It is recognised that trained teachers should be in charge of all the Schools, and as opportunity and funds permit this will be realised. In the meantime, it is satisfactory that at every Station someone is definitely in charge of the Schools. The Schools are still growing in numbers, and the Mapoon School is now the largest School in the Peninsula.

Spiritual.—In the multiplicity of their labours, the Missionaries do not forget that the preaching of the Gospel and the evangelising of the Aboriginal are their main object, and the leading of men and women to the knowledge of Jesus Christ is their greatest joy. It is a matter for profound gratitude to God that He has so owned and blessed the efforts of our Missionaries that at every Station men and women are being added to the Church. At Mornington Island Mr. Wilson had the joy of receiving into the Fellowship of the Church six men and five women by baptism on profession of faith and admitting them to the Lord's Table. These are the first fruits of Mornington Island. On this Island, which, twelve years ago, was wrapped in deepest darkness, two of its native inhabitants now tell the story of the love of God to their own kith and kin in their own language at the Sunday evening service. At the other Stations, too, men and women are being won by the Gospel and added to the Church of God.

Kendall River.—The Government has added to the Aurukun Reserve a further large area lying between the Kendall and Holroyd Rivers, and the Committee are exercised concerning the problem thus created. The area is pretty thickly populated by Aborigines living in a wild state. Whether they can be brought by degrees to Aurukun and mix with the people there, or the establishment of a new Station on the Kendall River will be necessary, is a matter for serious consideration. To establish and man a new Station is altogether beyond the present resources of the Committee, and it must be confessed that attempts to bring the southern tribes to Aurukun have not been successful; too often the result has been bloodshed. Mr. MacCormack, who has penetrated some portions of the district, and has given a vivid account of the needs of the people, strongly favours the establishment of a new Station.

Property.—In addition to the Committee's efforts to raise a sufficient revenue for the maintenance of the Mission work, with the never-failing help of the P.W.M.U., a residence for the Assistant at Mornington Island has been built and furnished at a cost of over £500, and an excellent house, with furniture, has been purchased at Thursday Island to serve as a Home for the Mission Workers when, for health or other reasons, they have to visit the Island. It should prove a great boon to them.

Finance.—The appended statements will show that the Church in Queensland is rising to the call of the Mission field, not so rapidly perhaps as the Committee would like, but steadily. Eventually, they hope their desire to see this work maintained entirely by Queensland will be realised.

ABORIGINAL MISSION FUND.
GENERAL ACCOUNT.

Receipts.	1924.	1925.
Balance	£213 5 7	—
Collections, Donations, etc.	1,349 10 8	£1,628 17 3
Special Objects	55 1 0	84 0 0
Sundry	—	24 10 0
Board of Missions	1,000 0 0	875 0 0
Balance	458 2 10	489 18 2
	£3,076 0 1	£3,102 5 5

Disbursements.	1924.	1925.
Balance	—	£458 2 10
Salaries	£2,214 12 10	2,026 0 0
Passages, etc.	190 6 8	133 2 0
Children's Upkeep	41 2 6	50 11 9
Furniture	—	96 11 11
Purchases and Improvements	251 16 9	8 2 9
Repairs and Replacements	50 4 0	12 11 4
Weipa Houses	—	24 0 0
Insurance, etc.	49 3 7	66 17 4
Several Expenses	278 13 9	226 5 6
	£3,076 0 1	£3,102 5 5

SPECIAL ACCOUNTS.

Receipts.	1924.	1925.
Mornington Island House Account	£50 0 0	£466 6 1
Weipa Boat Account	75 0 0	2 10 0
Aurukun Boat Account	—	93 9 10
Mornington Island Wireless Account	—	30 0 0
Mornington Island Motor Boat Account	—	50 0 0
Mornington Island Suspense Account	—	250 0 0

SPECIAL ACCOUNTS.

Disbursements.	1924.	1925.
Mornington Island House Account	—	£418 3 5

South Australia.

The latest letter of the Rev. George Anderson, our Mission Agent in Korea, reports that he and Mrs. Anderson and their two children are well. Mr. Anderson was anxious for a time about Mrs. Anderson's health, but she has regained her strength.

Mr. Anderson, who undertook to attend the Leper Settlement during the furlough of the Rev. Noble Mackenzie, put in a year among the lepers, and is now engaged in evangelistic work. He visits the native churches in the neighbourhood of Seoul, and with the help of an interpreter proclaims the Gospel. He has acquired a certain facility in the native language, and on occasions is able to make himself understood, but it is only a matter of time till he becomes quite proficient. He finished his language course at the end of the year.

The government of the Korean Churches is in the hands of a General Assembly and a General Conference, composed of representatives of American Presbyterians and Methodists, United Church of Canada and our own Church. It is not an executive Assembly, but by means of it general mission questions are discussed. It also forms a connecting link with the Government. Mr. Anderson hopes to be a member of the Assembly next year.

As the result of a meeting of the Presbyterian Mission Council in Korea, it was suggested that the salaries of the Missionaries should be stabilised. The Foreign Missions Department of our Church in Melbourne communicated with your Committee on the matter,

and forwarded the following recommendations:—First, that the salaries of our Missionaries in Korea be stabilised at £340 per annum for married men, and £260 per annum for single men. Second, that the children's allowances be stabilised at £20 per annum from birth to 12 years of age, and £40 per annum from 12 to 18 years of age.

At present Mr. Anderson's salary stands at £260 per annum, plus a bonus of 30 per cent., and the children's allowances at £15 and £18 per annum, respectively. Your Committee recommends that the suggested stabilisation be adopted in both cases.

In the matter of general expenses, Mr. Anderson has informed your Committee that the amount of money needed is £51 per annum. Only £25 was allowed last year, the items being:—Station expenses, £5; itinerating expenses, £10; upkeep of property, £10. Mr. Anderson requires the help of a personal attendant.

Your Committee received a letter from the Treasurer of the Presbyterian Mission in Korea, pointing out that the children of the Victorian Missionaries were receiving a bonus of 30 per cent. to their allowances, and suggesting that Mr. Anderson's children might have a similar bonus. As there is no reference to this in the terms of his agreement, your Committee leaves the matter with the Assembly.

Your Committee estimates the Budget for this year at £640. This includes the Assembly's quota of £137/10/- for the support of Missions in North Queensland and West Australia.

A copy of the Report on Mission Work at Mapoon by the Rev. J. R. B. Love was received by your Committee. It is an exhaustive report, dealing with the population, health, industries, education and religious progress among the natives.

We still have an interest in the work on Tanna, through the Helen Lyall Fund and the Margaret Irene Gray Native Teachers' Fund, the interest of which is sent to Mr. Macmillan yearly.

GEORGE DAVIDSON, Convener.

Budget, 1926.

Missionary's Salary	£340	0	0
Children's Allowances	40	0	0
Travelling, Upkeep, etc.	51	0	0
Levy Provident Fund	2	0	0
Postage, Stationery and Printing	7	15	0
"Banner" Levy	8	0	0
Church Office Charge	32	0	0
Levy Board of Missions	137	10	0
	£618	5	0
Children's Bonuses?	21	7	6
	£639	12	6

Western Australia.

The last two years have been eventful in many ways in our work at Port George IV. Early in 1925 we lost the services of Mr. and Mrs. Paull, and your Committee recognised what this meant, as Mr. Paull was a capable manager and organiser. Mr. and Mrs. Beard carried on nobly for some time, notwithstanding that they were short-handed and overworked. After some delay in filling the vacancies, to the great relief of all Mr. and Mrs. Holmes volunteered to fill the gap, and since their arrival have been doing excellent work.

The cotton experiment has not proved a great success, owing to the fact that at each period of sowing the weather has been too dry. During the two years the proprietors of the "Daily News" have donated £10 a year out of their Christmas Cheer Fund to be spent upon the children. The 1000 acres fee simple has not yet been secured, owing to the fact that a Special Act of Parliament is necessary to bring it about. However, your Committee is still moving in the matter.

The Western Australian Government has established a Station at Walcott Inlet in the endeavour to tame the natives, who are very wild in that place, and make it safer for the white settler. The "W. S. Rolland" has been used to assist the Government in that project.

We are glad to report that everyone has become seized with the necessity of a new boat. If the work is to be done efficiently, and the lives of our Missionaries not jeopardised, this needs immediate action.

For the Committee,

E. W. HOGBEN, Convener.

PORT GEORGE IV MISSION.

Abstract of Receipts and Payments from July 1, 1924, to June 30, 1926.

Receipts.		
By Balance Government Subsidy in hand 1/7/24	£93	12 2
„ Government Subsidy received 1/9/24	45	13 4
„ Government Subsidy received 5/1/25	40	4 5
„ Government Subsidy received 23/4/25	37	15 4
„ Government Subsidy received 12/5/25	40	12 10
„ Government Subsidy received 17/9/25	36	2 10
„ Government Subsidy received 10/12/25	35	7 1
„ Government Subsidy received 7/5/26	45	17 11
„ Government Subsidy received 20/5/26	45	0 0
	£420	5 11
Payments.		
To J. & W. Bateman for Supplies, 6/9/24	£59	2 8
„ J. & W. Bateman for Supplies, 6/11/24	40	10 8
„ J. & W. Bateman for Supplies, 31/3/25	52	6 0
„ J. & W. Bateman for Supplies, 24/7/25	62	17 0
„ J. & W. Bateman for Supplies, 10/9/25	45	15 0
„ J. & W. Bateman for Supplies, 15/12/25	24	10 2
„ J. & W. Bateman for Supplies, 18/6/26	130	2 4
„ Balance in hand, 30/6/26	5	2 1
	£420	5 11
By Balance	£5	2 1
N.B.—Owing to J. & W. Bateman at 30/6/26	£105	5 2

FRED. A. McMULLEN, Hon. Gen. Treasurer.

Perth, W.A., July 6, 1926.

FOREIGN AND ABORIGINES MISSION ACCOUNT.

Year ended March 31, 1926.

Disbursements.		
To Balance at per last Statement	£27	17 1
„ Board of Missions—		
Payment on Account	25	8 3
„ General Assembly—		
Percentage on Donations	5	5 8
„ Christmas Cheer, Port George Children	10	0 0
„ Postages and Petties	1	17 1
„ Balance	115	16 0
	£186	4 1
Receipts.		
By Assembly Mission Scheme	£133	7 8
„ Donations	£50	15 5
„ "Christmas Appeal"	2	1 0
	52	16 5
	£186	4 1

Tasmania.

Our Missionaries, the Rev. and Mrs. F. Reid, are doing valuable work on Epi, under very difficult conditions. The evils of the Condominium system are growing, and are having a deplorable effect on the

natives. This makes the work much more difficult, and probably less fruitful than it would be under happier conditions. Mr. and Mrs. Reid are facing the situation with great courage and prayerfulness.

In November, 1925, our Missionaries arrived home on short furlough, and carried out a very complete itinerary of charges and Home Mission Stations. They left Sydney for Epi in April, greatly invigorated by the change. Quite recently news has come through of the birth of twin sons, both Mrs. Reid and the infants being well.

Last year a new motor launch was sent down for the work on Epi, at a cost of £502. It has been named the "R. M. Fraser," and has proved a great help in the work. Mr. Reid reports that it is in every way satisfactory. The Sunday Schools have been asked to raise the amount required for the maintenance of the launch, and the appeal has met with an encouraging response.

The financial situation is very satisfactory, current expenses being met by ordinary income. There is, however, a debt on the Mission House of about £270, which we hope to reduce, if not clear off entirely, by a special appeal.

Our quota to the Board of Missions has been paid each year. We appreciate the generous help given by Congregations and Church organisations, as well as by individuals. Our unknown friend, "Jehovah-Jireh" continues the generous contribution of £50 each year. The P.W.M.U. of Tasmania has raised about £300 in the two years.

Three additional Native Teachers are now being supported, the annual grant for that purpose now being £65.

Consignments of arrowroot are received annually, and the proceeds paid into a fund for books and translations; £63 now stands to the credit of this fund.

We are negotiating for the publication of a new hymn-book.

The B. & F. Bible Society has generously undertaken to print a translation of First and Second Corinthians, made by the late Rev. R. M. Fraser.

We wish to place on record our appreciation of the valuable services rendered by the Rev. G. M. Baird, who for five years filled the office of Convener to this Committee. We believe that the present satisfactory condition of our work is largely due to his unsparing labour.

For the Committee,

F. J. THOMAS, Convener.

Financial Statement.

Income.	1924.		1925.	
General Fund	£1,000	7 0	£586	16 7
Launch Fund—				
(a) Building	235	3 7	298	16 2
(b) Maintenance	—	—	38	18 3
Natives' Fund	51	0 0	12	17 8
	£1,286 10 7		£937 8 8	
Expenditure	688	6 2	1,150	13 7
	£598 4 5		Dr: £213 4 11	
Balance Cr.			£384 19 6	
Balance Cr.				

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BOOK OF ORDER.

The Committee regrets that, while a considerable amount of work has been done towards the completion of the first portion of the Book of Order, for certain reasons it is unable to present a report to this Assembly.

The Committee asks leave to prepare a selection of passages of Scripture for responsive readings in connection with Divine Worship.

R. SCOTT WEST, Convener.

REPORT ON CHRISTIAN UNITY.

Your Committee has to report that since the last General Assembly of Australia, one Conference with the Anglican, Methodist and Congregational Churches was held in Melbourne in November, 1925.

The resolutions agreed upon were of a general character, and are in no way binding on the Churches concerned.

An earnestness of purpose and brotherliness of spirit were manifest, and there was evidence of a desire for closer fellowship. So far all that has been done is the study of questions and brotherly conference in matters of co-operation and fellowship with a view to re-union.

It was, however, felt by your delegates that no real progress can be made without an understanding of the basis of any future conference, and a motion was submitted to the effect that any future conference on the question of re-union be held on the basis of a full and mutual recognition by all conferring parties of the equal validity of the orders and sacraments of each of the Churches so conferring. This motion was dropped, it being stated from the chair that if it were pressed the conference must end.

Your Committee feel that while there is a desire for an increased co-operation in such matters as the interchange of visits on the part of congregations for the purpose of prayer and intercession, the use of such services of Joint Intercession for addresses to the congregations, as suggested by the Lambeth Conference; the joint study of social and economic questions and united effort to apply Christian ideals to the world of industry and commerce, the difficulty above-mentioned must be faced before any question relating to re-union can be entertained.

J. CROOKSTON, Convener.

Addendum on Co-operation.

The General Assembly of Australia, which met in Sydney in 1924, instructed this Committee "to endeavour, in conjunction with State Assemblies, to promote such co-operation as may be found practicable under existing circumstances, and as may help towards more effective Christian unity, and to report to the Assembly." (G.A.A. Blue Book (5), p. 50.)

Five meetings of the Executive and two of the General Committee have been held.

The General Committee, at its meeting on 19th August, 1925, appointed representatives to attend a Conference on Re-union which was held in Melbourne in November of that year. They are submitting a separate report.

The Executive caused inquiries to be made in all the States, with the object of ascertaining to what extent co-operation is at present being carried on among the different Churches, and submits the following report:—

REPORT.

Some of the replies to our letters of inquiry which were sent out in December, 1925, were received too late to enable the Committee to report to the General Assemblies in Tasmania and South Australia. No replies have been received from the conveners of our Committee in Queensland and Western Australia. The following is a summary of the replies received:—

1. **Training of Ministers.**—In South Australia the Theological Hall is a united body, in which the Presbyterian, Congregational and Baptist Churches join in training students for the Ministry. There are two lecturers on the staff, and perfect harmony in working.

In New South Wales the students for the Ministry of the Methodist and Congregational Churches join with our own in a united scheme of instruction, and the teaching staffs of these colleges form a United Faculty.

In Victoria, a few students from the Baptist College at North Melbourne attend the class in Apologetics at the Ormond Theological Hall every year, and sit for the examination.

2. **Melbourne College of Divinity.**—This body is composed of representatives from the Presbyterian, Anglican, Methodist, Congregational and Baptist Churches. It is established by Act of Parliament, and its duties are to prescribe studies, examine papers, and confer Diploma and Divinity degrees. Meetings are held at regular intervals, and since its establishment the College has done excellent work for the mutual advantage of the incorporated Churches.

3. **Council of Churches.**—In South Australia seven denominations (not including the Anglican) are represented on the Council. Quarterly meetings are held in the city Churches of the various denominations. Matters of common interest are discussed, and joint action taken where necessary.

In New South Wales there is a strong Council, on which our Church is represented. The Council deals with matters of public importance in which the Churches are interested.

In Tasmania four Churches—Presbyterian, Methodist, Congregational and Baptist—are represented on the Council. This Council supports a missionary to the mines on the Adams' Osmiridium Field, at a stipend of £225 per annum. The four Churches represented are jointly responsible for this amount. The Council of Churches has control of the arrangements for the Gipsy Smith Mission in Tasmania.

In Victoria all the Protestant Churches except the Anglican are represented on the Council of Churches. They have, through the Council, co-operated in efforts to combat the evils of the Drink Traffic, to prevent the introduction into our State of the Totalisator, to ensure better censorship of Picture Films, to guard the sanctity of the Lord's Day, to prevent extended facilities for Divorce, to safeguard the spiritual interest of the Lake Tyers aborigines, to promote the cause of International Peace, to prepare the way for the Gipsy Smith Mission, and to secure the better observance of Good Friday.

4. **Scripture in Schools.**—In Victoria all the Protestant Churches are represented on the Joint Council for Religious Instruction in Schools, under the chairmanship of Professor John Smyth, of the Melbourne University. Its aims are to bring Scripture teaching to every class in every school in the State. All the Churches contribute on a pro-rata basis for the support of three organisers. The organisation is very complete, and the work well done. Last year, out of a total enrolment of 219,765 pupils, 122,578 received religious instruction.

5. **Immigration.**—In Victoria all the Churches, including the Roman Catholic, co-operate in meeting, welcoming, and following up migrants coming to the State. At the Welcome and Welfare Committee of the New Settlers' League representatives of the Churches are present, and in turn address the new arrivals in the name of all the Churches. The utmost harmony and goodwill exists amongst all the Churches in carrying on this work. Our Immigration Agent, Rev. William Thomson, says—"The value of Christian unity and co-operation in immigration work in Victoria has been strikingly manifested, and its results beneficial to all the Churches, Protestant and Roman Catholic alike.

6. **Welfare of Youth, Victoria.**—In this State there is a Sunday School Council, on which all the Protestant Churches are officially represented. The Council has control of Teacher Training, Sunday School Conferences, Extension Work, and all matters of general interest to youth workers. Similar councils are at work in the various States, and these are linked together by the Australian Sunday School Council, which meets periodically, and is at present arranging for a Sunday School Conference to be held in Sydney in 1927.

The Sunday School Graded Lessons of Australia and New Zealand are owned by the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches of Victoria. But other Presbyterian and Methodist Churches in the Commonwealth and New Zealand use them, and enjoy the benefits of a virtual partnership. The Churches using the lessons are represented on the Lessons Selection Committee, which meets every three years to select a new cycle of lessons. The business affairs of the two Churches responsible for the lessons are managed by a Joint Board, of which Professor John Smyth is the chairman.

There is active co-operation between the Presbyterian Kindergarten Council and representatives of the Free Kindergartens and denominational organisations in carrying through the two public appeals which are made every year on behalf of child welfare in Melbourne. There is also in existence an arrangement by which the various kindergarten organisations confer on matters of common interest, and especially to prevent overlapping.

7. **Home Missions, Victoria.**—The Home Mission Committee of our Church works amicably and loyally with sister Churches in arranging regular services in new districts, so as to prevent unnecessary competition and waste of effort. Right throughout the State this is always kept in view, and on the whole gives good results, and is satisfactory to ourselves and to other denominations.

Our Home Mission Committee co-operates in a few joint missions with other Protestant Churches. It has from time to time carried on co-operative work in Navvies' Camps, Railroad Construction Camps, and similar communities brought together by special contracts.

Our student preachers and Home Missionaries are instructed to exchange pulpits with Ministers of other denominations, in order to emphasise unity of spirit. They are also instructed to co-operate with other Churches in Christian work wherever possible.

In our City Mission work, the various Churches co-operate in the friendliest way, and all endeavour to make it clear that there is no rivalry in this work.

Our convener in N.S.W. reports: "Some years ago an attempt was made to co-operate in connection with Home Missions, but nothing came of it."

8. **Social Services, Victoria.**—There is a United Social Service Committee, with representatives from all the Christian Churches.

The friendliest relationships have been established, and are being continued, in the work of Children's Aid Societies, Girls' Homes, Hostels, Boys' Clubs, and in Infant Welfare Work. The Churches have been able to act together for improvement in laws for the protection of children, that deal with girls, that secure privacy for dealing with cases touching on morality, and a great deal of our advanced social legislation is due to the one mind that the Churches have always shown in this direction.

