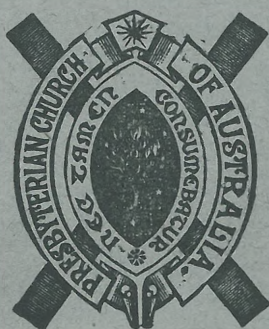


MINUTES
OF
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

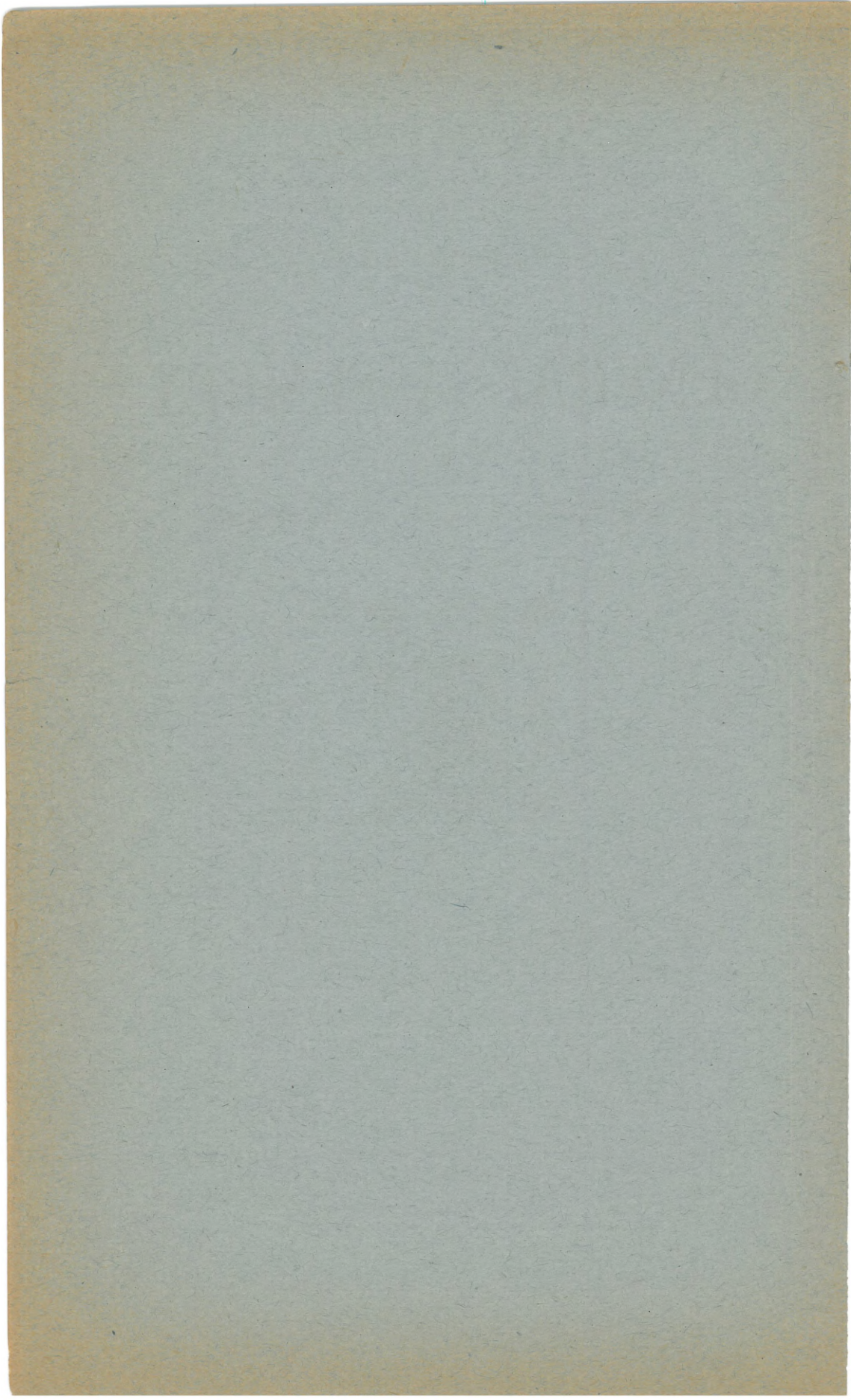
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HELD IN MELBOURNE, SEPTEMBER, 1945
SESSION TWENTY-THIRD

Melbourne:

BROWN, PRIOR, ANDERSON, Pty. Ltd. Presbyterian Church Printers
Printcraft House, 430 Little Bourke Street, C.i



MINUTES
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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Presbyterian Church of Australia



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Rev. John Flynn, O.B.E.....	1939-1942
Rev. R. Wilson Macaulay, B.A., D.D.....	1942-1945
Rev. A. C. Grieve, B.A.....	1945-

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
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 Grimm Memorial Church, Drummoyne, N.S.W.