J. M. CAMPBELL, Convener.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE FOR THE REVISION OF THE CHURCH HYMNARY.

There has been a very considerable correspondence, not only with the Joint Committee, but also with Congregations and individuals throughout the Commonwealth, showing a deep and widespread interest in the hymnology of our Churches.

A Draft of the Revised Hymnary—consisting of 694 hymns, including ancient hymns and Canticles, etc.—received the approval of the five Home Churches, subject to modifications suggested by Presbyteries, with the final result that the new book will contain 728 hymns. The hymns for the young people will be distributed through the book, with a separate index.

To a request of your Committee, the Secretary of the Joint Committee sent the following reply—"There is no likelihood of any special setting of the Te Deum in the new book. If your Congregations are anxious to sing Jackson's setting, you might suggest that they obtain the Anthem Book published by the United Free Church of Scotland, which has four settings, including Jackson's, besides a good variety of Anthems. It is published by Novello and Company, London. The remarkable thing is that at the present time a big demand for the book has sprung up in England. It is probably the cheapest collection of Anthems to be had in the market at present."

The Committee embodies the above information in the report, believing that it may be of value to Congregations generally.

Two matters had to be decided by the Committee, without reference to the Assembly, as immediate answers were asked for by the Secretary. The first was concerned with putting on the title page the words "Authorised for Use in Public Worship," and we replied in the affirmative. The second referred to the Metrical Psalms and Paraphrases, with tunes, and in communication with the Oxford Press as desired, we stated that the Psalms and Paraphrases should be as in the present Church Hymnary.

A Sub-Committee of musical experts are engaged in selecting tunes, etc.; all the members being Organists in Presbyterian Churches, and the Musical Editor, Professor David Evans, of Cardiff University, a distinguished musician and a Presbyterian Elder.

"It is anticipated that the revision of the music will be finished in December, and there is a strong desire and hope that the book will be ready to lay on the table of the General Assemblies in May, 1927."

"The Church Hymnary Trustees have made what are considered exceedingly favourable arrangements with the Oxford University Press, especially for the publication of musical editions. By the use of photography the Organ edition and a pocket music edition will be reproduced from the pew edition as a standard, and there will be a melody edition in staff and sol-fa to sell in this (Home) country at 2/6. Great importance is being attached to the melody edition as a means of developing community singing of hymns."

The following resolution was adopted by the Joint Committee:—

"That a Sub-Committee be appointed to proceed with the preparation of historical introductions, biographical notes on authors and composers, historical, bibliographical and other notes on hymns and tunes, and such other material as may be necessary to furnish an efficient Hand Book or Companion to the Revised Hymnary."

The Committee would suggest the advisability of referring the question of royalties to the Finance Committee.

R. SCOTT WEST, Convener.

THE REPORT OF THE CODE COMMITTEE.

The Standing Orders Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria reprinted the Rules and Forms, as authorised by the General Assembly. An opportunity was given to the other States to obtain copies at cost price. The Queensland Assembly ordered 750 copies, and the Western Australian Assembly 200. The Tasmanian and South Australian Churches will also use the revised Rules.

GEORGE TAIT, Convener.

REPORT OF COLLEGE COMMITTEE FOR PERIOD SEPTEMBER, 1924, TO SEPTEMBER, 1926.

The College Committee begs to submit the following report of its work since the meeting of the General Assembly in September, 1924:—

Your Committee regrets to report the death in 1925 of Prof. D. S. Adam, D.D., and in 1926 of Prof. J. L. Rentoul, D.D., both of Ormond College. The former was Professor of Systematic Theology and Church History for 17 years, and the latter Professor of New Testament Greek and Apologetics for 42 years. Your Committee has received invaluable service from both professors, and laments the loss to the interests of the theological education sustained by their death.

Your Committee has also suffered temporary loss through illness of Dr. J. Mathew and Rev. J. Barnaby, both of whom have rendered long and valuable service to the work of this Committee. Your Committee congratulates Dr. J. Mathew and Dr. W. Borland on attaining the D.D. Degree.

The Rev. E. E. Baldwin, tutor to Home Missionaries in Victoria, has been coopted as a member of the Committee.

Exit Examinations.—At the Exit Examinations for 1924, 16 students passed the Exit, two after supplementary examination. Of these, six were from Victoria, five from New South Wales, four from Queensland, and one from South Australia. Mr. D. A. Hodges, M.A., B.D., of Victoria, was granted an aegrotat pass in the following subjects:—Systematic Theology, Church History, Christian Ethics and Contents of the English Bible. This was granted on account of serious illness, and in consideration of the excellent course he had done at the University and in the Theological Hall.

Mr. R. G. Butler, of Victoria, was granted permission to take the Exit Examination in February, 1925, owing to serious illness.

Mr. A. W. Ivory, of Victoria, was granted an aegrotat pass in Apologetics.

Previous to the Exit Examinations for 1925, the new rules governing the Exit Examinations were matured by the Committee, and brought into force. The new system is working, on the whole, very well, and the Committee regards it as preferable to that pursued in the past. The Committee is watching the system carefully, with a view to making needed improvements as experience may dictate. It was decided by the Committee that the system of the averaging of marks for the whole of the subjects be no longer allowed; and that no honours be given on the results of the Exit Examinations, but the matter of honours be left to each Theological Faculty.

The following Sub-Committee has been appointed as a Standing Committee as required by the deliverance of last General Assembly, viz., Rev. Dr. Borland, Rev. H. M. Burns, Mr. D. K. Picken and the Secretary.

At the 1925 Exit Examination, 18 students presented themselves, of whom 16 passed, three after a supplementary examination. Of these, eight were from Victoria, three from New South Wales, two from Queensland, two from South Australia, and one from Western Australia.

A very considerable discrepancy between the marks allotted by different examiners was revealed, and the Committee is considering how best to standardise the marking.

The Committee begs to report specially the case of Mr. W. F. McKenzie, B.A., a student of Ormond College, Victoria. The Committee made a special case of Mr. McKenzie, who had failed to secure a pass in Theology and Church History, in which his marks were 38 per cent. and 39 per cent., respectively. He had passed well in the other subjects. In ordinary circumstances, only one course of action would have been possible, viz., for Mr. McKenzie to have a supplementary in the subjects failed in, and this was what he himself preferred, if it could be arranged without conflicting with the plans already made by the Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. Mr. McKenzie is in the service of the Board at Aurukun, in North Queensland, where he was stationed in 1924, after completing two years at the Theological Hall, Ormond College. Through some miscarriage of communications, an examination which Mr. McKenzie was to take while away had to be postponed until his return to Victoria at the beginning of 1925. This, which was due to no fault of his own, very seriously affected his preparation for the third year work. Besides this, it was reported that Mr. McKenzie was a returned soldier, who had experienced the severest kinds of hardships as a prisoner of war in Germany for the greater part of a year, and that the consequent effect upon his memory had handicapped him ever since. The matter of urgency put before the Committee by the Rev. T. Watt-Leggatt, representing the Board of Missions, was that unless Mr. McKenzie could be licensed and ordained at once, all the arrangements for the work at Aurukun—involving the movements of other Missionaries—would be disorganised. These arrangements required that Mr. McKenzie should sail from Melbourne on October 14, 1925. The Convener reported that enquiries made from the Master of Ormond College, and the Ormond College Theological Professors, put it beyond question that Mr. McKenzie was (1) a very diligent and hard-working student (probably suffering from overwork and from over-anxiety); (2) a man of the highest personal character, who had taken a leading place in the life of Ormond College, because of his outstanding personality.

Mr. McKenzie made it clear that he had no wish on his own behalf for anything but a regular pass, and offered to submit himself to any conditions of further study that might be imposed by the College Committee.

In all the circumstances, and in view of the fact that Ordination could not be proceeded with until an Exit Certificate had been granted, the Committee resolved to grant Mr. McKenzie a pass in Theology and Church History, and instructed the Convener and Secretary to sign and issue the Certificate for Exit to Mr. McKenzie.

Entrance Examinations.—At the Entrance Examinations in February and March, 1924, sixteen candidates presented themselves; of these, fourteen passed, eleven after undergoing a supplementary examination. Of the sixteen students, seven were from New South Wales, six from Victoria, and three from Queensland.

At the Entrance Examinations held in December, 1925, and February, 1926, sixteen students presented themselves; of these, twelve passed, five after supplementary. Of those presenting themselves, eleven were from Victoria, three from New South Wales, and one each from Queensland and Western Australia. Two of the candidates qualified for Entrance by passing the third year of the new Home Mission Course.

The Committee recommends to the General Assembly that the following alteration be made in Rule 2(b), Rules of Admission, Entrance Examination:—Omit all the words after "graduation" down to "Sociology," and alter the Rule to read as follows:—"in 6 subjects, 3 of which shall be English, Greek, and 1st year Philosophy."

Home Mission Course.—The old Home Mission Course, entrance to which ceased at the end of 1924, will soon terminate, as is seen by the fact that only 30 candidates presented themselves for examination in July, 1926, as against an average of about 50 for a number of years past. Of these, fourteen are in the 4th year of the Course. A considerable number of students are studying under the new Home Missions Course, and the indications are that there will be a larger number under this Course than under the old one. This is particularly noticeable in the States of Victoria and Queensland.

The Committee has matured the Syllabus for the new Home Missions Course, and this is now in full operation.

At the Home Missions Examinations (Supplementary) held in October, 1924, 16 candidates presented themselves. Of these, nine passed, three in the 2nd year, four in the 3rd year, and two in the 4th year; six were from Victoria, two from New South Wales, and one from Western Australia. Four candidates who failed in Greek, but passed in all other subjects of their year, were allowed to proceed to the next year of their Course in all subjects except Greek, which they were required to take again at the lower grade.

At the Home Missions Examinations in 1925, 43 candidates presented themselves. Of these, 30 passed, three after a supplementary examination. Nineteen were from Victoria, ten each from New South Wales and Queensland, and two each from South Australia and Western Australia.

Mr. H. J. Ashmore, of Victoria, was granted an aegrotat pass in 3rd year Greek on a doctor's certificate, and the fact that he had done well in his Examinations.

Three students of Queensland, Messrs. S. McKay, S. Summers and E. Johnson, all in the 3rd year of the Course, were advanced a year in recognition of the excellent results gained in their examinations. Each of these will be required to pass in Moral Philosophy and History of the 3rd year previous to their entrance to a Theological Hall.

Mr. W. H. Mathers, a Home Missionary of Victoria, who had been granted permission to take his 2nd year at the Supplementary Examinations in October, 1924, was, on production of a doctor's certificate, granted an aegrotat pass, and at the Examinations in 1925 passed the 3rd year with good marks.

An irregularity in supervision of one candidate having been reported to the Committee, it was decided, **after full investigation**, to cancel the Examination of that student, and require him to take the Examination *de novo*.

The Committee subsequently passed a regulation requiring that where the examination of Home Missionaries cannot be held at the Theological Hall of the State, the supervisor must be approved by the Clerk of the Presbytery of the bounds within which the Missionary is working. The attention of Presbytery Clerks is drawn to this Regulation.

Since the last meeting of the General Assembly, seven applications have been granted for reception under the old Home Missions Course, and twelve under the present Course.

The Committee has found that the present Rules for the acceptance of students to the Home Missions Course are too rigid in the case of candidates from overseas. It therefore recommends that Rule I of the Home Missions Course of Training be altered by the addition of the following words:—"In the case of candidates who have been resident outside the Commonwealth, and who produce certificates of educational qualifications, the College Committee shall determine whether such qualifications are equivalent to those which are required by the above." The Committee reports the cases of three students whose qualifications seemed at least as high as those required by our Rules, and that it has graded them as follows:—Mr. D. A. Provan, a Home Missionary of Victoria, submitted testimonials of his qualifications, which showed that he had passed the examinations of the Bankers' Institute, and had also undergone considerable training as a probationer of the Methodist Church. He was graded in the 3rd year of the Course. Mr. F. Agnew, a Home Missionary in Western Australia, recently come from Scotland, submitted Certificates of having passed the Matriculation Examination of the Scottish Educational Authority, and was graded in the 1st year of the Course. Mr. A. Wright, a Home Missionary of Victoria, recently come from Scotland, produced Certificates from the Scottish Educational Authority as having passed in seven subjects, and was graded in the 2nd year of the Course.

The Committee considers that those entering on the Home Mission Course of Training should be at least 23 years of age.

A regulation has been passed definitely requiring the production of Certificates before candidates will be graded.

Three cases have come before the Committee of men who had been granted concessions as special cases applying to take up the concessions after a considerable lapse of time, and the Committee recommends that the General Assembly pass the following regulation:—That the General Assembly, when granting concessions in special cases, shall prescribe a specified time within which such concessions are valid.

In this connection, the Committee reports the cases of Mr. L. M. Fairey, of Victoria, who was granted a concession ten years ago, and only last year entered on his examinations; of Mr. B. P. Cavanough, of Queensland, who was granted a concession twelve years ago, and has only this year applied to enter on his studies; of Mr. A. G. Wood, of New South Wales, applying this year for permission to take advantage of a concession granted 20 years ago.

The Revision of the Constitution relating to the functions of the College Committee, which was remitted to this Committee in consultation with the Procurator has been carried out, and appears in the Appendix to this report.

Seven Home Missionaries have passed the required Examinations qualifying them to dispense the Sacraments of the Church, since the last meeting of the General Assembly. Information has reached the Committee that certain Home Missionaries have dispensed Sacraments, although they have not passed the Examinations required, and the Committee draws the attention of the General Assembly to this irregularity.

The requirement of the last General Assembly of fifty per cent. in each subject for a pass has been fully justified by the results, as, on the whole, there have been fewer failures than under the old system.

Since last meeting of the General Assembly, 19 meetings of the Executive have been held. Attendances of members were as follows:—Dr. W. Borland, Prof. T. J. Smith, Rev. F. Milne, and the Secretary, 18 each; Rev. E. E. Baldwin, 13; Mr. D. K. Picken and Rev. H. M. Burns,

12; Rev. J. Barnaby, 11; Dr. J. Mathew and Rev. J. Gillies, 8; Dr. J. L. Rentoul, 2.

A number of alterations have taken place in the personnel of the Examiners since the last meeting of the General Assembly. For the Exit Examinations, the Committee is appointing the External Examiner in each subject for one year. Of the Examiners for Entrance, the following have resigned:—Revs. M. McQueen, M.A.; E. E. Baldwin, M.A.; R. Nairn, M.A., and Dr. G. Davidson. The following have been appointed in their places:—Rev. F. Milne, M.A., B.D., for Hebrew; Rev. H. M. Burns, M.A., B.D., and Rev. E. H. Vines, M.A., Dip.Ed., for Greek. Of the Examiners for the Home Missions Course, the following have resigned:—Revs. W. Tait, M.A.; J. J. Gilmore, B.A.; Norman Millar, B.A.; W. Fraser, B.A.; J. H. Craig, M.A., and G. Chalmers. The following have been appointed to take their places:—Rev. J. Calder, M.A., for History; Revs. J. B. Galloway and J. C. Jones, B.A., for English; Rev. T. Mathers, M.A., for Scripture and Catechism; and Rev. J. Nicholls, M.A., for Moral Philosophy.

Fees amounting to £30/5/- have been received from students, and the working expenses of the Committee have totalled £36/17/-, from October 1, 1924, to July 31, 1926. Within that time, 1180 letters and communications have been sent out by the Secretary.

W. BORLAND, Convener.

COLLEGE COMMITTEE.—Supplementary Report A.

At the Home Mission Examination in July, 1926, 30 candidates presented themselves for examination. Fourteen passed the whole of the examination of their year, viz., 1 from S.A., 5 from Queensland, 4 from New South Wales, and 4 from Victoria. Almost all those failing are entitled to take supplementary examinations in October.

Educational requirements in connection with the reception of men from other Churches received into the Presbyterian Church. (Remitted to the College Committee, by G.A.A., 1924, Min. 116).

The College Committee is of the opinion that in the case of men trained in other than Presbyterian Churches, and received into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church, some time should be spent in becoming familiar with the Principles and Practice of Presbyterianism; and to that end recommends that every Minister so received shall spend at least one year in attendance at one of the Theological Halls of our Church, and pass in examination in such subjects, including The Church, Ministry and Sacraments, as shall be determined by the Theological Faculty, after consultation with the College Committee. As most of the men trained for the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church spend a considerable time in Home Mission Work, often extending over years, the Committee recommends that all men received into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church from other Churches, shall be under the control of the Home Mission Committee of their State for a period of not less than two years.

Instruction in the Principles and Methods of Teaching in the Theological Halls. (Remitted to C.C., Vide B.B., 1924, p. 18). In Ormond College a lecturer is appointed each year in Paideutics. The students have a course of 12 lectures each year for two years. In Emmanuel College there is no provision made for instruction in the Principles and Method of Teaching, though the Principal recognises its importance. At the Brisbane University, those taking Arts, take Education as one of the subjects.

In Parkin College, S.A., regular courses are given on Child Psychology and Paideutics.

No reply has been received from New South Wales.

W. BORLAND, Convener.

COLLEGE COMMITTEE.—Supplementary Report B.

Report of Sub-Committee re Overture and Deliverance of College Committee on the reception of Ministers from other Churches.

The Sub-Committee reports having met, and recommends the following to the General Assembly:—

That Chapter VII of Rules and Forms: Regulations under Article IX C.—Ministers and Preachers of other Denominations, be amended as follows:—

Rules 1, 2, 3 and 4 to remain as at present.

Rules 5 and 6 to be deleted, and the following new rules substituted as follows:—

Rule 5.—Subject to the right of the General Assembly to deal with all applications as it deems fit; if the General Assembly grant the Petition, and the Petitioner be received, he shall spend at least one year in attendance at one of the Theological Halls of the Presbyterian Church, and pass the Exit Examination in such subjects (including the Church, Ministry and Sacraments) as shall be determined by the Faculty of the Theological Hall which he attends, with the approval of the College Committee. Thereafter, he shall serve under the Home Mission Committee of his State for a period of one year.

Rule 6.—When the foregoing conditions have been satisfied the College Committee shall be empowered to issue a certificate of status in accordance with the conditions laid down by the General Assembly at the time of his reception.

Rule 7.—The College Committee shall report all such cases to the following meeting of the General Assembly.

Report of College Committee on Petitions of Home Missionaries for Ordination.

The College Committee recommends to the General Assembly as follows:—

1. Mr. Albert E. Jones.—That the prayer of the petition be not granted, but that Mr. Jones be recommended to proceed with and complete the regular Home Mission Course.
2. Mr. George McGregor.—That the prayer of the petition be not granted.
3. Mr. J. E. Moffatt.—That the prayer of the petition be not granted.
4. Mr. A. J. C. Tebbitt.—That the prayer of the petition be not granted.
5. Mr. A. G. Wilson.—That the prayer of the petition be granted, and that Mr. Wilson be allowed to take the Entrance Examination without Hebrew.
6. Mr. Palmer.—That the prayer of the petition be not granted.

W. BORLAND, Convener.

APPENDIX.

Report on the Revision of the Constitution and Powers of the College Committee.

(A).

The Convener of the College Committee and Dr. J. Mathew, in co-operation with the Law Agents of the Church, prepared a case for the opinion of the Procurator.

In delivering his opinion, the Procurator dealt fully with the powers of the General Assembly and the College Committee in relation to the difficulties in the interpretation of the Deed of Union, Articles of Agreement, VIII, and the Administration of the Regulations under Article VIII.

In accordance with the advice thus received, the College Committee recommends the General Assembly as follows:—

- (1) Substitute, in place of Deed of Union, Article VIII, Preamble and Sub-sections 5, 6, 7, 8, the following:—
There shall be a system of Theological Training of the whole Church, as follows:—

VIII 5. Candidates for admission to a Theological Hall shall produce evidence to the College Committee that they have obtained or qualified for a degree in some recognised University.

- VIII 6. Notwithstanding the provisions of VIII 5, students who have matriculated and partly completed a University Degree Course, or have completed the General Assembly's Home Mission Course of Training, and passed the prescribed examinations, may be admitted to the Entrance Examinations, subject to Rules of Admission to be determined from time to time by the General Assembly.
- VIII 7. The subjects of the Entrance Examination shall be such as are set forth in the Rules of Admission and in the Syllabus approved from time to time by the General Assembly.
- VIII 8. The Examinations for Entrance and Exit shall be held at such times and in such places as shall be determined by the College Committee, with the approval of the General Assembly.
- VIII 9. Add to present 9, after the words "Entrance and Exit Examinations," "The General Assembly is empowered to add to, rescind or vary from time to time any Rules so framed or adopted."

(B).

In place of the Regulations under Article VIII, recommends the General Assembly to substitute the following:—

- (1) The College Committee shall prepare and revise from time to time Rules for Entrance and Exit Examinations, and for the Training and Examination of Home Missionaries, to be approved by the General Assembly. It shall also publish a Syllabus for each of the Examinations containing all necessary information for candidates.
- (2) The Executive of the College Committee shall consist of the members in the State in which the Convener resides.
- (3) The Executive shall exercise the powers of the Committee in dealing with candidates, and conducting Examinations under the existing Rules. It shall report to the College Committee any Special Cases dealt with by it, and shall be empowered to recommend such amendments of procedure as may be necessary from time to time.

REPORT ON DEACONESS INSTITUTE.

The Deaconess and Missionary Training Institute at Carlton, Melbourne, continues the important work of training deaconesses for the Home and Foreign Mission fields. Following the resignation, owing to illness, of Deaconess Veronica Bruce, who has since passed away, Deaconess Kekwick was appointed Superintendent in March of this year. During the year 1925 four students completed their training; two of these were Baptists, and are now in India under their own Church, while the other two are now in City Mission work under our own Home Mission Committee of Victoria. There are at present eleven students in training, which is the full complement. The Committee records its appreciation of the services of the honorary lecturers in Biblical and other subjects, and of the energetic work of Rev. G. M. Connor, past Convener. The Committee commends the Training Institute especially to the interest of the Church in other States, where its activities might be better known.

JAS. McMASTER, Convener.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL CAPITAL.

During the past two years there has been such a rapid development in matters pertaining to the Federal Capital, that the earnest attention of the Assembly is called to it as being of the utmost importance. Already

there has been a very considerable influx of population, and with the meeting of Parliament in May, 1927, involving the transference of Government Offices to Canberra, a very much larger increase may be anticipated. Apart from those results which are consequent upon the meetings of Parliament, Canberra, with its salubrious climate and picturesque situation, will, as the Capital City of the Commonwealth, attract thousands who are likely to reside there permanently. In such circumstances, therefore, the Assembly is called upon to seriously consider how best to make provision for the future administration of the Territory, and to occupy a position in the Capital worthy of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Cathedral Site.

A communication, stating terms and conditions upon which a Church site would be granted, was received from the Commissioners of Federal Territory through the Moderator-General, but, in view of the financial obligations to which the Assembly would be committed by acceptance of the offer, it was deemed expedient that the Moderator-General should act for the Assembly, and he was advised accordingly.

Church Ordinances.

According to the decision of last Assembly, the Home Mission Committee of New South Wales has had the oversight of the work at Canberra, and services have been regularly maintained during the past two years. For the first year the Minister of Queanbeyan, the Rev. A. J. Carter, in whose parish the Federal Capital was then situated, enthusiastically and successfully organised the work, but latterly Canberra was disjoined by the Presbytery of Goulburn, and formed into a Home Mission Station. At present the Rev. Chas. Hain, an ordained Minister, is in charge. The stipend which is being paid is £6 per week, of which the Congregation pays £4, the H.M. Committee of Victoria and the H.M. Committee of New South Wales, £1 each.

Ainslie.

In addition to the Cathedral Site, it was found necessary to select another site at Ainslie, the Civic Centre. The local Committee of Management has secured, at favourable terms, sufficient ground on which to erect a Church, Hall and Manse; and already plans for the Hall have been drawn, and approved by the Presbytery of Goulburn and the New South Wales Assembly. For the erection of the Hall—which is estimated to cost £1,500—the Congregation has in actual cash or promises the sum of £300; the Church Offices, Sydney, hold £360 from the sale of an old Church in Federal Territory; and the Trustees of the New South Wales Church are contributing £900 on the following most generous terms:—For five years no interest will be charged nor repayment of principal sought, thereafter repayment of principal only in 20 annual instalments. The building of the hall is being proceeded with.

Owing to lack of accommodation, it is deemed necessary to build the Manse as soon as arrangements can be made.

Administration.

The Federal Territory should, for the present at least, be placed under the jurisdiction of the New South Wales Assembly, except in so far as the control thereof may be modified or limited by decisions of this Assembly; and the Minister or Ministers of Canberra should have a seat in the Presbytery of Goulburn, and in the Assembly of New South Wales.

Appointment of a Minister.

From the situation that has been created by the acceptance of the Cathedral Site, and by the conditions that are attached thereto, it is absolutely necessary that a Minister should at once be appointed to take charge of the work connected therewith. To build and endow a Church with Offices and Manse, worthy of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, will require a sum in the neighbourhood of £40,000; and to raise that, or a like, amount, will be one of his first duties. As he will represent the Presbyterian Church, not only in pulpit ministrations, but at important functions in the Capital City, such an appointment should be made by this Assembly, and his stipend guaranteed for the first two years.

From the above, certain important matters arise:—

(a) In the event of a vacancy occurring before next Assembly, provision should be made for the appointment of a successor. It is suggested that, in this instance, the Moderator-General, the ex-Moderators-General, and the State Moderators of Victoria and New South Wales be a Selection Committee (the Moderator-General, Convener), and that the Presbytery of Goulburn be instructed to induct the Minister thus selected.

(b) At, or after, next Assembly the Selection Committee, as already constituted shall co-operate with a similar Committee appointed by the Congregation; the final decision to be in the hands of the Assembly Selection Committee.

(c) To initiate, determine and superintend the work for the erection of the Cathedral Church a Building Committee, consisting of members of the Assembly and members of the local Congregation, should be appointed; such Committee to report to next Assembly.

(d) The Church at Ainslie, when released from the care of the H.M. Committee of New South Wales, shall be considered as an integral part of the Cathedral Charge, until the Presbytery may determine to raise it to a sanctioned charge, and a Minister be called in the usual way.

W. GRANT FORSYTH, Convener.

PERSONAL REPORT OF THE MODERATOR-GENERAL ON ECCLESIASTICAL SITES AT CANBERRA.

Last General Assembly appointed a Committee to deal with the question of the ecclesiastical relation of the Federal Territory to this General Assembly and to the Church of New South Wales. That matter will be dealt with in the report to be presented by the Committee so appointed.

It did not specially lie to that Committee to deal with the selection of sites, and the negotiations with the Commissioners for the Federal Territory. Accordingly that duty has had to be taken up by myself as Moderator-General. I have to report that, on the advice of representatives from New South Wales and Victoria, I applied for a site selected by them, marked number 4 on the plan submitted to us. This site comprises a triangular block of about 3½ acres just below Capitol Hill, and facing Wellington Avenue, one of the main entrances into the City. I am glad to be able to report that on the 18th of January, 1926, the Commissioners intimated to me that they are prepared to allot this site to our Church, subject to the conditions of lease agreement, for ecclesiastical purposes. The block has been valued at £6,000, and it will be granted on a lease of 99 years, at a yearly rental of one per cent. upon this valuation, and without re-appraisal during that period. The site is a magnificent one for Church purposes, and we will be expected to put on it, as we ought to put on it, buildings worthy of the Capital of Australia and of our own Church. It will lie to the Assembly to authorise the selection of plan, the erection of buildings, and the raising of the necessary funds to finance the undertaking. This business will have to be entered upon at once, as the Government Administration and the Seat of Parliament will be removed to Canberra next May, with a consequent large addition of a permanent population to the City.

The Assembly will also have to consider the terms of appointment for a Minister in Canberra. This whole matter, including buildings, is essentially one for the whole Church of Australia, and though ecclesiastical authority will remain with the Church in New South Wales, it should be understood that it is acting administratively on behalf of the Church of Australia, and that the final responsibility rests upon the whole Church.

We were also faced with the fact that there is already a very considerable population at Canberra, including a number of our own people. For them provision had to be made for the administration of the ordinances of the Gospel. For some time intermittent services were held at Canberra in a hired hall, which was not well fitted for Church service. Accordingly, by the joint assistance of the Home Mission Committees of

New South Wales and Victoria, and with the hearty and generous co-operation of Presbyterians in Canberra, regular services have now been instituted, and at present the Rev. Charles Hain is acting as Minister-in-charge, under the supervision of the Home Mission Committee of New South Wales. It is perfectly clear that, in addition to our main charge on the site already selected, it would be necessary to have a secondary Church at Ainslie, a part of Canberra, which will be mainly occupied for residential purposes by civil servants and others. The need here was so urgent, and so immediate, that a site for a Church and Manse has been selected at Ainslie, which the Commissioners have agreed to let us have at a valuation of £350, and which will be leasehold for 99 years at 5 per cent. on the valuation, but subject to re-appraisal after twenty years. As the need for some ecclesiastical building to represent our Church was very urgent, and there was no place for a Minister to reside in, it was necessary to push on at once with a Church Hall and Manse on the Ainslie site. The Presbyterians in Canberra are doing their part worthily towards this end, but it cannot be expected that the small congregation at present there could maintain a minister and undertake the cost of ecclesiastical buildings. It is mainly through the generous assistance accorded by the Church of New South Wales that it is possible to go on at once with the Ainslie buildings, and we hope to have the School Hall and Manse erected before the end of the year. These arrangements will necessarily come under the cognisance of the Committee dealing with Church buildings in the Capital City, and will probably have to be incorporated in the general scheme under the authority of this Assembly.

We must recognise that the whole situation at Canberra will have to be dealt with by the Church as a special emergency, and that as the position of the Federal Territory creates a new situation in the body politic, so it creates a new situation for the Church, which will have to be dealt with as such.

Tentative negotiations have also been carried on with the Commissioners regarding the possibility of establishing a Boys' College (Boarding and Day School) in the Capital City. The Commissioners have been most sympathetic in this scheme, as they have been in all the dealings of our Church with them, and I had hoped to be able to put a proposition before the Church which would have made the establishing of such a College comparatively easy. I recognise that in such negotiations the Commissioners will necessarily act on a principle, which would be applicable to other Churches as well as our own. A possible site for such a College has been tentatively selected, and certain negotiations have taken place regarding it. This will be submitted to the Assembly for consideration, but I recognise the seriousness of such a proposal, along with the other schemes for ecclesiastical buildings.

J. CROOKSTON, Moderator-General.

FEDERAL CAPITAL.—Supplementary Report.

Appointment of a Minister.

From the situation that has been created by the acceptance of the Cathedral Site, and by the conditions that are attached thereto, it is absolutely necessary that a Minister should at once be appointed to take charge of the work connected therewith. To build and endow a Church with Offices and Manse, worthy of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, will require at least £40,000; and to raise that, or further amount, will be one of his first duties. As he will represent the Presbyterian Church, not only in pulpit ministrations, but at important functions in the Capital City, such an appointment should be made by this Assembly, and his stipend guaranteed for the first two years.

From the above, certain important matters arise:—

- (a) In the event of a vacancy occurring before next Assembly, provision should be made for the appointment of a successor. It is suggested that, in this instance, the Moderator-General, the ex-Moderators-General, and the State Moderators of Victoria and New South Wales should be a Selection Committee (the

- Moderator-General, Convener), and that the Presbytery of Goulburn be instructed to induct the Minister thus selected.
- (b) To initiate, determine and superintend the work for the erection of the Cathedral Church, a Building Committee, consisting of members of the Assembly and members of the local Congregation, should be appointed clothed with Assembly powers to select a plan and to proceed with the erection of buildings for the Cathedral Church, Hall, necessary Offices, and Manse.
 - (c) A Commission of the General Assembly of Australia should now be appointed to approve of and adopt plans, with power to proceed with the building of the Cathedral Church, Hall, necessary Offices and Manse as soon as can be arranged for.
 - (d) The Minister of Canberra should also be appointed Commissioner of Assembly to organise and collect throughout the Commonwealth the sum required for the erection of the buildings and the endowment of the Cathedral parish.
 - (e) An Executive Committee should be appointed, with whom the Commissioner may consult from time to time, and who shall assist in every way in their power.
 - (f) The Commissioner should be authorised to appoint Committees in each State, to co-operate with and assist him.
 - (g) All Ministers, Sessions, and Boards of Management should be earnestly requested to encourage and assist the Commissioner in this great undertaking for the Church of Australia, and the Assembly should confidently call upon our men and women whom God has blessed with means to give liberally to secure for our historic and beloved Church a strong position of influence and usefulness, for all time, in the Capital City of Australia; and all our people should be urged to help according to their ability.
 - (h) The Executive Committee should be empowered, if they see fit, to secure sites for ecclesiastical purposes in other suburbs of Canberra.

W. GRANT FORSYTH, Convener.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

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

As indicated in last report, your Committee has satisfaction in being able to state that the Assessments authorised by the previous Assembly have covered all the outgoings in the General Assembly Account, and leave a balance of £535/16/8.

The amount realised from the Hymnary Royalty Account for the two years 1925-1926, with interest on the credit balance, is £148/8/7, being a little in excess of the previous two years. This, in accordance with the usual custom, was transferred to the credit of the Travelling Expenses Account, but even after making this transfer there remained a shortage in the Travelling Expenses Account of £554/5/2, which had to be placed against the General Assembly Expenses Account. So that, at present, there is nothing at credit of the Travelling Expenses Account, and the Assembly will again require to make provision for the travelling expenses of members from the Ordinary Account, and irrespective of Hymnary Royalty, as the latter can only be relied upon to provide a very limited amount for this purpose.

As indicated, the General Assembly Account is at present in credit, £535/16/8. It is a matter of satisfaction that the whole of the Assessment made for each year, 1925 and 1926, has been paid in full by every State, and there is nothing outstanding. The total expenditure in the General Assembly Expenses Account for the period under review is £882/10/-, and the total revenue £1441/10/10, which, with the credit balance carried forward made £1912/19/10 available. The extra amount of £554/5/2 had to be paid for travelling expenses, making a total expenditure of £1377/3/2.

The expenditure for the three years on account of the Year Book amounts to £225/1/-, while the revenue from sales, as received at headquarters to date of making this report, was £77/7/3, leaving a shortage of £147/13/9. Your Committee, on two separate occasions, has made a recommendation regarding the discontinuance of the publishing of this book, but on this occasion will refrain from making any comment.

To make provision for expenditure on the same scale for the present Assembly, your Committee recommends that the various States be assessed on the same basis per annum for the next two years, namely:—

Victoria	£205	6	9
New South Wales	205	6	9
Queensland	60	12	0
South Australia	34	15	6
Tasmania	34	15	6
Western Australia	34	15	6

making a total assessment of £575/12/- per annum, or a revenue of £1151/4/-, which your Committee estimates should be sufficient to cover what is required, and leave a working balance in hand right through. The only item which would cause this to be increased would be the making of provision for an annual payment to the Presbyterian Alliance, should the Assembly decide so to do.

With regard to the travelling expenses of members coming to the General Assembly of Australia, your Committee, as is always the case, cannot make any definite forecast as to what the amount may be, but makes recommendation that the payment be made on the same basis as formerly, namely:—

- (a) Those paying less than £1, nothing;
- (b) Those paying from £1 to £4, to receive half;
- (c) Those paying from £4 upwards to receive three-quarters, provided that no one in class (b) shall pay less than £1 himself, and no one in class (c) less than £2, the exception being the delegates from Western Australia, who will be allowed their proportion at first-class rate.

The accounts for the Home Mission Department, included in which is the working of the Australian Inland Mission, are set forth, as usual, in full, the costs in the various sections being given under their respective headings, with a view to supplying at a glance what is expended on each place. The total revenue evolved from all sources for the two years has been:—

To June 30, 1925	£7,058	3	11
To June 30, 1926	7,065	6	9
and the expenditure for the same period, that is,			
To June 30, 1925	£7,288	3	3
To June 30, 1926	6,584	2	0

Total revenue for the two years is £14,123/10/8, the expenditure £13,872/5/3, with a debit balance at July 1, 1924, of £229/17/1, leaving a credit balance in the Working Account of £21/8/4, to the end of June last, with a sum of £2,186/6/6 held at credit in the Reserve Account. A satisfactory feature in this section is the very substantial amounts held at credit for various purposes in connection with prospective building schemes, these being:—

Aeroplane Account	£34	12	10
Birdsville Account	794	2	6
Innamincka Account	324	9	3
Property Account	261	7	9
Victoria River Account	446	16	2
	£1,861	8	6
Reserve Amount	2,186	6	6
	£4,047	15	0

It has to be kept in view that, even with the Reserve Amount as above-stated, the sum available is very far short of the £25,000 which the Assembly set out to realise, and this should be steadily kept in view.

The amount of £1,000 is held to the credit of the John Fraser Foreign Missions Endowment Fund, and is invested at 6½ per cent., and the interest is paid to the credit of the Board of Missions each half-year.

On behalf of the Committee,

WALTER G. CRANE, Chairman.

August 2, 1926.

HOME MISSION COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA.

Committee on Home Missions.

Although this Committee was by last Assembly given general oversight of the Home Mission work of the Church of Australia and Tasmania, and a Committee was appointed representing all the States, yet no provision was made for its meeting and no opportunity will be afforded until the members arrive for this Assembly. The Committee has not been approached by the Home Missions Committee of any of the State Churches, all of which have recently been requested to send to the Convener Reports of their work during the past two years. These have been received from Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, and are attached. They are well worth careful perusal. The Tasmanian and South Australian Churches have benefited by their connection with Victoria, and it is hoped that more help, both in men and money, will be able to be given in the coming years. West Australia has received encouraging assistance in men and money from New South Wales, but our Church in that great Western State, with its vast areas, scattered population, and rapid influx of immigrants, calls aloud for practical and liberal assistance from the whole Presbyterian Church of Australia. The trouble, of course, is that each State has its own Home Mission problems of great urgency, and with insufficient monetary support for its needs. Still, the strong should help the weak, and the needs of the whole of the Australian territory should make an appeal to the whole of the Australian Christian men and women.

Could not the children of our Sunday Schools throughout Australia, in addition to what they are now doing for Home and Foreign Missions, have a little money-box in which they could put pennies and half-pennies for the Home Missions of West Australia and South Australia? Would not that be good for our young people? And it would be a joy to them to know that they are helping to provide Ministers, Churches, and Sunday Schools for the boys and girls coming out from Scotland, England, Ireland and Wales, and settling in far-away places in West and South Australia. Then their gifts could be sent in to the Convener of the Home Mission Committee of Australia at the end of each year.

We also make another suggestion to vitalise and popularise the Home Mission work of every State, namely, that the Moderator-General be appointed Convener of the General Assembly of Australia Home Missions Committee. He could meet with all the State Home Mission Committees as he visited each State, and could consult as to the special needs of each; and could, as Moderator-General, bring these needs vividly, and with the weight of his official position, before the Church leaders and the people wherever he went. He could make telling appeals not only for money, but very specially for young men to give their lives to Christ in the Ministry of His Church, and for the saving of men, women and children on this great Inland-continent of Australia.

The Home Mission Reports from New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria and South Australia all reveal earnest recognition of the spiritual needs of the provinces under their charge, and the heroic efforts of those Churches to supply them. But the pathetic and appalling cry from every part of Australia—in our Branch of the Church and all Branches—is for Men—men more than money! More money is certainly urgently required to supply Churches and Gospel ordinances for pioneer settlers on virgin lands; to meet the spiritual needs of Soldier Settlements, and groups of immigrants and new settlers on irrigated areas,

and many other places; and to obtain sites and erect buildings in the new suburbs which are so rapidly forming in all our capital cities. But the supreme need is for Ministers and Missionaries, and this Committee sends out nothing less than an S O S Signal for Students for the Holy Ministry—young men impelled by the love of Christ and for those for whom Christ died—to respond: “Here am I, Send me.” The whole Church must give itself to prayer about this matter, and all our Ministers must publicly and privately sound the appeal in each of our parishes. in all the States of Australia; and parents must lovingly put the matter before their sons. Men and women of means might immensely help the Church to get the needed men to enter the doors opening on all hands, if they founded scholarships in our Theological Colleges to enable men to give themselves to study. The sort of thing which is needed in every State is a Residential College for Home Missionaries, such as has recently been opened in a suburb of Melbourne, and for which an Appeal is being launched for adequate endowment for the support of the Superintendent and Tutor. and the students during the first year or two of their studies. Such Scholarships and Endowments could bear the names of loved ones who have been called away, and they would yield a spiritual harvest beyond all computation.

Queensland reports that “More of the Australian-born are now volunteering for the Home Mission field”; and this is good news, for young Australians of the right spirit are specially fitted for Bush work, and could scarcely help feeling the charm and excitement of pioneering in the hospitable Inland areas. In parts of Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia, and Western Australia, it is true, as is stated in the Queensland Report, that “Large areas, in which dwell considerable numbers of our people, are still unoccupied; but occupation in the ordinary sense of the term is impossible. The best that can be hoped for is Itinerating Ministries.” What a chance is here for strong, brave, broad-visioned young Australian men who know something of the passion and love of Christ.