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 WALES CHURCH,

Assembly Hall, Margaret Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
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THE THEOLOGICAL HALLS

1.—ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE, SYDNEY.

Faculty of Theology:

(In co-operation with Teachers from the Congregational and Methodist Churches.)

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Professor of Exegetical Theology of the New Testament and Historical
Theology: Rev. J. Haultain L. Brown, M.A., B.D., Ph.D.

Professor of Systematic Theology and Ethics: Rev. John McIntyre, M.A., B.D.

Associate Acting Professor of Church History and Comparative Religion:
Rev. R. B. Reynolds, M.A., B.D. (Camden College, Congregationalist.)

Associate Acting Professor of Philosophy of Religion: Rev. R. S. Bowyer
Hayward, M.A., B.D. (Leigh College, Methodist.)

"Steel" Lecturer in Pastoral Theology and the English Bible: Rev. T.
McDougall, B.A., B.D.

Lecturer in Voice Production and Elocution: Mr. A. Bertram Flohm.

President of Faculty: Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom.

Secretary of Faculty: Rev. A. D. Marchant.

Convener, Theological Committee: Rev. T. Gray Robertson,
B., B.D.

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M.Sc., B.D.

Professor of New Testament Studies: Rev. Alexander Yule, M.A.

Professor of Systematic Theology and Church History: Rev. Norman
MacLeish, M.A., B.Phil.

Lecturers—Church History: Rev. Aeneas Macdonald, M.A. Associate
Minister for Practical Training (annual appointment): Rev. S. L.
McKenzie, B.A. H.M. Tutor: Rev. E. Jones Roberts, B.A.

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President of Senatus: Principal Maclean.

Secretary of Senatus: Professor MacLeish.

Librarian: Principal Maclean.

3.—EMMANUEL COLLEGE, BRISBANE.

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Lecturer in Old Testament, Theology and Exegesis: Rev. Principal Henderson, M.A.

Caldwell Morrow Lecturer in New Testament and Church History: Rev. H. S. R. Innes, B.A.

Lecturers in New Testament Language, Exegesis, and Theology: Revs. H. S. R. Innes, B.A., and Wm. Meikle.

Lecturer in Christian Philosophy and Comparative Religion: Rev. Ivor F. Morris, B.A., B.D., Ph.D.

Lecturer in Pastoral Theology:

Lecturers in English Bible: Revs. Principal Henderson and Wm. Meikle.

Lecturer in Religious Education: Rev. N. Joughin, M.A., B.D.

Secretary of the Faculty: Rev. Wm. Meikle.

Convener, Theological Hall Committee: Rev. W. D. Mcilwraith, B.A.

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Registrar of Examinations: Rev. Alex. Duff.

4.—THEOLOGICAL HALL, PERTH.

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Old Testament: Rev. Gilbert Cameron, B.A.

New Testament Greek: Rev. Gilbert Cameron, B.A.

Old Testament and New Testament Introduction and Exegesis: Rev. D. M. Baird.

Systematic Theology and Ethics: Rev. John Aitken, B.A., B.D.

Church History: Rev. R. A. Pretty, B.A.

Pastoral Theology and Homiletics: Rev. Geo. Tulloch.

Paideutics: Professor R. G. Cameron, M.A.

Philosophy of Religion and Comparative Religion: Rev. D. M. Baird.

Theory and History of Education: Prof. R. G. Cameron, M.A.

Convener of Theological Hall Committee and Librarian: Rev. Gilbert Cameron, B.A.

NOTANDA

Special attention is directed to the following:

Place and Date of Meeting of next Assembly: At Sydney, within the Assembly Hall, Margaret Street, on the second Wednesday of September, 1948, at 7.30 p.m.

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

Instructions, etc.: See Index at end.