New South Wales and Victoria have been specially alert and aggressive during the past two years in attending to the spiritual needs of new suburbs—a very essential form of Church Extension! New South Wales states that “With the help of Theological Students, we have no difficulty in occupying all our City suburban Stations as soon as they are formed. During the past twelve years over twenty Home Mission Stations were opened in that area, and eleven of them settled.” That is most encouraging. The need of Ministers, however, to supply vacant parishes is very great in New South Wales.

Victoria reports that “The Home Mission income has steadily increased, but not sufficiently to meet the new demands upon it; and while there are more students—all of a good type—offering, than previously, the increase is not meeting the wants of the Church; also the new Curriculum is seriously interfering with the availability of Students for Home Mission Service.” Victoria also expresses its need for “a few Ministers specially conversant with the problems of Poverty, and with talent for reaching the poor and the outcast population of the City, having the gifts of the Evangelist and skill in Social Service.” That department of work is making a greater appeal to the heart of our Presbyterian people to-day, probably, than ever before in Australia: and it must be inspired by the Master Himself.

The Social Home Mission work of our Church in Victoria specially, and in New South Wales and other States, is now creating, in many outsiders, a new and deepening respect and admiration for the Church in this land.

Victoria reports having twenty-one Deaconesses working in twenty-one special areas, and several are also working in Sydney. The service thus rendered is most valuable, and should be extended to every Capital city, and other large congregations, throughout Australia.

We respectfully and earnestly hope that the consideration of the Home Mission responsibilities and work of our Church—North, South, East and West—may receive special and adequate time and attention at the coming meeting of the General Assembly of Australia. In a young

and vast country such as ours, with its widely-scattered and rapidly-growing population, no question is more vital and pressing.

For the Committee

JOHN WALKER, Convener.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Home Mission Report for 1924-25.

During 1924 conditions were so unfavourable that your Committee found it impossible to open any new Stations; or to appoint Home Missionaries to several places which were waiting to be occupied.

It is much to be regretted that some Stations which were formerly occupied were practically abandoned; some for a part, and others for the whole of the year. Also several Ministers applying for assistants could not be supplied.

In other respects the year's operations were attended with much success, the growth of some Stations being quite phenomenal. Much work in developing and consolidating existent Charges was faithfully done with satisfactory results. Financially the year closed with a small debit balance.

The reason for our inability to extend our operations efficiently was the scarcity of men—both of Ministers and Home Missionaries.

On account of the stringency of the new regulations imposed by the Assembly of Australia regarding the employment of Home Missionaries, men fight shy of the Service. Because all Home Missionaries are required to pass the Intermediate Examination of the Public Schools, or its equivalent, before they can be accepted, several men of good promise who were prepared to apply for service, when they heard of the new regulations abandoned the idea.

The year 1925 was one of remarkable success in Home Mission work. No less than ten new Home Mission Stations were opened, and, with one exception, all were occupied. That is the greatest number ever opened in the State in one year.

Also, five Home Mission Stations were raised into Sanctioned Charges and settled. Several others are in a position to be settled, if a sufficient number of Ministers were available.

At present we are more in need of Ministers than Home Missionaries. Vacant Charges are more numerous than Candidates, and in several instances, for periods of varying length, Home Missionaries are diverted from their proper sphere of work to keep open the doors of such Churches while they wait, with hope deferred, for a settlement.

The work is expanding, for population is increasing. The country is being opened up, and Irrigation Settlements and Closer Settlements are growing in number. A stream of immigrants is steadily flowing in; last year over 1700 arrived in this State, and it is estimated that the number for the current year will be larger.

Recently a number of Home Missionaries have been received into the Service, enabling us to occupy several Stations that were patiently waiting.

With the help of our Theological Students, we have no difficulty in occupying all our City and Suburban Stations as soon as they are formed. During the past twelve years over twenty Home Mission Stations were opened in that area, and eleven of them settled.

In the country, Cobar, Wilcannia and Woodenbong-Bonalbo have been vacant for a considerable time. Also, for the time being, Dorriggo and Coff's Harbour. Rankin Springs, Barellan and Dalgetty will soon be ready for occupation, when we hope men can be secured to supply them.

THOMAS MORGAN, Superintendent of Home Missions of N.S.W.

VICTORIA.

Home Mission Report, 1924-26.

For the last two years Home Mission work in Victoria has been progressive and successful. Active work has been carried on in Victoria in 21 special areas by Deaconesses, in 39 Centres in the city and 68 in the country, and also in 13 Stations in Tasmania.

Through the Union with South Australia, the Victorian Committee has been in touch with the South Australian Home Mission Committee, but by mutual agreement work was carried on as hitherto by the South Australian Committee. Some financial help was given from Victoria, but the work in South Australia has been mainly one of self-development.

In Victoria there are 16 city and 16 country districts where Home Mission work should be undertaken, but the Committee can do nothing, owing to want of both money and preachers. In the last two years six new Charges have been formed, four new Home Mission Stations organised, and two congregations were reduced to the status of Home Mission Stations. The Home Mission income has steadily increased, but not sufficiently to meet the new demands upon it, and while there are more students, all of a good type, offering than previously, the increase is not meeting the want of the Church; also the new curriculum is seriously interfering with the availability of students for Home Mission service. The supply of men for ordinary charges is adequate. Twenty more preachers could be employed in the country, if young and physically vigorous, and if they offered with the pioneer spirit in them.

Some special needs of the Victorian Church are a few Ministers specially conversant with the problems of poverty and misery and with talent for reaching the poor and the outcast population of the city, having the gifts of the evangelists and skill in social service. Another need is that of a few healthy young Ministers for the requirements of the Church in the land settlement districts.

The hindrances are:—

1. High rents and the excessive cost of house building, making it difficult for young people or those on low wages to contribute to the support of the Church in new suburban parishes.
2. High cost of living and of farm equipment, making it difficult for families settling on the land to maintain a Minister of their own.
3. The cessation, to a large extent, of mining, and the resulting hardships suffered by a considerable body of wage-earners.
4. The increased number of immigrant land settlements where for the first few years any money brought from the Old Country or any money earned has to go to improvements and treatment of the land, again leaving little available for Church support.
5. The large expense involved in dealing with the population of the congested and special areas of the city, where decadence is rife, and where outlay has to be large in maintaining Preachers and Deaconesses and dispensing charity to necessitous cases.
6. The tendency of many people, as they prosper, to become more careless of Church obligations and to fall under the temptation of excessive love of pleasure and extravagance of life.

JOHN A. CROCKETT, Convener.

List of Places Where Work Might and Should be Undertaken.

City.—Aspendale, Footscray West, Hartwell, Bambra Road, Doncaster, Preston West, Preston North, Tottenham, Coburg West, Thornbury West, Kingsville, Seaford, Carrum, Bentleigh, Chelsea, Upwey.

Country.—Redcliffs Extension, Piangil Extension, Hopetoun Extension, Underbool, Leslie Manor, Buchan, Orbost Extension, Mount Bute Extension, Trawalla, Corryong Extension, Tarwin Meadows, Robin Vale, Lilydale Extension, Powelltown, Mt. Gambier District, Adam's River Osmiridium Field (Tasmania).

QUEENSLAND.

Report of Home Missions Committee, 1924-26.

Home Mission work in Queensland has been steadily pursued during the past two years, and with some gratifying results. Financial resources have not dictated the policy of the Committee; this has been determined by the number of men available for the work, and while more of these could have been employed than offered, it is satisfactory to note that more of the Australian-born are now volunteering for the Home Mission field than in the past. Fortunately some excellent recruits were obtained from the Home Churches.

Generally speaking, the work has been progressive, and where there has not been extension there has been consolidation, but the migration of families within the State has severely affected some districts. New fields have been occupied, and fields which had to be abandoned during the war years have been reoccupied. Other fields are calling for occupation, and the Committee hope soon to provide for the preaching of the Word in them. In the metropolitan area, where population is rapidly growing, the Church Extension Committee of the Presbytery is endeavouring to make provision for its needs.

At the end of last year the congregation at Cairns was raised to full status, and the Rev. R. H. Reid, B.A., inducted to pastoral oversight, in addition to which he will exercise a superintendency over the Home Mission work north of Townsville, and to enable him to do this effectively the Committee has provided him with an assistant at Cairns. The last Assembly has also approved of a somewhat similar scheme for South-Western Queensland, and steps are being taken to give effect to it.

There is yet much land to be possessed. Large areas of the State in which dwell considerable numbers of our people are still unoccupied, but occupation in the ordinary sense of the term is impossible. The best that can be hoped for is Itinerating Ministries. When the claims of some of the more closely settled areas have been attended to, it may be possible to do something for the clamant needs of the people of the far out-back.

HOME MISSION INFORMATION, QUEENSLAND, 1926.

I.—Stations.

Number of Home Mission Stations	41
Number opened during past two years	3
Number closed down or re-arranged	2
Number reduced from full status	1
Number raised to full status	2
Number not receiving aid	13
Number to be opened soon	2

II.—The Staff.

Number in regular service	42
Number fully qualified	2
Number studying preliminary course	12
Number studying under H.M. (old) course	9
Number completed H.M. course	1
Number attending Theological Hall	6
Number not studying	12
Number seeking to be received	3
Additional number required	12

Remuneration.

Maximum salary	£300
Minimum salary	156
Average salary	170
Travelling plant provided	22
Travelling plant maintained	22
Residence provided	21
Furloughs	All

Revenue, 1925.

Interest on capital	£349
From overseas	350
Collections	419
Festival	71
Societies	225
Personal donations	80
Total contributed for H.M. work	1,507
Received from H.M. Fields for supply	4,649

SOUTH AUSTRALIA HOME MISSION REPORT.

During the year considerable progress has been made in the suburban areas of Adelaide, and work has been kept steadily going in the country districts. The visit of the Moderator-General resulted in over £900 being raised for Extension work, and the Committee are grateful to him for his help.

The co-operation with Victoria has been carried on since the Union on a basis of practical autonomy in South Australia. The Men's League have shown an active interest in Home Mission work, and have helped in supplying Lay Preachers for suburban charges.

Students for the Ministry are still scarce, but Mr. F. H. Patterson has passed his exit and is eligible for a call; the *Revs. F. J. H. Steward and A. E. Page have implemented the conditions of the Assembly and have both settled in charges.

Three new Church sites have been secured during the year, and a block of land has been received by bequest at Wolseley; three new Halls have been secured at Peneton, Black Forest and Colonel Light; and a fourth Hall is in process of erection. Six new Centres for services have been commenced, and several other districts are being visited with a view to supplying of ordinances.

*Mr. Steward's untimely death, which occurred after the preparation of this Report, is a serious loss to the Church.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HOME RELIGION.

It is ten years since this Committee was first appointed by the General Assembly of Australia for the purpose of fostering religion in the homes of the people. Its chief work has been the annual publication of "The Family Altar Card," which contains Scripture Readings for the year, and Prayers (morning and evening) suitable for family worship each day of the week.

We are glad to state that there has been an increasing demand for this little booklet, which has now reached a total circulation of 20,000. Each State has received a certain supply, and copies have been distributed in many cases throughout whole congregations. It has also been sent to isolated workers in the A.I.M. and on the foreign field; and we have many evidences that it has been widely appreciated both for family and personal use.

Several suggestions were received regarding the enlargement of the booklet so as to include additional aids to worship, but the size and price of the publication made these impracticable. It is, however, proposed in the Deliverance that further inquiries be made as to the possibility of a larger and more permanent publication for devotional purposes, in addition to this smaller booklet.

Several articles were again written, which appeared in religious periodicals, emphasising the great value of Home Religion. There is no factor more vital to the spiritual life of the nation than Bible reading and Family Prayer. There is no way in which the young can be more deeply and permanently impressed than by family worship and parental example. It is from Christian families we must look for our best citizens and our future ministers, office-bearers, and Church workers in the days to come.

We need a revival of religion in the homes, with united prayer, Bible study, Sunday worship, and Christian service. There is no influence more lasting and more fruitful in its effects than such a recognition of God in the home. It is a heritage we may well cherish, and pass on to coming generations, for the good of our Church and Commonwealth. For these reasons we trust every encouragement will be given to the proposals made in the Deliverance.

G. R. S. REID, Convener.

IMMIGRATION REPORT.

There are two points of view in which migration may be looked at. The one is that of Great Britain—the other is that of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Britons have always been emigrants to all parts of the world. The motive of the Britisher in emigrating is to improve his conditions of living. This is not the only motive, but it is the chief one. He obeys the injunction to replenish the earth and subdue it. The outposts of the Empire, where population is urgently needed, must therefore, if they are to attract our best people from overseas, provide this inducement. The present distress through non-employment in the Home Country is not the chief cause why people there are keen to come to Australia.

As Mr. W. Banks Amery has stated, in a letter published in the Melbourne "Argus" of 30th June, 1926, 44,500 persons came to Australia out of 303,000 citizens of the United Kingdom who elected to leave for overseas in 1913. During that year there was practically no unemployment at Home. In 1924 only 30,000, and in 1925 27,000, landed in Australia from Great Britain.

The 34,000,000 Agreement of the British Government with Australia, therefore, represents a sincere attempt by all parties in Great Britain to provide British citizens with opportunities to come to Australia, and thus to reflect the spirit in which the Empire Settlement Act of Great Britain was passed in 1922—namely, to redistribute the whole population of the Empire on lines which will make for the strength and security of the whole Empire. In this connection, the statement of Mr. Amery, the Secretary of State for the Dominions, made in the House of Commons on 26th March, 1926, as reported in the press, may be quoted with approval:—"We must safeguard ourselves from the idea that people should go overseas because they are unemployed, and not because they are the right kind of men, with the spirit of pioneering." The urgent duty of Australia is, therefore, to give increasing inducements, by land settlement, and to some extent secondary industries and employment in them, so as to attract our kith and kin from overseas, with the certainty of success as reward of their toil, enterprise, intelligence and industry.

The Development Commission appointed under the Act recently passed by the Commonwealth Parliament is to take this most important business in hand and carry it out. On the success of the operations of this Commission depends the increase of migrants to Australia, and their successful settlement in this country. Your Committee urges all its ministers, office-bearers and members to give all possible support and encouragement for the purpose of securing the speedy fulfilment of the object in view.

The last General Assembly of Australia agreed to adopt the scheme of Church nomination of families and individuals from overseas, as requested by the Commonwealth Government, and to accept the Migration Department of the British Council of the Y.M.C.A., London, in co-ordination with the Home Churches, as a Selecting Agency for such nominations as are made through the Immigration Committees of the State Churches of the Commonwealth. This has been done by the State Churches of New South Wales and Victoria.

The Convener of the N.S.W. Church, the Rev. J. C. Milliken, on the invitation of the Migration Department of the Y.M.C.A., with the authority of the Immigration Committee of the Church of N.S.W., visited Great Britain last year, with the result that a large number of families for the country districts have landed at Sydney, and many more are on the way.

The Committee rejoices in the success of Mr. Milliken's mission, both in securing suitable families for such work, and in creating, by his addresses and interviews, greater interest and sympathy in the Home Churches in migration to Australia. The Victorian Church has also continued with success its methods of nomination, and has decided to extend its operations, and by an organisation through Presbyteries, to get Congregations of the Church to take the responsibility of nominating at least one family per annum, as suggested by Mr. W. Banks Amery.

The welcoming and after-care of the migrants are being well attended to by the Churches of the Commonwealth. The Church of New South Wales has a Club, the duty of which is to see to the reception of migrants landing at Sydney, bring those remaining in or near the city together for enjoyment, giving special attention to juveniles and girls. The Organising Secretary notifies Ministers and Home Missionaries of the arrival of Presbyterians in their parishes, and secures positions for such as are seeking employment in N.S.W.

The Victorian Church, through its agent, secures positions for farm workers and domestics, sends notices to Ministers and Home Missionaries and addresses of migrants, with a request to call and invite them to Church, and give them all necessary assistance and advice, and attends the reception of migrants given on the day of landing by the Welcome and Welfare Committee of the Victorian Division of the League of New Settlers. As a member of the Council of the New Settlers' League and Big Brother Movement, Mr. Thomson keeps in touch with the work of these Associations in promoting and advancing the cause of immigration.

The founding of the Big Brother Movement by Mr. R. Linton, a Melbourne merchant, is a notable achievement. The founder, at his own expense and in an honorary capacity, visited Great Britain in 1925 to begin the movement there, and to select the first shipment of lads for Australia under this scheme. This was successfully accomplished. Over 800 lads have been landed in or are on the way to Australia, and are scattered over Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland on farms and stations. The value of the Big Brother Movement is that it has increased the number of applicants for farm help, secured for Australia many lads who would not have been allowed by their parents to emigrate to a country so far away from home unless they could be assured that gentlemen in loco parentis would care for and protect their boys, and secures for the land lads with a superior education from the Secondary Schools of the Homeland whose parents may later on join their sons in Australia, and have the means of settling them on the land when they have gained the necessary experience.

The reports to hand show that the Little Brothers are giving satisfaction to their employers, that the Big Brothers, many of whom are gentlemen in high positions in the community, are showing the greatest interest in their charges, and that this fresh element in immigration is becoming most beneficial in the furtherance of country development by some of the best youthhood of the Mother Country.

The New Settlers' League, in the States where it exists—New South Wales, Victoria, and Western Australia—is growing in influence and importance. The State and Commonwealth Governments support it financially, and receive from the organisation considerable assistance in promoting and fostering land settlement and attending to the interests and welfare of land settlers and farm workers. Its Welcome and Welfare Committee and its Women's Standing Committee are most useful by keeping in touch with those migrants whose changing experiences, through trouble and sickness, need sympathetic help. Maternity cases are attended to, domestics are formed into clubs for social purposes, and married couples and others are, in conjunction with the Government officials, placed in positions when changes make this necessary.

The advice and assistance of the Executive Committee and its officials are sought both by Government Officers and by land settlers and others when adverse circumstances or unexpected difficulties arise. The literature of the New Settlers' League is rich in information and suggestion about country life—methods of work on farms and for the construction of makeshifts, in furniture, etc.

D. MACMILLAN, Convener.

Victoria.

It is with pleasure that the Committee presents the report of its operations carried on during the years 1924-1926. While the numbers of State-assisted migrants landed in Victoria have decreased, their character and suitability for settlement has been found satisfactory. They are of two classes—the nominated whose nominators are responsible for housing them and finding employment for them when necessary on arrival, and who in many cases are the wives and children of those who have previously arrived as State-assisted migrants, and have been able to make homes for their dependants; and men for the land, either as settlers with capital, or men and lads from 18 to 20 years, including Little Brothers, whose ages vary from 17 to 19 years, for employment by farmers, and also domestics.

The migrants, with a few exceptions inevitable in a big scheme, are industrious, intelligent, hard-working, of good physique and good moral character. On the testimony of the Director of Immigration, Mr. S. Whitehead, a very satisfactory percentage of the money advanced for fares by the Government is repaid in instalments from their wages. This is a good test of character, the payments swallowing up, in many cases of farm workers, one-half of their earnings weekly. The Little Brothers, whose fares are in most cases paid in London before they leave, have in 103 instances paid £530 out of their earnings of £636 into the State Savings Bank—an average of £5/3/4.

The numbers reported to last General Assembly for 1922-1924 by the Victorian Committee were 16,500; for 1925-1926 the arrivals numbered 15,020. In 1925 the percentage of Presbyterians (including Protestants mostly Presbyterian) was 32; in 1926 it rose to 35, the highest on record. The percentage of Church of England adherents is nearly 50; the balance of 15 per cent. being Roman Catholic, 7 per cent.; Methodists, 4 per cent.; Baptists and Congregationalists, 2 per cent. each. All migrants claim to belong to some Church.

The main reason for the decrease is that, in present conditions, Victoria is not able to absorb a much larger number. The Committee agrees with the Government policy not to bring more people to the State than work can be found for, so as to avoid swelling the ranks of the unemployed. The chief new feature of the Victorian Government's action during the past two years is the founding at Lara, near Geelong, of a training farm, and here land settlers who arrive with capital can be accommodated temporarily with their families and for experience in farming under Australian conditions. These have numbered 191, with capital amounting to £78,776, have been put in farms. This has been done under the agreement with the British Government, whereby the Victorian Government shares in the loan of £34,000,000 provided for settlement purposes.

The Church nominative system has been put in operation. Families have been nominated by the Rev. William Thomson on behalf of the Church, and have been settled, and have farms. Thirty farm workers were brought from Scotland for the Colac Caledonian Society, and placed in the district of Colac; 14 lads were nominated for farmers, and placed by Mr. Thomson on arrival. Three maids arrived of the 30 nominated, and were placed in approved country homes. Families and individuals were nominated on the advice of Mr. Thomson by friends and relatives, who assisted these in getting the nominees positions on arrival in Victoria.

The Victorian Assembly of 1926 agreed to an extension of the system of family nomination, and steps will shortly be taken by the Committee to give effect to this decision through Presbyteries and Congregations, by means of organisers.

By an appeal to Presbyterian farmers, a good number of applications were received for Little Brothers, under the Big Brother Movement. Out of 200 Little Brothers, 74 are Presbyterian, and have been placed satisfactorily with our families. In addition, several Congregational and Baptist lads are placed under the pastoral oversight of our Ministers, there being no branch of these Churches in the district.

The Moderator's letter of welcome and advice was sent to Ministers and Home Missionaries, with a request to call and bid the migrants wel-

come in the name of the Church, and give them any necessary assistance and advice. Those nominated were similarly treated in the homes of their nominators by the local Ministers.

The Rev. William Thomson attends the reception given to migrants in the Hall of the Australian Church by the Welcome and Welfare Committee of the New Settlers' League, where he has the opportunity of making their personal acquaintance, and afterwards of engaging men and lads for farm work for Presbyterian farmers who have asked him to do so.

HUGH JONES, Convener.

New South Wales.

The work of the Immigration Committee of N.S.W. has increased considerably since the last meeting of the G.A.A.

A forward movement has been taken with what is known as the Family Nomination Scheme. Under this system families are arriving at the rate of twenty every two months, the essence of the scheme being that the families must go to the country districts, and not settle in the cities.

In connection with the inauguration of this scheme, the Migration Department of the Y.M.C.A., London, invited the Convener to visit Great Britain. This invitation was accepted, and, besides the Church's imprimatur, letters of introduction were carried from the Commonwealth Government and the Premier of N.S.W. A very cordial reception was given the Convener by the Churches in the Homeland, while the Empire Settlement Committee and Australia House authorities gave every assistance.

Great interest and sympathy were evinced by the Home Churches, and all regarded the Family Nomination Scheme as the best system of migration brought before them.

The Welcome Club continues to do good work in the reception of migrants and the keeping them together in a social capacity.

We are developing our after-care work, especially in connection with juveniles and girls, and this important branch of our work is proving worth while.

During 1925 56 ships arrived, bringing 2,046 migrants, and of this number the Home Mission Superintendent was able to trace 1,700 as having connected themselves with the Church. The others can largely be accounted for in connection with the city and suburban Churches.

The formation of an Inter-Church Immigration Committee has enabled joint action to be taken in receiving and placing the families under the Family Nomination Scheme, and has already proved of great benefit.

Our Organising Secretary, Mr. R. S. Byrnes, and members of the Committee, continue to meet all new arrivals as soon as the ships tie up at the wharf.

Our Committee is represented on the New Settlers' League and the Big Brother Movement, and keeps in close touch with all matters pertaining to immigration.

JAMES C. MILLIKEN, Convener.

South Australia.

Since November, 1924, 57 steamers, with immigrants, have been met at the Anchorage. Owing to strikes, a good deal of trouble was experienced in ships not coming in to time. Within the time, November, 1924, to July 8th, 1926, 455 immigrants (young and old) were met and welcomed, and their names passed on to the Minister of our Church of that district. We have at present a number of families, under the Church Nomination Scheme, who are coming out. This scheme seems to be one that is going to work well when once it is properly going.

HUGH MORRIS, Convener.

REPORT OF THE AUSTRALIAN INLAND MISSION.

We have to report on another two years' work. The Mission has now been working for 14 years. We have every reason to thank God for His blessing on our work—for its progress in so vast a field and for the devoted men and women who have served us in various capacities and spheres. During these years the Mission has steadily kept in view its objective, and we are glad to report that its humanitarian as well as spiritual service is commending it to a wider constituency of supporters. As details will show, the main strategic positions are now well occupied on the Ministerial side.

Carnarvon.—Rev. E. D. Pearson has continued the work to the satisfaction of the Board. He has not confined his work to the town, but has also made long journeys into the hinterland as well as to coastal districts around Sharks' Bay. Considerable improvements have been carried out in the Manse, and the Church has been renovated within and without.

Broome.—After a rather long vacancy this Centre was reoccupied by Rev. F. G. H. Brady in May, 1925. This was the beginning of a second term of office, of which much was expected. Unfortunately Mr. Brady contracted malaria, and passed away on October 24, 1925, regretted by all. Since his death Mrs. Brady has carried on some of the work so worthily begun, to the utmost satisfaction of the Board. We are pleased to report that a successor has now been found in Rev. G. L. Johnson, of Balmoral, Victoria, who has just begun his term of service. Plans have been passed for a Church Hall, and hopes are expressed that the building will soon be occupied.

Cloncurry.—This Centre has been held by Rev. W. T. Alexander until April, when his term expired and he returned. Good work has been done by Mr. Alexander, who undertook long journeys in Western Queensland and the country bordering on the Gulf. The district has been under a cloud of industrial depression, due to failure of the copper markets and long-protracted droughts.

East-West Railway Mission.—We share with other denominations in maintaining a Missionary on the Transcontinental Railway between Tarcoola and Kalgoorlie. Rev. J. Allen is the Missionary-in-charge.

As to the rest of our field, request has been made for a Minister in the Central District, operating between Oodnadatta and Alice Springs. We recognise the need, and hope that a volunteer will offer soon.

Our Medical Work.

Alice Springs.—This Home, originally begun in August, 1920, is at last nearing completion. It was formally opened on June 26, 1926, by the Moderator-General, Rev. J. Crookston. This Home will be a great acquisition to the district. Two highly-qualified Sisters—Small and Pope—have now taken up the work, which will serve a wide field.

Lake Grace, W.A.—The Home was formally opened by the Minister of Works, Mr. Munsey, in February, 1926. Sisters Cousin and Bennet, who have already served a term at Hall's Creek, volunteered again, and have been placed in charge.

Marble Bar, W.A.—The W.A. Government in May, 1925, approached our Mission with the offer of a fully-equipped hospital in this township and of a good annual subsidy. This new sphere we have now taken over, and to it we have appointed Sisters Gray and MacLeod, who have already served in the Inland.

Marranboy-Penola Home.—The work at this Out-station has been carried on by Sisters Larrard and Gordon, who have recently been relieved by Sisters Yansen and Bulton, of Sydney.

Victoria River Downs is being well served by Sisters Mackenzie and McGain, of Melbourne. They will be relieved later this year by Sisters Norman and Wood, who recently left Oodnadatta. At V.R.D. the Committee are arranging for fencing the property and increasing the water supply by the installation of windmill, pump and tanks.

Hall's Creek.—This Home has Sisters Streatfield and McDonagh, of Sydney, and much good work is being accomplished.

Port Hedland has the honour of being served by our first nurses from Tasmania—Sisters Brown. This is one of our hardest places, and it has always been, as it continues to be, well served.

Oodnadatta.—Sisters McNeil and Sinclair, now in charge, are doing fine work. Extensive improvements have been carried out, and the Home is in a satisfactory condition. The social side of the service is being carefully fostered.

Birdsville.—Sisters Mulvey and Mercer, in charge, have held the field during a trying drought. They are due to be relieved.

Beltana, one of the original stations, continues the work under the care of Sisters Edwards and Kinnear. Negotiations have been proceeding for some time with the view of taking over the building from the Dunesk Committee, and it is expected that soon the matter will be finalised.

Innamincka.—Sister Grant carries on the work, moving among the Stations within the large area.

A most satisfactory and helpful feature of our work is the distribution of good literature throughout our fields. This work is highly and efficiently done, and meets a great want, as our literature is very welcome. We thank those who have sent supplies, and we would ask that those who can help might continue their gifts.

The Superintendent, Rev. John Flynn, has been busily engaged over the whole Territory, and has done a vast amount of work, entailing great difficulties, in the completion of Alice Springs Home.

As Rev. J. Flynn completes another term of six years as Superintendent, it will be necessary to reappoint him for a further term.

The increase of our work by opening up three new Homes, the changes in the staff every two years or so, the current expenses in upkeep, make an ever-increasing demand on our maintenance funds. Our building operations have practically exhausted our property fund. If we are to continue to increase our usefulness we must make appeal to all the friends and supporters of the Mission to help us and to induce others to join our legion of helpers.

We have a considerable nucleus of a capital fund, and we have a little in reserve, but if we are to maintain in the highest efficiency our noble work there must be no slackening of income, but rather a steady increase from the various supporting States.

Maintenance first is our slogan. Building hospitals is useless without the means to carry on. The consideration of would-be donors of Homes might well be to provide a sufficient provision for maintenance. It may have to become the fixed policy of the Board to refuse the gift of a Nursing Home until the way is clear for its maintenance. We are pleased to report that we are receiving support by way of limited subsidies from the Federal Government and from the Governments of South Australia, Western Australia and Queensland.

We note that the Victorian Church has placed the A.I.M. under its Budget System. We are very grateful for the consideration which prompted this Church, which has given handsomely to our work annually, to make this measure of secure revenue for the Mission. At the same time it must be recognised that we are a Mission of the G.A. of A., and feel we cannot be bound in the gifts we receive by any State Budget regulations.

A. THAIN ANDERSON, Convener.

Addition to Report.—A.I.M.

Last year the expenditure from Headquarters totalled £9,436/15/6, of which sum £3,642/10/1 was expended through special accounts.

To maintain the present work a sum of £9,000 is required for 1927, and to complete the present programme (including new ward for Beltana, improvements to Club Hall, Oodnadatta; part of cost of proposed new home, Innamincka, and cost of proposed new homes at Birdsville and Fitzroy Crossing), a sum of £15,000 is yet required. Towards this we hold in cash and promises the sum of £6,000, leaving a balance of

£9,000 to be found for this new work. So that if this programme is to be completed by the end of 1927, a total amount of £18,000 is required for the work.

The Board desires to report to the Assembly that the H. V. McKay Charitable Trust has offered the A.I.M. a sum of £2,000 for the purpose of trying out in the outback parts of Australia an Aerial Medical Service on the following terms:—

- (1) That a further sum of £4,000 be raised.
- (2) That the working arrangements be approved by Colonel Brinsmead, Controller of Civil Aviation.

A. THAIN ANDERSON, Convener.

MISSION TO THE JEWS.

While the opportunity of bringing individuals among our Jewish fellow-citizens to a knowledge of the Son of God has been open to every Christian, our organised effort has been seriously impaired by the absence of our Missionary, the Rev. E. C. Ettmann.

In Victoria his colleague, Miss Richards, has been spending herself freely to conserve results and make some advance. A night-school has been reopened for foreign Jews, and many others welcome her into their homes.

Mr. Ettmann has undoubtedly found "an open door and effectual" in South Africa; and it is small wonder if he hesitates to break off his labours there and return to Australia. We wish it were possible to assure him of a warm welcome and earnest support, not merely from the "fathers and brethren," but from our Church generally, and in practical fashion. We ask Ministers and people to remember this enterprise in their intercession, particularly on the Jewish Sabbath each week and on the annual Day of Atonement (this year, September 18).

On behalf of the Committee.

ALEX. YULE, Convener.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO PREPARE A JUNIOR CATECHISM.

Your Committee was appointed by the last General Assembly, and has held monthly meetings during the last two years, and weekly meetings since July, 1926. A Junior Catechism for the use of Sunday Schools had already been prepared unofficially in Victoria and sold in large numbers through the Welfare of Youth Department of that State. This Catechism was taken as a starting point by the Committee, which desires to recognise the valuable assistance thus derived from work already done. The Committee has experienced no little difficulty in accomplishing its task. It expresses thanks to those of its number who have given much time and patient thought to the preparation of the draft which will be submitted to the General Assembly, and to the experts not on the Committee who have kindly assisted in the work of revision. Special thanks are due to the Rev. E. E. Baldwin, who has acted most efficiently as Secretary during the greater part of the Committee's labours.

While the draft now presented has been revised in the light of criticism, it still requires final revision; and the Assembly is asked to give it general approval, and to instruct the Committee or its Executive carefully to revise the whole material and to issue the Catechism with the approval of the General Assembly.

W. BORLAND, Convener.

REPORT OF NAVAL AND MILITARY COMMITTEE.

The Committee reports, with deep regret, the death of its Convener, the Rev. Professor J. L. Rentoul, who, since he occupied the Chair of this Assembly, has acted as Chaplain-General and as a Nominator on the Naval Chaplains' Nomination Committee. Doubtless an account of Professor Rentoul's eminent gifts and the distinguished services he rendered to the Church and the community will be recorded elsewhere; but your Committee cannot refrain from recollection of his strenuous conduct of its affairs in Australia and in Britain and France during the war of 1914-18. Among his many contributions to the Church's service of the nation none was more distinctive or more characteristic of the man. Those who acted as chaplains under him in war time, together with many who were on active service with the A.I.F., will unite with the Committee in the expression of sincere sympathy with Dr. Rentoul's widow and family. At the request of the Moderator-General, the Rev. Dr. Borland, Vice-Convener of the Committee, has acted as the Church's Representative on the Naval Chaplains' Nominating Committee since the Convener's death. Since last General Assembly the following appointments as Presbyterian Naval Chaplains have been made to the ports indicated—the Rev. John Dunlop Landels to Port Melbourne; the Rev. James Marshall to Fremantle; the Rev. James Walker, M.A., B.D., to Brisbane; the Rev. John Clark Jones to Launceston. It will be necessary for the General Assembly to appoint a Chaplain-General, who shall act as Nominator for the Presbyterian Church on the Naval Chaplains' Nomination Committee; and to reconstruct the Committee and define its functions.

W. BORLAND, Vice-Convener.

REPORTS FROM CONVENERS OF STATE NAVAL AND MILITARY COMMITTEES.

1st Military Base (Queensland).

There are five actively engaged in military camps and hospitals in Queensland. The Rev. J. Cosh, B.A., B.D., has had the care of the camps at Lytton and the Rosemount and Ardoyne Hospitals; whilst the Rev. A. M. MacKillip, B.A., B.D., acted as chaplain to the Enoggera camps; and the Rev. A. Watson at Toowoomba, and the Rev. G. Kirke and the Rev. G. L. Shirreffs at Redbank. The Rev. J. Sinclair has helped the Chaplains' Committee by conducting Church Parades at the camps held at Townsville. The work in the camps has been very interesting to the Chaplains, whilst the military officers have expressed themselves in highly appreciative terms of the excellent services of their padres. But the most effective work is performed by the Chaplain who has given so much time in visiting the sick and disabled men in the various hospitals. He has been well received, and ably supported by matrons and medical officers.

During 1925 we lost by death the services of the Rev. G. Ewan as Naval Chaplain for the Port of Brisbane. His place has been filled by the appointment of the Rev. J. Walker, M.A., B.D.

JAMES COSH, Senior Chaplain.

2nd Military Base (New South Wales).

The Revs. F. L. A. Schoeffel and A. R. McVittie, M.A., Port Chaplains at Sydney and Newcastle, respectively, continue their work to the satisfaction of the Committee. Mr. Schoeffel reports that:—"H.M.A.S. Tingira has been visited regularly during the year 1925-26, and special instruction on the Sacraments given to the boys, 19 of whom were received into full communion with the Church on profession of faith in Christ."

Chaplains, as usual, have been attached to the various camps at Liverpool and elsewhere, and their reports have been appreciative of the conduct of the troops, and of the assistance given them by the officers in charge. By the kindness of the Home Mission Committee, a small hut has been erected at Liverpool, which has proved of great value to the Chaplains in their work among the soldiers.

The Committee reports that the Colonial Auxiliary Forces' Officers' Decoration has been awarded to Chaplain Joseph B. Fulton (retired list).

Chaplains John Paterson, V.D., First-class, and W. Grant Forsyth, Third-class, at their own request, have been placed on the reserved list, and Chaplain D. P. Macdonald resigned his commission. The vacancies thus created have been filled by Honorary Chaplain John Calder, M.A., Chaplain J. L. Cope, Third Class, and Honorary Chaplain W. J. Gray, B.A.

By arrangement with the military authorities of the Royal Military College, Duntroon, the acting-Minister of Canberra has been appointed the acting-Chaplain of the College, and this will continue until a permanent Minister is settled in the Parish.

Chaplain the Right Reverend J. H. G. Auld, B.A., continues to visit the Royal Naval College, Jervis Bay.

Promotions since last Assembly are as follows:—Chaplains W. Ambrose Williams, T. Jamieson Williams, George Cranston, Third Class.

R. SCOTT WEST, Senior Chaplain.

3rd Military Base (Victoria).

Attention has been paid each year to the various camps of training for Citizen Forces, and Chaplains on the Active List have been in continuous residence during the whole eight days of each camp. Their reports tell of the sympathetic assistance given to the work of the Chaplains by the military authorities, and of much useful work done amongst the trainees at Seymour and at Queenscliff.

The Victorian Home Mission Committee considerably facilitated these arrangements by supplying the pulpits of Chaplains on duty in the camps on Sundays.

The need of a Chaplains' room at Seymour Camp has been felt, and the Victorian Assembly has sanctioned an appeal for that purpose.

In the celebrations of Anzac Day, Chaplains have each year been appointed to represent our Church in the public celebration in Melbourne, and also at the Presbyterian Church service in Scots Church, Melbourne.

The Rev. D. Macrae Stewart, Senior Chaplain, is away in Europe on twelve months' furlough. He appointed Rev. A. Irving Davidson to carry out his duties during his absence.

Chaplains who have taken camp duty have been:—Revs. J. A. Barber, A. I. Davidson, R. C. Foyster, J. T. Kelly and R. W. Macaulay.

The establishment, consisting of 12 Chaplains, including the Senior Chaplain, is complete.

A. IRVING DAVIDSON, Acting-Senior Chaplain.

4th Military Base (South Australia).

From Senior Chaplain, 4th Military District, the Rev. W. Floyd Shannon, O.B.E., B.A., ex-Senior Chaplain, A.I.F. Headquarters, London.

At the time of forwarding my report for last Assembly, there were only three Chaplains besides myself on the Active List in this District. But shortly afterwards the consent of Rev. Robert Campbell to act was obtained, so that our allotment is now complete. Our staff now consists of Revs. Dr. Seymour, A. C. Weber, E. A. Davies, R. Campbell and myself as Senior. Dr. Seymour is leaving the State for a six months' holiday, returning about next March.

I must note with regret that not a single one of the ex-A.I.F. Chaplains is at present residing within this 4th Military District. All who were here have gone to other States.

The duties devolving on Chaplains now are very light; and it is only when training camps are being held that their services are really needed. We take our proportion of parades held on such occasions. We visit the camps fairly regularly, and do what we can to show our interest in the men. We also take our part in the various local celebrations on Anzac Day, and on other ceremonial occasions.

I must acknowledge the courtesy of the heads of the Military Department at all times, and their readiness to meet the wishes of the Chaplains.

Rev. Hugh Morris is still Naval Chaplain at Port Adelaide, but there is rarely any opportunity for his services. He has, unfortunately, been seriously ill for several months, but is now recovered and on duty again.

W. FLOYD SHANNON, Senior Chaplain.

Fifth Military District (Western Australia).

We regret to report the loss by death of Chaplain Rev. James Haynes, late Minister at Boulder. His death occurred during the sitting of the last General Assembly in Sydney, and leaves a blank on the gold-fields which it is not at present possible to fill, owing to the fact that we have no ordained minister in that area. Camps of training are held annually at Kalgoorlie, but we are unable at present to minister to the trainees there.

Our chaplaincy department has been strengthened by the appointment of two additional Military Chaplains and one Naval Chaplain. Rev. James Marshall has been appointed Naval Chaplain at Fremantle, and Rev. J. R. Blanchard, B.A., and Rev. S. R. W. Richardson, M.A., B.D., to Military Chaplaincies.

Regular attention has been given to the camps of continuous training, where every facility is afforded by the military authorities for the necessary spiritual and educational work amongst the trainees.

A matter of importance from a Church point of view is the system which obtains in this State—and, I am informed, also in the other States—of allowing voluntary Sunday Camps of training for trainees who are seeking advancement as N.C.O.'s. In the actual working out of the system, it means that the lads—who for conscientious reasons cannot attend—remain in the same position, whilst those who have no scruples in the matter make advance upward. It is a very strong temptation in the main for lads to place their own interest before that of their Church, which is against the best interest of the Commonwealth. As this system is likely to increase and not diminish with the passing of the years, some action should, I think, be taken to, if possible, eliminate it altogether, and replace it by a better system, whereby the religious life of our lads will not be adversely affected.

Our General Assembly passed a vote of sympathy with the relatives of the late Chaplain-General, The Rev. Prof. L. J. Rentoul, M.A., D.D., O.B.E., in the great loss they and the whole Church have sustained in his passing.

GEORGE TULLOCH, Senior Chaplain.

August 9, 1926.

Sixth Military Base—Tasmania.

The naval affairs with which this Committee deals have been kept in review, and, especially in Launceston, have been efficiently carried out. In this city monthly church parades with the naval trainees are held, and are well attended. The Northern Chaplain, Rev. W. J. Harris, has removed to Victoria. We have nominated his successor, Rev. J. C. Jones, as Naval Chaplain. So far his appointment has not been confirmed.