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Rev. G. Tulloch
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Convener: Moderator-General.

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Rev. G. Tulloch
 T. Gibson

South Australia

Rev. L. J. Schmidt
 C. W. Dron

Tasmania

Rev. A. R. Barnett

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J. P. Hamilton	
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 J. T. Robinson</p> |
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Convener: Rev. J. McMaster.

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- | | |
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 J. A. Hunter
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 T. McDougall
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Business.—Minute 341. Rev. T. McDougall (Convener), the Rt. Rev. the Moderator, Rev. Dr. Macintyre, Rev. V. Clark-Duff, Rev. D. J. Flockhart, Rev. D. F. Brandt, Rev. F. Hanlin, Rev. G. W. MacAlpine, the Clerks of State Assemblies for the time being, the Clerks and Law Officers of this Assembly, with Messrs. J. Downes, G. Roland Love, and C. P. Hughes.

Canberra Executive.—Minute 164. Revs. D. J. Flockhart (Convener), Sydney Richardson (Vice-Convener), Dr. G. R. S. Reid, Dr. John Flynn, Dr. Cumming Thom, V. Clark-Duff, J. Hunter, J. B. Galloway, A. C. Grieve, T. MacDougall, Mr. Roland Love, the Minister of St. Andrew's, Canberra, and the Moderator of the Goulburn Presbytery.

Christian Social Order.—Minute 325. C.S.O. Committee of the Assembly in New South Wales, with Revs. A. J. Porter, J. C. Jones, Stewart Lang, and Gilbert Cameron.

Christian Unity.—Minute 281. The Christian Unity Committees of the State Assemblies, the Victorian Committee to be the Executive, the Rev. C. T. F. Goy (Convener) and the Rev. W. A. Alston (Vice-Convener).

Church's Attitude to Creed.—Minute 48. Convener: Rev. Professor N. MacLeish. N.S.W.: The Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom (State Convener), and the Revs. D. F. Brandt, V. Clark-Duff, D. Finlayson, D. J. Flockhart, G. A. Gordon, A. C. Grieve, J. A. Hunter, T. H. Hunter, W. Kinmont, Dr. R. G. Macintyre, A. D. Marchant, R. J. H. McGowan, Dr. G. R. S. Reid, J. Gray Robertson, E. H. Vines, together with Messrs. John Downes, W. G. Geike, and G. Roland Love. Queensland: Revs. H. S. R. Innes (State Convener), Ivor F. Morris, Richard Bardon, Principal M. Henderson, N. H. Joughin, D. W. Albert, H. MacNeil Saunders, Professor W. M. Kyle, together with Mr. B. G. Patterson. South Australia: Revs. S. Martin and J. R. Blanchard (Joint State Convener), Revs. A. T. Cottrell, D. Chapman, N. R. Scott, L. J. Schmidt, together with Dr. Chas. Duguid and Mr. L. V. M. Leal. Tasmania: Rev. Dr. J. A. Munro Ford (State Convener), Revs. A. E. Giles, R. V. Merritt, Rhys Miller, ^L. O. C. White, A. I. Absalom, together with Messrs. V. W. V. Briggs, E. R. Henry, and Dr. E. A. Elliott. Victoria: Rev. Professor N. MacLeish (State Convener), Rev. Principal Maclean, Rev. Professors A. Yule, J. Gillies, F. E. Oxer, Revs. C. N. Button, F. A. Hagenauer, Dr. R. W. Macaulay, J. C. Jones, M. McQueen, J. E. Owen, J. Walker, S. A. Goddard, R. Swanton, J. M. Young, together with Messrs. I. D. Daniel, W. Gray, D. K. Picken, A. G. Proudfoot. Western Australia: Revs. G. A. Cameron (State Convener), G. Tulloch, J. Aitken, J. G. Thrum, together with Messrs. F. W. Berry and D. W. Moore.

Commonwealth Co-ordinating Committee.—Minute 34 (3a).

Defence Forces Chaplaincy.—Minute 310 (8). Committee consists of the Chaplains in the various States, with power given (1939) to co-opt some extra members. Convener: Rev. A. S. Houston.