In military matters, we regret to report the death of Rev. G. B. Murphy, of Hobart, who has assisted us very often, and whose appointment as Chaplain had been applied for. It will be necessary for a new nomination to be forwarded. The Military Camps of the last two years have been provided for, the Methodist Chaplain taking duty in 1925, while the Presbyterian Chaplain acted in 1926. Services were held in the Detention Camps, and literature provided. Two special parades for the Consecration of Colours were taken part in, though in both cases a firm stand had to be taken by the Senior Chaplain at the attempt to arrange them by the military authorities with one denomination, without reference to the other Senior Chaplains.

GEO. M. BAIRD, Senior Chaplain.

Launceston, August 9, 1926.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RECEPTION OF MINISTERS.

The Committee met at the Assembly Hall, Melbourne, on Tuesday, September 7, and was constituted, the Convener presiding.

Petitions were received and dealt with, and the following recommendations made:—

That the Petition of the **Rev. Frank Charles** be granted subject to attendance for three years at a Theological Hall, and passing the Exit Examination in all subjects except Hebrew.

That the Petition of the **Rev. A. W. Cooper** be granted subject to attendance for two years at a Theological Hall, and passing the Exit Examination in all subjects except Hebrew.

That the Petition of the **Rev. W. E. Crawford** be not granted.

That the Petition of the **Rev. W. R. Elvery** be not granted.

That the Petition of the **Rev. S. T. Knight** be granted.

That the Petition of the **Rev. T. B. Smith** be not granted.

That the Petition of the **Rev. H. W. Whittle** be granted subject to attendance for three years at a Theological Hall, and passing the Exit Examination in all subjects except Hebrew.

That the Petition of the **Rev. A. T. Thompson, M.A., B.D.**, be granted.

That the Petition of the **Rev. Thomas Gibson** be granted, subject to attendance for one year at Perth Theological Hall and passing the Exit Examination in all subjects except Hebrew.

Schedule to be Used by Applicants for Admission.

The Committee approved of the Schedule which had been prepared by the Executive for the use of Ministers of other Churches who were applying for admission; and recommended its adoption by the General Assembly.

A. S. McCOOK, Convener.

Schedule to be used in

PETITIONS FOR ADMISSION BY MINISTERS FROM OTHER CHURCHES

into the Ministry of the PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA.

I.—Petitions.

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

The Petition of the Undersigned.....

(Here insert full name, titles and degrees)

respectfully sheweth—

That your Petitioner was licensed (set apart) to preach the Gospel by and was ordained to the Ministry by.....

That, for the reasons stated in the appended Schedule of information, he now applies to be admitted into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia;

And that he has fully acquainted himself with the Standards of the said Church and the Formula and questions put to all Ministers of this Church before Ordination or Induction, and is prepared to give assent to the same.

May it therefore please your Venerable Court to grant the prayer of this Petition, or otherwise deal with it as in your wisdom you may determine.

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

Signature.....

N.B.—The petitioner may delete such clauses in the above as are not applicable to him, and may otherwise state his case.

II.—Questions.

1. (a) At what Schools or Colleges did you receive your education prior to your Theological studies? 1.
 (b) What educational certificates do you submit?
 (c) Are you a Graduate of any University?
 If so, which?
2. (a) At what College or Colleges did you receive your Theological education? 2.
 (b) How many Sessions did you attend?
 (c) What subjects did you study?
 (d) What certificates of attainment do you submit?
3. By whom, where and at what date were you— 3.
 (a) Licensed to preach the Gospel?
 (b) Ordained to the Ministry?
4. (a) What is your age? 4.
 (b) Where were you born?
5. Are you single or married? 5.
 If married, give number in family
6. (a) What is the Denomination you have left? 6.
 (b) Have you ever been connected, as Minister, Preacher or Member, with any other Denomination?
 (c) Of what Congregation or Congregations have you been Pastor? and what was the duration of each Pastorate?
 (d) Under what circumstances did you leave your last Charge?
7. What are your reasons for desiring to be received into the Presbyterian Church of Australia? 7.
 If your action involves any change of principle, give reasons briefly.
8. Have you at any previous time applied for admission to this, or any other Church? 8.
 If so, give full particulars
9. Is the question of health one of your reasons for making application? 9.

Signature

Address

Date

Questions to be Answered by the Presbytery Through Which the Petition is Forwarded.

- 10. Has the Petitioner produced an official certificate of ministerial status and character from the Denomination he has left?
N.B.—This certificate must be included among the papers lodged with the Assembly's Committee.
- 11. How long has the Petitioner resided within the bounds of the Presbytery? and what opportunities has the Presbytery had of judging of his character, gifts, and probable usefulness?
- 12. Has the Petitioner ever resided or worked within the bounds of any other Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of Australia?
If so, give particulars.
- 13. What papers have been lodged and are forwarded with this Petition?

Signed
Clerk of Presbytery.

III.—Extract Minute of Presbytery.

At the day of 19
which day the Presbytery of duly met and was constituted.

Inter alia,—

There was submitted a Petition from
. to be admitted as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia; and after consideration it was resolved*
.
that

Extracted by
. Clerk of Presbytery.

*Here insert "Unanimously" or "by a majority."

IV.—Finding of Assembly's Committee.

Agreed to recommend that
. Convener.

STATISTICS SUBMITTED TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 1926.
(Comparing the Figures of 1919 with those of 1924.)

	N.S.W.		Q'land		S. Aus.		Tasmania		Victoria		W. Aus.	
	1919	1924	1919	1924	1919	1924	1919	1924	1919	1924	1919	1924
Presbyteries	17	18	5	5	3	3	3	3	17	20	4	4
Full Charges	235	248	45	48	22	30	16	15	228	249	24	18
Ministers in Charges	159	165	34	33	19	18	10	11	215	229	15	10
Ministers Unattached	26	—	4	5	—	3	—	—	23	21	—	—
Ministers on Special Service	16	—	3	4	—	3	2	—	16	14	3	—
Home Mission Stations	37	50	42	41	7	6	13	12	93	82	6	9
Home Missionaries	47	—	37	38	6	8	11	12	†50	†83	2	—
Preaching Places	1,182	1,206	356	357	60	53	74	75	940	973	43	54
Churches	460	485	162	164	37	39	47	53	541	568	26	29
Sittings	75,575	80,279	24,453	24,414	7,602	8,105	7,640	9,765	94,975	104,984	—	—
Mansees	157	168	50	55	18	24	15	18	207	249	12	15
School Buildings	129	137	47	59	12	20	12	14	196	229	19	12
Other Properties	127	146	31	39	13	—	8	23	150	192	—	—
Elders	1,047	1,220	370	403	127	135	59	77	1,187	1,297	97	96
Deacon and Managers	3,386	3,473	979	1,137	337	—	230	296	5,041	5,568	197	237
Communicants	22,936	26,209	9,316	9,660	2,514	2,363	1,476	1,996	34,972	36,834	2,183	2,177
Adherents, over 16	32,748	38,713	13,100	18,841	—	—	2,086	2,665	†44,484	56,324	—	—
Adherents, under 16	28,264	31,363	15,724	17,123	—	—	1,365	1,944	†35,230	42,811	—	—
Fellowship Associations	142	128	12	18	2	2	—	—	—	50	—	—
Bible Classes	93	91	15	14	3	3	—	6	216	193	—	—
Sunday Schools	367	419	153	179	36	42	37	41	520	522	36	40
Sunday School Teachers—Men	699	777	387	331	88	143	45	63	883	891	—	88
Sunday School Teachers—Women	1,677	2,008	792	793	224	311	132	177	3,003	3,041	307	222
Scholars—Boys	9,529	11,526	4,120	4,659	1,022	1,153	620	905	14,291	15,790	3,050	1,138
Scholars—Girls	12,341	14,826	5,108	5,505	1,196	1,425	816	994	17,200	18,278	—	1,699
No. of State Schools in which Religious Instruction is given	708	852	—	157	—	—	—	—	—	922	—	—
No. of Scholars receiving Religious Instruction	28,526	37,696	—	8,923	—	—	—	—	—	122,598	—	—
Value of Churches	511,002	693,187	138,971	161,967	*70,426	92,695	25,735	57,658	527,548	832,865	—	43,973
Value of Mansees	147,673	200,554	27,170	41,620	—	—	8,900	18,385	154,590	263,142	—	12,465
Value of School Buildings	69,725	111,060	19,369	39,542	—	—	2,380	6,630	112,060	185,630	72,019	9,579
Value of Other Properties	47,787	78,401	29,240	39,950	—	—	9,721	9,341	93,465	180,956	—	7,917
Total Debts on all Properties	60,100	42,530	8,039	11,868	4,185	—	4,020	3,217	105,641	138,024	—	50,853
Insurances on all Properties	443,670	619,457	109,927	154,225	35,000	—	15,466	32,302	505,916	722,733	—	72,862

*Includes Churches, Mansees, etc. †Includes Ministers and Students engaged in H.M. Work. ‡Over 14 years of age, and under 14.

STATISTICS.

From the tabulated figures we find that there has been an increase (during the five years under comparison) in the total number of churches throughout the various States from 1,273 to 1,338—an increase of 5 per cent. Manses have increased from 459 to 529—i.e., 15 per cent.; School buildings from 415 to 471—i.e., 14 per cent. There has been an increase in the number of Elders from 2,887 to 3,228—i.e., 12 per cent.; Deacons and Managers from 9,833 to 10,711—i.e., 9 per cent.; Communicants from 73,397 to 79,239—i.e., 8 per cent.; adherents over 16 years of age from 92,418 to 116,543—i.e., 26 per cent., and under 16 years of age from 80,583 to 93,241—i.e., 16 per cent. Fellowship Associations and Bible Classes show decreases. In the Sunday Schools men teachers have increased from 2,193 to 2,293—i.e., $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and women teachers from 6,050 to 6,552—i.e., $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Under the heading of scholars we find that the number of boys has increased from 30,833 to 35,171—i.e., 14 per cent., and girls from 38,460 to 42,727—i.e., 11 per cent.

It is hoped that all the States will in future endeavour to furnish details as completely as possible along the lines set forth in the above table, so that the comparison may be of greater value.

The present Convener is desirous of being relieved of the duties of the convenership. The Committee therefore recommend that Mr. S. J. Caruthers, who has devoted considerable time to the preparation of the above table and its analysis, and who also carries out so well the duties of the Convener of the Statistics Committee in N.S.W., should be appointed in his stead.

On behalf of the Committee,

D. McKAY BARNET, Convener.

NUMBER OF PRESBYTERIANS IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

	Males.		Females.		Total.		Incr'se.
	1921.	1924.	1921.	1924.	1921.	1924.	
Victoria	125,741	136,171	131,331	139,670	257,072	275,841	7.30
New South Wales	112,439	119,277	107,493	113,606	219,932	232,883	5.88
Queensland	47,948	52,270	43,662	47,527	91,610	99,797	8.93
South Australia	12,619	13,708	12,040	12,784	24,659	26,492	7.43
West Australia	15,534	16,955	12,843	13,848	28,377	30,803	8.54
Tasmania	7,438	7,409	7,358	7,405	14,796	14,814	.12
Nthn. Territory	195	176	71	72	266	248	—
Federal Capital	158	250	104	142	262	392	49.61
	322,072	346,216	314,902	335,054	636,974	681,270	6.95
Total population of the Commonwealth	2,762,870	2,960,812	2,672,864	2,845,878	5,435,734	5,806,690	6.82
Percentage of Presbyterians to Total Population	11.65	11.69	11.78	11.77	11.72	11.73	

REPORT ON SUVA, BY THE SYNOD OF MELBOURNE.

The Synod's connection with Suva came about in the following way:— In 1920 the Presbytery of Melbourne South overtured the General Assembly of Australia, setting forth the importance of Christian work in Suva and the Pacific Islands, and the financial inability of the Presbytery and the Victorian Church to meet the need, and asking the Assembly to devise the necessary means to develop the work at Suva, and in the Pacific

Possessions. The Overture was accompanied by a report prepared by Mr. Jameson, after a visit to Suva. (See B.B., p. 65.)

The Assembly agreed to remit the work in Suva to the care of the Synod of Melbourne, on behalf of the General Assembly of Australia, with authority to appeal for monetary and other assistance to the Church in all States. (B.B., p. 43.)

In obedience to this direction, the Synod applied for and received promises of monetary aid from New Zealand, New South Wales, and Victoria.

The Rev. T. Shanks, M.A., was the first Minister appointed under the new arrangement, and did good work. The next appointee was the Rev. G. L. Johnson. His term of three years expired on August 1, 1925, but as he had not taken any furlough during his ministry there, he was permitted by the Synod to leave Suva at the beginning of May. Mr. Johnson was a most active and tireless worker, and the Church made progress under him. Fresh applications were then invited to fill the vacancy, and the Rev. James Jackson was chosen for the position, again for a term of three years. He, too, is doing good work.

But the Synod would point out that, owing to the enervating nature of the climate, the loneliness of the situation, and the poor emolument it is able to offer, it is impossible to get anyone to accept an appointment for a longer period than three years. This is entirely unsatisfactory. The Synod urges the Assembly to take into its most earnest consideration the possibility of increasing the stipend, so that greater inducement could be held out to the next appointee to remain for a longer period.

At present the stipend is £350 and manse. That provided locally—viz., £250 and manse—is augmented to the extent of £100 per annum, which is made up of contributions of £50 each by the Assemblies of New South Wales, New Zealand and Victoria, the difference between these two amounts being used for defraying the expenses of transfer to and from Suva of the Minister appointed.

JOHN A. CROCKETT, Moderator of Synod.

HUGH A. BUNTINE, Clerk of Synod.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON UNIFICATION.

The Committee on Unification has simply been marking time since last Assembly. The new relations established between Western Australia and New South Wales, and South Australia and Victoria, have, to a considerable degree, relieved the situation for which the Committee was originally appointed. Furthermore, the fact that other committees are gradually moving in the direction of unification along their own lines makes it difficult for this Special Committee to proceed with its work, without invading the province of these other committees.

The Welfare of Youth Departments of the various States are rapidly developing a Commonwealth scheme, while the Provident Fund Committee is working with the same end in view. In addition, a special Home Mission Committee was appointed at the last Assembly to serve as a medium through which the stronger States may render assistance in cases where State Assemblies find the burden too heavy to carry.

In view of these facts, we are of the opinion that the continuance of this Committee is unnecessary. We therefore recommend that it be discharged.

REPORT ON WELFARE OF YOUTH.

The Work Generally.

The reading of the Blue Books of the various States, from which the substance of this report must necessarily be compiled, has been a sincere pleasure. Many elements have contributed to that experience. Buoyancy, perhaps, is the dominant note of the writers. Nowhere is there any hint of weariness in the task, or of dismay at its difficulties. Everywhere there is optimism, everywhere expectation. Working with the child

and for the child, the spirit and attitude of the child become infectious. The best is yet to be. The road may be long, and at times hard in the going, but its lure is inescapable. We go on, for we must!

This buoyancy is born of many factors. The first in importance, perhaps, is the extent of the outlook. Our Welfare of Youth Departments have long since ceased to be parochial. They have learned to look not merely on their own things, but also on the things of others. Possibly unconscious of the process—certainly without counting the stages—they have grown to be as statesmen in the big concern of winning the young life of our continent for Christ. And the larger vision always expands the heart. What trifles used to separate the workers of these States! Now, there is no such thing as separation. Directors of one State pass over to another as a common occurrence, as if it had been always so. Comradship in the big battle has developed into brotherhood in the same family and home. And the story of what this brotherhood is doing is a delightful and inspiring one.

Many questions are left untouched, not only for reasons of space, but sometimes also because of the difficulty of securing details. It would have been interesting to tell exactly of the numerical progress and the organising results of our Sunday Schools and Youth Societies. Much could be said on the question of the teacher—the crux of the Sunday School problem; on the acceptance of our Graded Lessons by an ever-growing constituency; on Junior Membership, and its early experiences; on our relations with other Churches in this undertaking. But some of these must needs wait.

The Committee rejoices greatly in the fact that at length, after years of earnest thought and strenuous effort, it is now in the happy position of being able to ask the Assembly for the establishment of a Commonwealth Board of Religious Education. This is the natural issue of many labours, the crown of many endeavours. We trust that the Committee's desire will be readily granted.

The absence of the Convener, the Rev. John Mackenzie, especially on such an important occasion, is greatly to be regretted. Few things will afford him greater satisfaction on his return from the Old Land, after a well-deserved holiday, than to know that the General Assembly has sustained the Overture herewith presented, and thereby honoured one of his most warmly cherished ideals.

Special Youth Agents.

Victoria and Tasmania.—Since last Assembly, owing to developments indicated elsewhere in this report, some re-arrangements have been found necessary in the spheres of labour undertaken by the Victorian Youth Agents. The Rev. Wm. Goyen has been appointed Managing Editor and Business Superintendent for the Welfare of Youth Department, his duties reaching out to the larger field indicated in the section of this report dealing with the Publications Committee. The Rev. J. C. Jamieson has been appointed Organising Secretary for Sunday Schools and Young People's Work, and Allan Bequest Agent. Miss Hopkins continues in Kindergarten and Primary Work. Miss Tope, Secretary of the Presbyterian Girls' Association, has resigned, and Miss Rogan has taken her place.

New South Wales.—The Rev. N. H. Joughin, the Director, and Miss Quine, Kindergarten Organiser, are still in charge in this State. The engagement of Mr. J. W. Stewart Lang, as travelling secretary of the Presbyterian Fellowship Union, terminated in February of this year. A successor has not yet been appointed.

Queensland.—The Rev. J. B. Galloway, the Director, having accepted a call to Wagga Wagga, left Queensland in November, 1924. The question of a successor has been before the Assembly, but no appointment has been made.

Western and South Australia.—Having no Special Agents of their own, these States have been assisted, as indicated elsewhere, by Directors from other States.

Australian National Sunday School Council.

Following a visit paid to Australia in 1922 by Dr. W. C. Pearce, an Australian National Sunday School Council was constituted at a meeting of State Delegates held in September of that year. Among the first fruits of this new organisation was a full representation of Australian Youth Workers at the Glasgow Convention. About fifty delegates from all parts of Australia were present.

A second result was the formation in New South Wales and Victoria of State Councils, which represent in both cases the young people's departments of the Anglican, Presbyterian, Methodist, Congregational and Baptist Churches, and the Associated Churches of Christ. Under the auspices of the Council in the Mother State, a United Sunday School Convention was held in Sydney in April of the present year. Delegates were present from every part of the State, representing each of the above denominations. The various meetings were well attended, and proved helpful and stimulating to many teachers both from city and country.

It is hoped to hold the first Australian National Sunday School Convention in Sydney in 1927. All Youth workers in the Commonwealth will look forward to that event with most pleasurable anticipation. It will be a striking witness to the progress of young people's work throughout the length and breadth of Australia, and make clear to all our people the growing importance which is now being attached to the religious nurture of the boy and girl.

Children's Year.

In New South Wales a special effort was made in 1925, sanctioned by the General Assembly, and under the auspices of the Council of Religious Education, to concentrate on certain aspects of Youth work, such as Sunday School attendance, decision, organisation, etc. In Victoria, a similar programme is being carried out at present. Where the scheme has been entered upon enthusiastically, and carried out with thoroughness, encouraging results have been secured—larger enrolment and attendance of scholars, increased interest and efficiency in organisation and teaching, etc. Such a rally of Sunday School forces can be productive of nothing but good, and a periodical undertaking of this nature by all the Protestant Churches is well worth their serious consideration. Such a united campaign occurring every few years, and carried out with vigour and purpose, would have no small influence upon the consciences of neglectful parents, and undoubtedly would be the means of bringing many children at present without Bible or Teacher under the care of Christian instructors. The need for some such special effort may be seen in the fact that in New South Wales alone it is estimated there are 200,000 Protestant children who do not attend any Sunday School.

Memory Lessons.

The Committee is pleased to announce that agreement has at length been reached by all the States regarding a suitable scheme of Memory Lessons. It has now been published in booklet form, entitled "The Scholar's Book of Memory Lessons," and is being used acceptably in all the States.

The Care of the Adolescent.

In Youth work the problem of the adolescent is the hardest to solve. New points of view are constantly arising, and fresh needs require to be met. Continuous and diligent study is therefore given to this work by its leaders and friends, and earnest endeavours are made to direct its development along the wisest and most fruitful channels.

In Victoria, we are indebted to the Rev. J. C. Jamieson and his co-workers for special attention to the needs of young men and women. Mr. Jamieson thus reports:—

"There has been a large increase of membership in the Young Peoples' Societies during the last two years. Three features have been prominent—

- (1) The ready response of Youth to the spiritual appeal. The whole campaign has throughout stressed Bible Study and the evangelistic.