Federal Advisory.—Minute 143. The Moderator, the Clerk of the Assembly, the Business Convener and Delegates of Standing Committees of the G.A. of A. as follows: Victoria, 5; New South Wales, 5; Queensland, 3; South Australia, 2; Western Australia, 2; Tasmania, 1. (Delegates from Victoria and New South Wales to include one from each of the following Committees: College Committee, A.I.M. Board, Board of Religious Education, Board of Missions. Moderator: Convener.)

Fire Insurance.—Minute 144. Revs. V. Clark-Duff (Convener), H. G. Jeffresen, T. O. McCreadie, A. R. Gillespie, G. Johnston, H. H. Richardson, C. N. Hope, Rev. Geo. Tulloch, Messrs. R. Bracks, W. R. G. Mitchell,^p
J. M. Carroll, W. H. Thompson, W. A. Love, G. D. McKinnon

Home Religion.—Minute 138. Revs. A. T. McNaughton (Convener),
H. F. Peak, Dr. G. R. S. Reid, M. A. Tremewan, W. H. Waters.

Immigration.—Minute 146. Revs. J. P. Chaliner (Convener), A. R. Barnett, M. A. Tremewan, E. H. McLean Shugg, R. W. Stephens, W. Maclean, F. Spencer, J. Adamson, Geo. Tulloch, A. J. C. Tebbitt, A. E. Brice, Hector Harrison, A. R. Mcvittie, L. J. Schmidt, A. Duff, R. V. Macleod, R. V. Merritt, J. C. Milliken, D. A. Brown, H. S. Bunn, Messrs. R. Bracks,
R. C. Purdie, J. Downes, R. Byrnes, N. F. Nelson, A. R. Campbell, with power to add.

Mission to Jews.—Minute 320. The New South Wales and Victorian State Committees, together with the Revs. S. Martin and Geo. Tulloch. Rev. John Symington, Convener: Rev. R. J. H. McGowan, Vice-Convener.

National Temperance.—Minute 255. Rev. S. A. Eastman, A. Trafford Walker, Hon. W. F. Finlayson, Rev. J. E. Smith, Geo. Tulloch, Mr. D. M. Baird, Rev. A. C. Kennedy, Mr. W. H. Jack, Rev. J. R. Blanchard, Mr. Howard E. Zelling, Rev. L. O. C. White, Rev. A. R. Barnett Hon. W. F. Finlayson, Convener.

Public Questions.—Minute 255 (8). The Personnel of the Church Life and Work Committee of New South Wales State Assembly are the Public Questions Committee of the G.A.A. with the Rev. R. Maidment as Convener.

Social Services.—Minute 339 (4). Revs. Dr. V. C. Bell, W. L. Collins, S. L. McKenzie, G. Cowie, Dr. R. G. Macintyre, P. W. Pearson, G. Scott, G. L. Sneddon, G. Tulloch, Jas. Walker, N. L. D. Webster, J. C. Milliken, R. Maidment, T. G. Allan, P. L. Forster, G. A. Wood, Messrs. Jas. Balfour, J. R. B. Campbell, G. Johnston, J. Banks Mitchell, D. C. Robertson, A. F. Whitehill, N. Chivas, and John Campbell. Convener: Rev. Dr. V. C. Bell.

Visual Education.—Minute 264. Rev. C. T. F. Goy (Convener), Revs. Dr. J. Flynn, J. P. Hamilton, Hamilton Aikin, J. R. Blanchard, L. O. C. White, Messrs. H. W. Mason, N. F. Nelson, Don Moore, and two representatives from the Board of Religious Education.

Women Workers.—Minute 296 (3). The Revs. Principal Maclean, J. E. Owen, E. H. McLean Shugg, Colin Dyster, E. H. Vines, J. Faulkner, R. Maidment, T. G. Allen, Miss Ritchie (Principal of Rolland House), Miss G. H. Holmes, Mrs. Sinclair, with power to add. Convener: Rev. E. H. McLean Shugg.

World Presbyterianism.—Minute 326 (3). The Very Revs. Dr. R. W. Macaulay, John Flynn, Revs. J. Waugh, A. C. Watson, J. R. Blanchard, and delegates selected by the corresponding committees of State Assemblies in the following proportions: Victoria 3, N.S.W. 3, Queensland 2, South Australia 1, Western Australia 1, Tasmania 1. Convener: The Rev. Dr. R. W. Macaulay.