- "(2) Much use has been made of Conferences at Christmas and Easter. Occasional week-end Conferences have also been held, and small parties of young people have gone to Congregations and held brief week-end missions.
- "(3) The Orders of the Burning Bush and the Covenant have proved successful in introducing a higher type of club life. These orders are worked like a fraternity or lodge, with a ritual and initiation service and course of instruction. They pledge their members to Church attendance, and to a growing interest in the life and work of the Church itself. One of our ministers writes — 'I am profoundly impressed with the vast possibilities of these two Orders.' Both Orders are workable either in small or large centres."

Miss Gillespie, President of the Presbyterian Girls' Association, sends encouraging notes of the growth and work of this new Society.

Started as recently as July, 1923, it has now 180 branches, with a membership of 4000, 2000 being communicants. Bible Study Groups (130) and training classes for teachers meet regularly. Many teachers and Kindergarten helpers have been trained for Sunday Schools. Over 600 members attended a camp at Easter. A specially gratifying feature is the fact that the Association supports five Missionaries, one in the Home field, one in the Inland, one in New Hebrides, and two in Korea. Two bursaries have been provided for training two P.G.A. students in the Deaconess Training Institute.

In New South Wales the Fellowship Union continues its work. The membership now stands at 2,500. Six camps were held during Easter of this year, the total registration being 550. A Guild of Youth has been formed, including, as in Victoria, the Orders of the Burning Bush and of the Covenant, and is already proving helpful.

The Queensland Fellowship Association continues to go forward both in numbers and interests. Under a new constitution approved of by the Assembly in May last it hopes for still larger growth and usefulness.

In South Australia a recently-formed Bible Class Fellowship has received the approval of the Assembly. It is hoped that this forward movement will prove of invaluable service among the young people of this State.

Assisting Weaker States.

* The spirit of co-operation, one of the well-marked features in the Youth work of our Church, has again been manifested in most helpful ways.

In October and November, 1924, the Rev. Wm. Goyen visited South Australia and Western Australia, and spent five weeks there. His Conferences with workers and teachers were greatly appreciated. A full report of the visit, embodying many useful suggestions, was afterwards forwarded to the Welfare of Youth Department. Regarding a later visit to all the States, Mr. Goyen reports as follows:—

"In accordance with the understanding arrived at by the Queensland, New South Wales and Victorian Welfare of Youth Departments, I visited all the States of Australia during the last twelve months on behalf of our work amongst our young people. On my way north, I left Melbourne on June 28, 1925, and returned on August 7. On my way west, I left Melbourne on March 26, 1926, and returned on May 8. The time occupied in these itineraries was exactly twelve weeks.

"In New South Wales and Queensland, I conducted ten services, held ten conferences with Teachers, visited eight Schools, attended ten Committee meetings, interviewed nine Departmental Leaders, and conferred with five printing firms.

"In South and Western Australia I conducted ten services, held nineteen conferences with Teachers, visited six Schools, attended six Committee meetings, and interviewed the leaders of all Protestant Sunday School Departments.

"In all the States attention was given to the adaptation of our graded literature to local requirements, to the distribution of the literature amongst the Schools, and to suggestions for improvement. The development also of work in the senior section of the School and in the Bible Classes and Fellowship came under review, and the project of issuing

facilities such as Catechism, Missionary Work, Young People's League of Worship literature, etc., agreed upon. The idea also of bringing all our School and Bible Class literature under Federal control was considered and approved. The action of the recently-formed Presbyterian Publications Committee (with the sanction of the Queensland, New South Wales and Victorian Assemblies) in publishing folders dealing with subjects of living interest to our Young People and our Congregations was heartily favoured.

"In the two States without Directors (South and Western Australia), I left detailed reports for the consideration of the Youth Committees, and in most of the States I had the privilege of pleading with Protestant Sunday School Committees for closer co-operation. There is promise, I think, of a great Interstate Convention in Sydney next Easter, at which representatives from all the States will take part. The National Sunday School Council of Australia appreciates the advocacy I was able to effect during these Interstate visits. In every State the widespread use of our graded literature in our Presbyterian Schools, and their general appreciation, is remarkable. From their circulation a considerable profit accrues, and this, I think should be used in the improvement of the several publications and the extension of Youth work. By 'mass' production of Teachers' facilities and School requisites additional savings can be effected, and these also should be used in perfecting our organisations and improving our staffs. With Directors in Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland, conference work with the north may not be required from an Interstate official, but personal contact with the Committees is of great moment, and in the States of South and Western Australia conference work is of great importance. The kindly welcome given me in my travels was very gratifying, and the words of appreciation more than welcome."

In October, 1924, a similar visit was paid to South Australia and Western Australia by the Rev. N. H. Joughin. The Welfare of Youth Committee in each State was met. In Western Australia conferences of Teachers were held, and many Churches and Schools visited. Mr. Joughin concludes his report as follows:—

"The situation on the Goldfields is not very encouraging, owing to the continual removal of people from the centre, as the mines are giving out, but in Perth Youth Work is fairly satisfactory. There are efficient staffs in some of our Schools, and the readiness to respond to suggestions for improvements is hopeful.

"But Western Australia is a very difficult problem from the point of view of our Church. Outside of Perth, the population is very scattered, and we are faced with a lack of men and a lack of money, as the Church possesses no capital funds whatever. Outside of the metropolis, there are only two ordained Presbyterian Ministers at the present time. At the same time, there is a big development going on through the whole of the agricultural areas of the State, and now is the time in which the Presbyterian Church must be established in these centres if it is to have any strength in the days to come. But assistance from the stronger States is necessary to secure this result."

Presbyterian Publications.

In pursuance of the wish of the General Assembly of Australia, a meeting of Interstate representatives of the Youth Departments of Queensland, N.S.W. and Victoria was held on February 18. The Rev. J. B. Galloway represented Queensland, the Rev. N. H. Joughin and Mr. Laverty New South Wales. Discussion centred on the need of the weaker States, and the desirability of unity in the production of literature common to all Presbyterian Schools. After careful deliberation, it was resolved to seek the establishment of an Australian Presbyterian Publishing Committee, which shall issue Presbyterian literature and supplies for the Presbyterian Church of Australia in the various States. It was also agreed that the publishing centre should be established in Melbourne, and that the cost of working the scheme should be drawn from the profits on the graded literature. The conference wished it to be clearly understood that this publishing work would not encroach on the functions and publications of the Joint Board of Australian Graded Lessons. It was also understood that the officer in charge of this work should spend, say,

three months of his time in developing Youth work in South and Western Australia, and conferring with the Committees and Leaders in Queensland and New South Wales.

Later in the year, the Rev. J. Mackenzie and Mr. A. L. Pryde visited Sydney, and entered into further conference on the matter with the Welfare of Youth Council there. The details of the scheme as then agreed upon were as follows:—

Committee.—The Committee to consist of three members from each of the States of Victoria and New South Wales, two from Queensland, and one from each of the States of South Australia and Western Australia.

Management.—A Manager to be appointed, whose duties shall be as follows:—

Arranging with writers for proposed literature, and with printers for publication—tenders to be called in principal centres; seeing literature through the press; gathering orders from the States, and arranging for bulk supplies; keeping books of orders, sales, costs and returns—at least for the first year; arranging meetings of Committees, keeping minutes and administrating business.

Also spending three months yearly in the various States for the purpose of consulting Welfare of Youth Committees regarding current and necessary literature; discussing policies and organisations; assisting where requested in organisation work and encouraging Interstate alliance in School work. Two-thirds of this time to be divided between South and Western Australia, and time to be given to consultation with the Welfare of Youth Council in Sydney.

Financial.—Financial arrangements to be as follows:—

The Manager to receive £300 per annum, and that to be raised by a levy of one-third of a penny on the "Teacher," and one-sixteenth of a penny on the "Scholar," any surplus over £300 to revert to the Victorian Committee; that there be no overhead expenses for twelve months, then the question of overhead expenses to be reconsidered. As a nucleus of a Capital Fund, all publications of the Committee to be charged 12½ per cent.; further expenses will be financed in the meantime by the Welfare of Youth Council in Victoria, and ultimately be charged against the profits accruing from literature published. Any expenses incurred shall be a first charge on future profits.

Publications.—The publications proposed to be issued under the control of this Committee to include the following:—

Temperance Text Book; Young People's League of Worship Literature—Albums, Certificates, Diplomas; Hymn Sheets for Sunday School Festivals, yearly; Junior Catechism; Memory Lesson Book; Expression Picture Outlines; Cradle Roll, Application and Birthday Cards; Improved Class Register and School Roll Book; Australian Sunday School Hymnal; The Australasian Sunday School; Kindergarten Teacher Training Text Book; Main School Teacher Training Text Book; Communion Cards, Baptismal Cards, First Communion Cards; Altar Cards.

It was agreed that the Rev. W. Goyen be appointed Manager. The thanks of the other States are tendered to the Victorian Assembly for releasing Mr. Goyen from local duties to the extent involved in the above proposal.

The formation of the Committee has been approved by the State Assemblies of Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, and the Committee has already done some very good work. The following is a list of publications issued:—Scholars' Book of Memory Lessons, Junior Membership Rules, Family Altar Card, The Menace of Alcohol, Seed-Sowing at Sholinghur, Class Registers, Cradle Roll Facilities, Baptismal Certificates, Y.P.L.W. Literature, Ritual "Order of the Burning Bush," Ritual "Order of the Covenant," Pamphlet on "Gambling."

A Commonwealth Department.

In former reports of your Committee reference was made to the desire on the part of State Youth Departments for closer co-operation in

the educational policy programme and publications of youth work. This year we are able to report definite arrangements consonant with this desire which are now in actual operation. By the generosity of the Joint Board of the **Australasian Graded Lessons**, the privilege was extended to each of the States of associated partnership in the lessons and literature published by this Board. The Youth Departments of Queensland and New South Wales availed themselves of the privilege, and thereby secured their literature at cost price. South and Western Australia are anxious to share the benefit, but their small circulation due to numerical weakness forms a disability. Beyond the financial gain accruing to the Northern States, greater control is secured by representation on the Joint Board.

In 1924, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, by mutual consent, set up an Australian Presbyterian Publications Committee, for the purpose of the joint production of school requisites, and for the extension of their influence by the issue of pamphlets dealing with questions of living interest to the Young People and Congregations of to-day. The past year's work has made clear the usefulness and economy of this class of work. In addition to these gains, the formation of this Committee has made it possible for State Departments to keep in closer contact with each other by yearly consultation with the Managing Editor of this Committee, and by the visitation of the States of South and Western Australia in accordance with the instructions of the Assembly.

Your Committee believes that the time has now arrived for this co-operative work to be recognised by the General Assembly. Up to the present, the Victorian Welfare of Youth Department has borne the burden of financial and administrative responsibility. To make the situation equitable and permanent, your Committee desires the General Assembly to appoint a Board of Religious Education for the management and administration of the Youth work in the Church, similar to the Board of Missions. This Board would not interfere with the sphere of activity of State Committees, which would still be appointed to supervise State organisations, to stimulate interest in Sunday Schools, Bible Classes and Youth Work generally, and to find the necessary funds therefor; but the publications would be owned by the Board of Religious Education, and the profits distributed to each of the States in proportion to the literature circulated therein. This would make the whole of the Australian States a unit in the ownership of the literature, would secure a more uniform policy in educational work, and make possible the circulation of pamphlets which are urgently needed in the Christian nurture of our young people, and for the guidance of our Congregations.

Herewith, an Overture is respectfully submitted to the Assembly. The Committee also requests that, should the Overture be sustained, interim authority be granted to enable the Board to carry on in the joint capacity of the Australian Presbyterian Publications Committee. This authority is required at once, as new agreements are necessary with the printers at the end of next year, and the Committee should be prepared to act as a unit in the contract.

J. B. GALLOWAY, Convener.

REPORT OF THE YEAR BOOK COMMITTEE.

The Committee, acting on the instructions of last Assembly, arranged for printing additional information of parishes, and thereby increased the value of the book to the Church. It is now a fairly complete record of all the information for which a year book is likely to be consulted. The extra cost of printing the added matter was considered, and it was reasonably expected that the enlarged book would prove a better seller, and that the sales would keep the balance within the bounds of £30. The Committee have to report that this has not been realised. The cost of production is really small, in view of the quotation obtained from another firm of printers. The weak point is still the sales, which totalled 676 for the 1925 issue. When it is noted that there are above 800 parishes (including Home Missions) within the bounds of the Assembly, it will be evident that the Committee is justified in expecting the sale of the whole issue of the book, which would then more nearly pay its

way. Something must be devised in future to secure an effective distribution to the whole Presbyterian Church of Australia of its Year Book.

The figures available at the time of writing this report are for the 1925 issue. Printing and postages, £63/12/8; honorarium, £21; total cost of production, £84/12/8. Income from sales, £27/18/9; advertisements, £15; Vic. Theo. Hall Grant, £5; Total, £47/18/9, leaving a debit balance of £36/13/11, which somewhat exceeds the £30 authorised by the Assembly. The figures for the last three issues are:—

	Expenditure.	Income.
1924	£57 17 3	£35 7 3
1925	84 12 8	47 18 9
1926	82 11 1	47 10 6
Totals	£225 1 0	£130 16 6

This shows an average deficit per issue for the three years of £31/8/2, or £35/17/3 average for the last two enlarged issues.

The Assembly might consider the question of asking each State Assembly to share in the responsibility for distribution.

The Committee express gratitude to Miss Lamont for her work as book-keeper, and to the editor for his enthusiastic interest and care in producing, year by year, this valuable vade mecum of the Presbyterian Churchman.

R. ARTHUR GREEN, Convener.

Returns to Remits

1.—ELIGIBILITY OF WOMEN FOR ELDERSHIP.

Assemblies Disapprove: New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania.

Assembly Approving: Western Australia.

Presbyteries Disapprove: Hunter, Scone, North Sydney, Orange, Hawkesbury, Moree, Richmond, Hastings, Sydney, Illawarra, Clarence, Bendigo, Melbourne West, Melbourne East, Melbourne South, Western Plains, Macedon, Gippsland, Penola, Beechworth, Hamilton, Flinders, Maryborough, Goulburn Valley Geelong, Brisbane, Toowoomba, Rockhampton, Fremantle, Adelaide, Belalie, Tasmania, Melbourne North.

Bathurst: No principle violated, but no change demanded.

Presbyteries Approve: Wimmera, Perth, Mortlake, Ballarat, Albany.

2.—UNION OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA.

Assemblies Approve: New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania.

Presbyteries Approve: Hunter, Hawkesbury, Scone, North Sydney, Orange, Moree, Richmond, Hastings, Sydney, Illawarra, Clarence, Bendigo, Melbourne West, Melbourne East, Melbourne South, Western Plains, Macedon, Gippsland, Wimmera, Penola, Hamilton, Flinders, Maryborough, Goulburn Valley, Geelong, Brisbane, Toowoomba, Rockhampton, Fremantle, Perth, Adelaide, Tasmania, Bathurst, Melbourne North, Mortlake, Albany.

3.—UNION OF VICTORIA AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Assemblies Approve: New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia, Tasmania.

Presbyteries Approve: Hunter, Scone, North Sydney, Orange, Moree, Richmond, Hastings, Sydney, Illawarra, Clarence, Bendigo, Melbourne West, Melbourne East, Melbourne South, Western Plains, Macedon, Gippsland, Wimmera, Penola, Hamilton, Flinders, Maryborough, Goulburn

Valley, Geelong, Brisbane, Toowoomba, Rockhampton, Fremantle, Perth, Adelaide, Bellalie, Tasmania, Bathurst, Melbourne North, Mortlake, Albany.

Presbytery Disapprove: Hawkesbury.

4.—INDUCTION FORMULA.

Assemblies Approve: Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania.

Assemblies Disapprove: New South Wales, South Australia.

Presbyteries Approve: Scone, North Sydney, Orange, Moree, Illawarra, Bendigo, Melbourne West, Melbourne East, Melbourne South, Western Plains, Macedon, Gippsland, Wimmera, Penola, Beechworth, Hamilton, Flinders, Goulburn Valley, Brisbane, Toowoomba, Rockhampton, Fremantle, Perth, Bellalie, Tasmania, Melbourne North, Mortlake, Albany.

Presbyteries Disapprove: Hunter, Richmond, Hastings, Sydney, Clarence, Maryborough, Geelong, Adelaide, Bathurst.

5.—JUNIOR COMMUNICANTS.

Assembly Approve: New South Wales.

Requests

Reference from General Assembly of South Australia on Representation of Men's League in Presbytery and Assembly.

From Men's League for Representation in Assembly and Presbytery:

"A letter was received from Mr. J. A. Hobbs, Secretary of the Men's League, requesting that provision be made to include a representative from the League in the Presbytery.

"On the motion of the Rev. J. Hall Angus, seconded by Mr. Lampe, it was agreed that this communication be sent on to the Assembly, with a recommendation that, if possible, the request be granted."

Extracted from the Minutes of the Presbytery of Adelaide, this 13th day of August, 1925, by me.

W. FLOYD SHANNON,

Clerk of the Presbytery of Adelaide.

To Clerk of Assembly.

Dear Sir—It was agreed at our last meeting to ask for representation on the Assembly. We feel that it would give a greater stimulus to the League in its work.

J. A. HOBBS,

Hon. Gen. Sec., Presbyterian Men's League.

Adelaide, S.A.,

March 18, 1926.

Which day the South Australian State Assembly being duly met and constituted with prayer.

Inter alia: **Men's League Representation.**

92. The Clerk brought forward the request of the Men's League for representation in Assembly and Presbytery. Mr. Tassie moved, and Mr. Leal seconded, "That the Clerk write to the Secretary of the League expressing regret that the Constitution does not allow the granting of

the request, but that the Assembly is pleased to know that several of its members are also members of the Men's League."

An amendment, moved by Rev. W. Gray, and seconded by Rev. R. Campbell, to omit all words after "that," with the object of inserting other words, was lost.

A further amendment, moved by Rev. J. Hall Angus, seconded by Rev. F. J. H. Steward, "that the matter be referred to the General Assembly of Australia for its decision" was carried, and, being put as a substantive motion, was agreed to.

Rev. W. F. Shannon moved, and Rev. J. H. Angus seconded, that the Clerk write to the Men's League, expressing sympathy with the request, and intimating that the matter is being sent on to the General Assembly of Australia for decision as to its legality. Agreed.

Extracted from the Records of the South Australian State Assembly by me, this 15th day of July, 1926.

W. FLOYD SHANNON,

Clerk of Assembly of S.A.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA EXPENSES ACCOUNT

Dr.

FROM AUGUST 1, 1924, to JULY 31, 1926.

Cr.

EXPENDITURE.		REVENUE.
To Meeting in Sydney, September, 1924—		By Balance August 1, 1924 £471 9 0
Communion Wine	£0 9 0	„ Proportion of Expenses—
Organist	2 2 0	For 1924—
Advertising	7 13 6	W.A. Church £34 15 6
Preparing Church	3 7 0	Tasmanian Church
Church Officer	5 5 0	(balance) 50 0 0
Hire, Tables	2 12 6	84 15 6
	£21 9 0	For 1925—
„ College Committee—		Victorian Church 205 6 9
Secretary's Honorarium — Rev. K.		N.S.W. Church 205 6 9
Foster, 2 years	80 0 0	Queensland Church 60 12 0
Examiners, 6 at £3/3/-	18 18 0	South Australian Church 34 15 6
	98 18 0	West Australian Church 34 15 6
„ Union of Churches—		Tasmanian Church 34 15 6
Travelling Expenses to Conference . .	24 16 2	575 12 0
„ Year Book—		For 1926—
Honorarium—Rev. J. R. Fiddian, 3		Victorian Church 205 6 9
years	63 0 0	N.S.W. Church 205 6 9
Printing, 1924	36 17 3	Queensland Church 60 12 0
Printing, 1925	63 12 8	South Australian Church 34 15 6
Printing, 1926	61 11 1	West Australian Church 34 15 6
	225 1 0	Tasmanian Church 34 15 6
„ Honorarium to Moderator, 1924-1925 . .	100 0 0	575 12 0
„ Honorarium to Clerk of Assembly . .	30 0 0	„ Honorarium, Secretary, Col-
„ Honorarium to Junior Clerk of		lege Committee—
Assembly	20 0 0	Victorian Church 25 0 0
„ General Presbyterian Alliance	20 0 0	N.S.W. Church 25 0 0
„ Printing Blue Book	189 13 6	Queensland Church 10 0 0
„ Freight on Blue Books	2 4 3	

„ Printing and Stationery	33 13 11	South Australian Church	10 0 0	
„ Moderator's Stationery	2 17 7	West Australian Church	10 0 0	
„ Postages	23 5 8			80 0 0
„ Telegrams	1 2 9	„ Year Book Sales—		
„ Exchange on Cheques	0 11 0	1925	52 7 9	
„ 2% on Revenue, 1924	14 12 0	1926	24 19 6	
„ 2% on Revenue, 1925	14 13 2			77 7 3
	29 5 2	„ Collections at St. Stephen's, Sydney ..		16 14 3
	£822 18 0	„ Interest, 1924	15 4 10	
„ Travelling Expenses transferred, as per Blue Book,		„ Interest, 1925	16 5 0	
1924	554 5 2			31 9 10
„ Balance Carried Forward	535 16 8			1,441 10 10
	£1,912 19 10			£1,912 19 10
		By Balance Brought Forward		£535 16 8

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA.
JOHN FRASER FOREIGN MISSION ENDOWMENT ACCOUNT.