Moderator's Committee.—State Moderators' Committees with the Committee of New South Wales as Executive. Convener: Mr. J. R. B. Campbell.

A. of A. Trustees.—Rev. John Waugh, Messrs. John Downes, G. Roland Love, D. J. Mackay Sim, and N. Chivas.

ASSEMBLY TRYST

A daily Prayer Meeting was held at 9.30 a.m., and to this all who could attend (whether Assembly members or not) were invited. Place of meeting was notified on the vestibule Notice-board. In addition all friends of the Church who were unable to attend the Prayer Meeting were asked to keep Tryst at 9.30 a.m. daily with members of Assembly by prayer in their own homes. Those who would do so were asked to advise the Rev. W. J. Murray, 32 Fairmont Ave., Camberwell, E.6, of their purpose, so that a Register might be compiled.

THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED TIME TABLE FOR MEETINGS OF
COMMITTEES (SUBJECT TO ALTERATION) WAS ISSUED WITH
THE "WHITE BOOK"

At the Assembly Hall, 156 Collins Street, Melbourne

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11th, 1945

- 2 p.m. A.I.M. (Room 1).
Board of Religious Education (Room 4, Second Floor).
Year Book (Room 2).
Immigration (Room 3).
2.45 p.m. Statistics (Room 3).
3.15 p.m. Commonwealth Co-ordinating Committee (Room 1).
3.30 p.m. Attitude to Creed (Room 3).
4>30 p.m. Home Missions (Room 1).
N.B.: Adjourned meetings to be held in evening.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th, 1945

- 9.30 a.m. Reception of Ministers (Room 4).
9.30 a.m. Public Questions (Room 1).
11.30 a.m. Christian Unity (Room 4).
11.30 a.m. Book of Common Order (Room 2).
11.30 a.m. Social Services (Room 3).
2 p.m. Board of Missions (Room 1).
Finance (Room 2).
College (Room 4).
3.30 p.m. Canberra (Room 3).
4 p.m. Beneficiary Funds (Room 2).
Business Committee (Room 4).

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROPOSED TIME TABLE

(All suggestions are liable to alteration by the Business Committee and
by the Assembly)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th, 1945

- 7.30 p.m. Constitution of Assembly.
Roi.
Report of Business Committee and Communication VI.
New Moderator.
Moderator's Address.
Business Arrangements.
Appointment of Committees.
Other Business.
Notices of Motion.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th, 1945

- 9.30 a.m. Daily Devotion and Assembly Tryst.
10 a.m. Assembly Communion Service (Scots Church).
11 a.m. In Assembly Hall:
Memorial Minutes.
Notices of Motion.
5.30 p.m. Church Service Society Meeting (Scottish Tea Rooms).

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th, 1945

- 2 p.m. Christian Unity.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th, 1945

- Afternoon Garden Party.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

ROLL

of

MEMBERS ELECTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Appointed to Meet at

The Assembly Hall, 156 Collins Street, Melbourne, C.I, Victoria,

on

The Second Wednesday in September, 1945

(September 12)

at 7.30 p.m.

The Right Reverend the Moderator, the Rev. Dr. R. Wilson Macaulay
 Moderator Designate, the Rev. A. C. Grieve, B.A.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Elected by the State Assembly

Ministers

Rev. Dr. V. C. Bell, M.A.....
 „ V. Clark-Duff, B.A.....
 „ R. G. Cruikshank.....
 „ D. J. Flockhart, M.A.....
 The Very Rev. Dr. John Flynn, O.B.E.
 Rev. A. C. Grieve, B.A.....
 „ F. Hanlin, M.A., B.D.....
 „ H. J. Hillman, B.A.....
 „ J. A. Hunter, M.A., B.D.....
 „ A. D. Marchant, B.A., B.D.....
 „ T. McDougall, B.A., B.D.....
 „ A. R. Mcvittie, M.A.....
 „ J. Gray Robertson, B.A., B.D. ..
 „ Principal Dr. W. Cumming Thom,
 M.A., B.D., S.T.M.....