DR.	* FROM AUGUST 1, 1924, to JULY 31, 1926.	CR.	
To Treasurer, Board of Foreign Missions (interest to June 30, 1926)	£130 0 0	By Balance, 1924	£1,000 0 0
„ Balance	1,000 0 0	„ Interest to June 30, 1926 (for 2 years)	130 0 0
	£1,130 0 0		£1,130 0 0
		By Balance	£1,000 0 0

Examined and found correct,
M. CARRUTHERS, F.C.P.A.,
Official Auditor to the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.
Sydney, 31st July, 1926.

TRAVELLING EXPENSES ACCOUNT.
FROM AUGUST 1, 1924, to JULY 31, 1926.

To Paid Travelling Expenses to Meetings		
in Sydney, September, 1924—		
Victorian Representatives	£227	9 11
N.S.W. Representatives	38	1 8
Queensland Representatives	47	5 8
South Australian Representatives	49	18 8
West Australian Representatives	278	2 8
Tasmanian Representatives	16	2 7
	£657	1 2
„ Interest, 1924-1925		46 17 6
	£703	18 8

By Church Hymnary Royalty Account	£148	8 7
„ N.S.W. Railways Commissioners—Refund	1	4 11
„ General Assembly Expenses Account, as per Blue Book, 1924	554	5 2
	£703	18 8

Examined and found correct,
M. CARRUTHERS, F.C.P.A.,
 Official Auditor to the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales,
 Sydney, 31st July, 1926.

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CHURCH HYMNARY ROYALTY ACCOUNT.
FROM AUGUST 1, 1924 to JULY 31, 1926.

To General Assembly Travelling Expenses Account	£148	8	7	By Royalties received from Trustees in Edinburgh, per Oxford Press	£148	8	7
	£148	8	7		£148	8	7

Examined and found correct,
M. CARRUTHERS, F.C.P.A.,
Official Auditor to the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.
Sydney, 31st July, 1926.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA—AUSTRALIAN INLAND MISSION.

Dr.

STATEMENT, 1st JULY, 1924, to 30th JUNE, 1925.

Cr.

DISBURSEMENTS.				RECEIPTS.			
	Salaries.	Expenses.	Total.				
Field Expenditure—				By Subscriptions from—			
Beltana—				Victoria	£2200	0	0
Miss Symonds	£63	10 2		New South Wales	2338	3	5
Sister Jorgensen	31	9 0	£15 0 0	Queensland	300	0	0
Sister Young	66	9 6	4 4 6	South Australia	575	0	0
Sister Edwards	54	9 10					£5413 3 5
Sister Latham	12	11 6	10 0 0	Subscriptions from Field—			
Birdsville—			£257 14 6	Birdsville	200	0	0
Sister Francis	100	12 0		Hall's Creek	200	0	0
Sister Bird	100	12 0	201 4 0	Marranboy	52	8	6
Broome—				United Free Church of Scotland ..		452	8 6
Rev. F. H. Brady	43	15 0	40 0 0	Presbyterian Church of England ..		125	0 0
Furniture			30 0 0	Presbyterian Church in Ireland ..		19	7 10
Carnarvon—			113 15 0	Victoria River, from Common-		643	0 0
Rev. E. D. Pearson	353	8 1	16 1 1	wealth Government			
Freight on Car			369 9 2	Oodnadatta, from South Australian		150	0 0
Cloncurry—				Government		2	0 0
Rev. H. J. T. Alexander	325	0 0	96 14 10	F. Blesser		20	0 0
Car Repairs and Petrol			3 7 6	H. Grainger		20	0 0
Insurance			425 2 4	J. and A. Gordon (Hall's Creek)		5	0 0
East-West Mission—				Dr. Ellice Hart (Hall's Creek) ..		2	3 0
H. P. Harris	60	6 0	60 6 0	L. Y. C. Smith		112	10 0
Hall's Creek—				Interest from Gas Shares		6	12 6
Sister Cousin	102	4 0		Sales, "Inlander"			
Sister Bennett	102	4 0		Refund Travelling Expenses—			
				Sister Edwards	0	16	6
				Sister King	2	5	2
				Sister Latham	0	17	0
				Sisters Streatfield and McDonagh	33	0	0
							36 18 8
							£7058 3 11

Sister Streatheld	16 13 4	47 17 3	
Sister McDonagh	16 13 4	47 17 3	
Comforts		5 0 6	
Freight and Cartage		1 1 0	
			419 10 8
Marranboy—			
Sister Larard	100 12 0		
Sister Simpson	72 18 4	15 0 0	
Sister Gordon	33 8 8	26 14 0	
			248 13 0
Oodnadatta—			
Sister Norman	100 12 0		
Sister Wood	100 12 0		
Board of Health		0 11 0	
Land Tax		0 1 7	
Insurance		8 16 6	
"Messenger" Subscription		1 3 9	
			211 16 10
Port Hedland—			
Sister Bird	100 12 0		
Sister Lipscombe	100 12 0		
Cement Cloth		1 13 8	
			202 17 8
Victoria River—			
Sister King	54 7 10	35 1 0	
Sister Gray	54 7 10	35 1 0	
Sister McGain	100 4 10		
Sister McKenzie	79 11 0		
			358 13 6
Office Expenses—			
T. Ramage	300 0 0		
Miss Baird	80 0 0		
Rent		26 0 0	
Cabinet		13 10 0	
Typewriter Requisites		2 15 0	
Printing and Stationery		10 2 6	
			432 7 6

Undistributed Expenditure—

Rev. John Flynn	400	0	0	160	0	0
Rev. J. Waugh	199	6	0	4	8	5
Convener's Expenses, Rev. A. T. Anderson		35	0	0		
G. E. Towns (Wireless Expert)		12	0	0		
Costs re Henderson Estate		1	11	6		
Duplicating Minutes		4	11	0		
Exchange on Cheques		13	1	0		
Freight on Parcels		10	13	7		
"Inlander"		396	7	6		
Insurance		39	4	6		
Interest		12	18	0		
"N.T. Times"		1	10	6		
Printing and Stationery		35	12	0		
Photos		1	14	7		
Postages		43	11	10		
Regulations re Nursing Homes		14	17	6		
Typewriter		40	0	0		
2% on Revenue		153	1	2		
					1579	3 1

3327 2 3 1553 17 0 4880 19 3

Transfers to—

Innamincka Account	307	4	0
Property Account	1100	0	0
Reserve Account	1000	0	0
		2407	4 0

Balance at 1st July, 1924	£7288	3	5
	229	17	1
	£7518	0	4

To Balance £459 16 5

By Balance	£459	16	5
	£7518	0	4

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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA—AUSTRALIAN INLAND MISSION.

Dr.

STATEMENT, 1st JULY, 1925, to 30th JUNE, 1926.

Cr.

DISBURSEMENTS.				RECEIPTS.	
	Salaries.	Expenses.	Total.		
Field Expenditure—				By Subscriptions from—	
Alice Springs—				Victoria	£2150 0 0
Sister Small	£30 0 0	£25 0 0		New South Wales	2831 2 9
Sister Pope	30 1 6	25 0 0		Queensland	390 0 0
Rent		2 0 6			<u>£5371 2 9</u>
Building		501 5 0	£613 7 0	Subscriptions from Field—	
				Hall's Creek	100 0 0
Beltana—				Carnarvon	175 0 0
Sister Edwards	115 12 0			Cloncurry, rent	10 0 0
Sister Latham	105 12 6	8 14 6			<u>285 0 0</u>
Sister Kinnear	20 2 0			United Free Church of Scotland . .	125 0 0
Rent to 30/9/25		76 4 0		Presbyterian Church in Ireland . .	50 0 0
Board of Health		0 5 0	£226 10 0	Bennett & Fisher (Birdsville) . . .	15 10 10
				F. S. Debney	8 5 10 0
Birdsville—				Miss Glasson, interest from bonds	11 5 0
Sister Frances	55 18 8	21 9 1		Sir Sidney Kidman (Birdsville) . .	23 0 0
Sister Boyd	55 19 8	21 9 1		H. V. Miller	25 0 0
Sister Mulway	96 13 0	25 0 9		C. C. Morton	1 0 0
Sister Mercer	96 8 0	25 0 9		W. Patrick	2 0 0
Remittance from H.Q.		38 14 10	436 13 10	L. Y. C. Smith	1 2 0
				Imperial Tobacco Co. of Great	
Broome—				Britain and Ireland	83 1 9
Rev. F. G. Brady	151 6 2	31 1 6		Sale, Carnarvon Car	65 0 0
Mrs. Brady	101 8 0			Sale, Saddle	15 0 0
Rev. G. L. Johnson		50 3 6	333 19 2	Interest	13 2 0
				Interest from Gas Shares	56 5 0
Carnarvon—				Cash Refund	0 2 0
Rev. E. D. Pearson	353 8 0		353 8 0	Refund, Travelling Expenses—	
				Sister Bennett	5 10 0
				Sister Cousin	5 10 0

150

Cloncurry—							
Rev. W. T. Alexander ..	341	16	4	36	2	4	
Repairs to Car and Petrol				184	6	5	
Insurance				2	7	0	
	<hr/>			<hr/>			565 12 1
East-West Mission—							
H. P. Harris	60	5	6				
	<hr/>			<hr/>			60 5 6
Hall's Creek—							
Sister Bennett	51	17	6				
Sister Cousins	51	17	0				
Sister Streatfield	98	10	8				
Sister McDonagh	98	14	2				
	<hr/>			<hr/>			300 19 4
Innamincka—							
Sister Grant				12	1	0	
Dental Outfit				5	12	1	
	<hr/>			<hr/>			17 13 1
Lake Grace—							
Sister Bennett	50	13	0	33	17	4	
Sister Cousin	50	13	0	18	1	0	
	<hr/>			<hr/>			153 4 4
Marble Bar—							
Sister Gray	20	2	0	18	10	0	
Sister McLeod	20	3	8	16	0	0	
	<hr/>			<hr/>			74 15 8
Marranboy—							
Sister Larard	115	9	0	30	6	3	
Sister Gordon	115	9	0	30	6	3	
Sister Yansen	20	0	0	25	0	0	
Sister Burton	20	0	0	25	0	0	
	<hr/>			<hr/>			381 10 6
Oodnadatta—							
Sister Norman	35	2	6	40	18	4	
Sister Wood	35	3	6	40	18	10	
Sister MacNeil	90	6	6	14	0	6	

Sister Kinnear	0	16	0				
Sister Larard	12	7	0				
Sister Levick	2	10	0				
Sister McNeil	2	1	0				
Sister Mulway	24	12	6				
Sister Norman	0	16	0				
Sister Small	16	11	2				
Sister Wood	7	10	0				
	<hr/>			<hr/>			78 3 8
„ Transfer from—							
Property Account—							
Alice Springs ..	£651	5	0				
Oodnadatta	41	0	9				
	<hr/>			<hr/>			892 5 9
Aeroplane Account				105	6	0	
Birdsville Account				45	0	0	
	<hr/>			<hr/>			842 11 9

Sister Sinclair	90	9	0	14	0	6		
Insurance				8	16	0		
Board of Health				0	5	0		
	<hr/>			<hr/>			370	0 8
Port Hedland—								
Sister Bird	74	8	10	33	11	1		
Sister Lipscombe	74	8	10	30	0	1		
Sister M. Brown	80	8	6	34	5	0		
Sister A. Brown	80	8	6	34	5	0		
	<hr/>			<hr/>			441	15 10
Victoria River—								
Sister McKenzie	115	12	0	35	7	6		
Sister McGain	115	9	0	35	7	6		
Sister Norman				25	0	0		
Sister Wood				25	0	0		
	<hr/>			<hr/>			351	16 0
Office Expenses—								
T. Ramage	337	10	0					
Miss Baird	210	13	4					
Rent				26	0	0		
Furniture				16	19	0		
Typewriter Requisites ..				0	10	9		
Telephone				5	7	8		
	<hr/>			<hr/>			597	0 9
Undistributed Expenditure—								
Rev. John Flynn (to 31/7/26)	433	6	8	192	7	9		
Board's Expenses to Mel- bourne				30	0	0		
Convener's Expenses —								
Rev. A. T. Anderson .				10	0	0		
Cable Address				2	2	0		
Deed Box				3	2	0		
Duplicating Minutes .. .				10	12	0		
Exchange on Cheques ..				8	19	0		

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA—AUSTRALIAN INLAND MISSION.

DR. STATEMENT, 1st JULY, 1924, to 30th JUNE, 1926.

CR.

DISBURSEMENTS.		RECEIPTS.
1924. Alice Springs Building Account. Dec. 31—To Property Account £106 15 7 <u>£106 15 7</u>		1924. July 1—By Balance £101 2 1 Dec. 31— „ Interest 5 13 6 <u>£106 15 7</u>
1926. Aeroplane Account. June 30—To G. E. Towns, Wireless Expert, Travel- ling Expenses £60 0 0 „ Broadcasting and Generator, etc. 67 5 1 „ Wireless Set to Oodnadatta 7 6 2 „ Refund; A.I.M. Fete 1 1 0 „ Transfer to General Fund 105 6 0 „ Balance 34 12 10 <u>£275 11 1</u>		1924. July 1—By Balance £175 6 1 1926. June 30—By Anon., Victoria 10 0 0 „ N. Orr 20 0 0 „ Wireless Set 52 13 0 „ Interest, 1924-1925 17 12 0 <u>£275 11 1</u> By Balance £34 12 10
1926. Birdsville Building Account. June 30—To Transfer to General Account Interest from Miss Glasson's Bond, 2 years £45 0 0 „ Balance 794 2 6 <u>£839 2 6</u>		1924. July 1—By Balance £771 4 2 1926. June 30— „ Interest £34 3 4 „ Interest 33 15 0 <u>67 18 4</u> By Balance £794 2 6

Innamincka Account.

1926.

June 30—By Adelaide "Register" and "Advertiser," Appeals for Furnishings for Proposed Home	£296	14	0
" Sister Kinnear—from Inland Subscriber	10	10	0
" Interest	17	5	3
	<u>£324</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>3</u>

Property Account.

1924.

To Alice Springs Building	£2307	6	11
" Alice Springs Special Account in Adelaide	651	5	0
" Alice Springs, Moderator-General and Rev. J. A. Barber, Travelling Expenses	100	2	6
" Broome Land	65	5	0
" Broome New Hall	646	5	0
" Carnarvon Rugby Car Repairs	28	10	6
" Cloncurry Manse Furnishing	89	12	11
" Lake Grace Hospital	1005	0	0
" Dodge Car for Superintendent	524	6	0
" Oodnadatta Bathroom	41	0	9
" Balance	261	7	9

July 1—By Balance £3943 16 3

1926.

June 30—	Mr. Fraser	500	0	0
	Mr. F. S. Gordon	500	0	0
	Mr. Ernest Park	100	0	0
	Mr. Jack	25	0	0
	Anon., Victoria	5	0	0
	Miss McLeod, Alice Springs Refrigerator	5	0	0
	Mr. W. D. Taylor, Electrical Equipment	12	10	0
	Hon. J. D. Hughes, Electrical Equipment	25	0	0
	Mrs. T. D. Souter, Cold Storage	50	0	0
	Lake Grace, Hospital Expenses	13	18	4
	Broome Land, Costs	4	10	2
	Sale, Carnarvon Car, Ford	65	0	0
	Alice Springs, Transfer	106	15	7
	Interest	373	12	3

£5730 2 4

£5730 2 4

By Balance £261 7 9

Reserve Account.			
		1924.	
		July 1—By Balance	£528 2 6
		1926.	
		June 30— „ Estate Late John Cameron—4½%	
		War Bonds	500 0 0
		„ Transfer from General Account	1000 0 0
		„ Interest	158 4 0
			£2186 6 6
Victoria River Building Account.			
1926.		1924.	
June 30—To 1 Mile Cyclone Fencing	£78 2 1	July 1—By Balance	£473 3 5
„ Balance	446 16 2	1926.	
		June 30— „ Interest	51 14 10
	£524 18 3		£524 18
		By Balance	£446 16 2

Examined and found correct,
Sydney, 31st July, 1926.

M. CARRUTHERS, F.C.P.A.,
Official Auditor of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.

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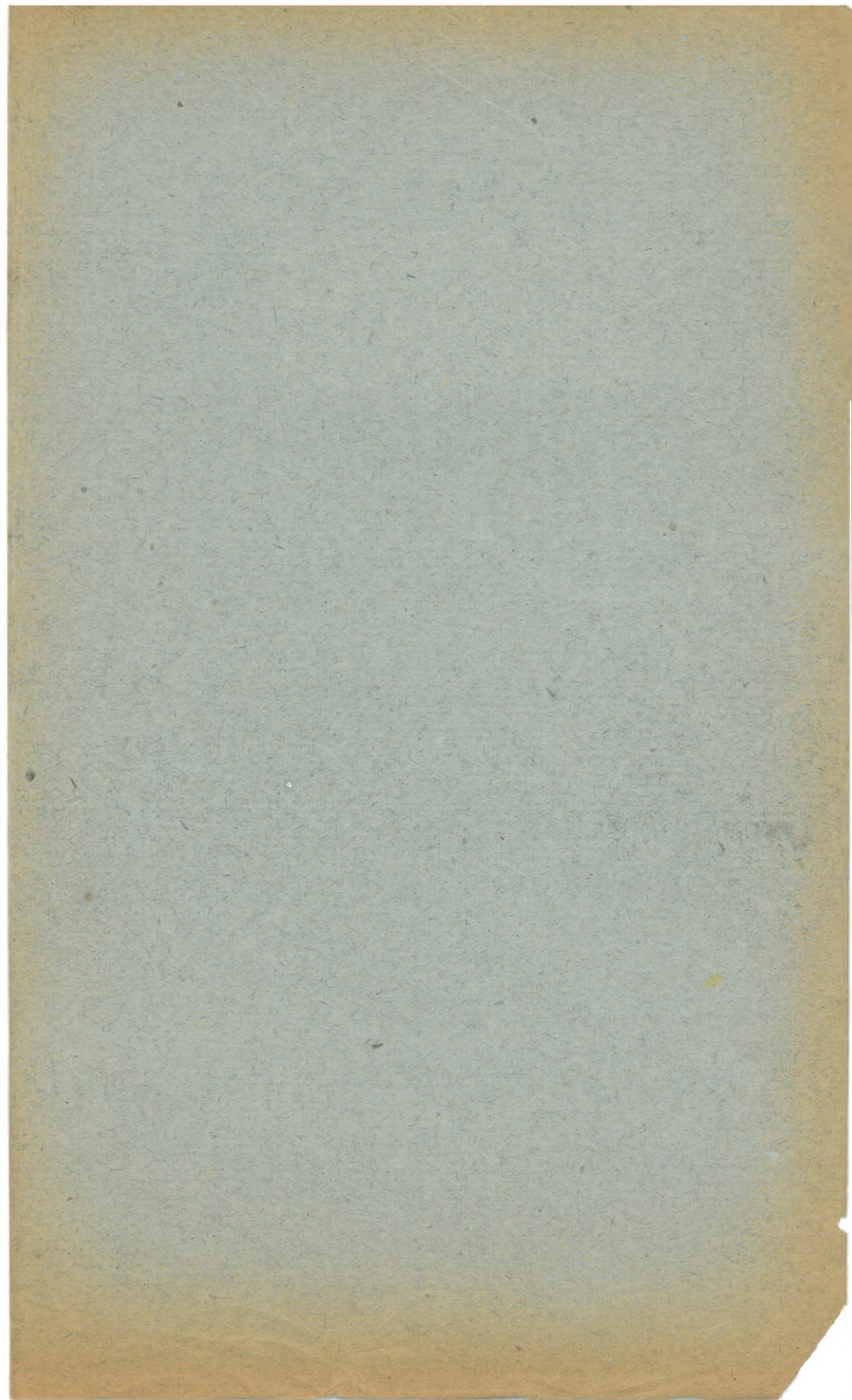
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Presbyterian Church of Victoria Archive



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