Elders

Mr. J. H. Balfour
 „ C. Brierley
 „ J. R. B. Campbell
 „ N. Chivas
 „ John Downes
 „ Bryan C. Fuller, K.C., B.A.,
 LL.B.
 „ W. Henderson
 „ C. P. Hughes
 „ Roland Love
 „ A. M. Merrington
 „ J. A. Morrison
 „ John Ross
 „ D. J. Mackay Sim
 „ F. L. Thompson

Elected by the Presbyteries

BATHURST

Rev. G. E. Howland Mr. A. Radburn
 „ Hector McDonald, B.A, „ H. Small

THE CLARENCE

Rev. W. E. Dorin Mr. W. J. Benson

DUBBO

Rev. James Marshall, B.A,
 „ A. F. Meldrum

GOULBURN

Rev. Hector Harrison, M.A., B.D. .. Mr. E. S. Armour
 „ D. J. Munro..... „ W. Marion

HASTINGS

Rev. F. W. Hewlett Mr. S. R. Andrews
 „ H. S. Rew „ Theo. Paff

THE HAWKESBURY

Rev. Louis Anderson, M.A., B.D. . . Mr. Arthur Paul Biddle
 „ Alex. Fleming..... „ Alfred George Henderson
 „ J. H. McGoun..... „ F. J. Johnston

THE HUNTER

Rev. James Goudie..... Mr. William Henderson
 „ W. G. Reekie..... „ R. C. White

ILLAWARRA

Rev. E. Graham..... Mr. A. Watt
 „ C. E. Turnbull..... „ C. E. Tyler-White

MONARO

Rev. H. F. Peak, B.Sc., Dip.Ed..... Mr. L. R. Lowe

MOREE

Rev. Gordon George, B.A..... Mr. A. M. Paterson
 „ J. W. Miller.....

THE MURRUMBIDGEE

Rev. P. Hope, B.A..... Mr. G. P. Cruickshank
 „ H. D. Mackie, B.A..... „ F. Grayhurst
 „ G. L. Sneddon..... „ C. H. McCulloch

NEW ENGLAND

Rev. C. F. D. McAlpine Mr. John S. Whan
 „ John M. McDonald

NORTH SYDNEY

Rev. A. E. Brice..... Mr. H. J. Brigden
 „ H. S. Bunn, B.A*..... Dr. Wm. Bryden, M.S>c., F.R.S.
 „ C. M. Dyster, M.A., B.D..... Mr. A. G. Congreve
 „ D. W. McTaggart, B.A., B.D. . . „ H. W. Mason
 „ S. R. W. Richardson, M.A., B.D. „ J. B. Rae
 „ John Waugh, B.A..... „ W. G. Blackstone

ORANGE

Rev. Malcolm C. Gibb, B.A., B.D. . . Mr. R. Dawson
 „ Thomas M. McBurnie..... „ J. Horsburgh

THE RICHMOND

Rev. Jas. Beatty, B.A..... Mr. M. Kunkier
 „ R. R. Martin..... „ W. I. MacKrell

SCONE

Rev. G. F. Buckley.....

SYDNEY

Rev. L. G. K. Blanchard..... Mr. George Clark
 „ G. Cowie..... „ Sydney Flint
 „ S. A. Eastman..... „ James McKee
 „ R. Maidment..... „ K. V. McLelland
 „ J. C. Milliken..... „ A. Morgan
 Rt. Rev. G. W. McAlpine..... „ G. W. Paterson
 Rev. A. S. McCook, B.A..... „ A. G. Robertson
 „ E. H. Vines, M.A., B.D., Dip.Ed. „ „ A. G. Stone
 „ A. Trafford Walker..... „ D. Williamson

WAGGA WAGGA

Rev. Robert Campbell..... Mr. Thomas H. Armour
 „ R. Glasgow Crawford, B.A. . . „ A. C. Sellars, F.R.G.S.
 „ Harold Perkins, B.A..... „ Hugh G. Webb

YOUNG

Rev. A. Brown..... Mr. G. E. Baker
 „ H. F. McDonald..... „ F. R. Dickson
 „ W. B. Parker..... „ D. S. McDonald

QUEENSLAND

Elected by the State Assembly

Rev. R. Bardon, B.A.....	.. . .	Mr. R. S. Byrnes, B.A.
„ W. R. G. Denning ..	.. . .	„ N. F. Nelson
Rt. Rev. H. S. R. Innes, B.A.	.. . .	„ G. Johnston
Rev. J. W. S. Lang.....	.. . .	„ J. T. Robinson
„ W. C. R. Moore.....	.. . .	„ J. S. R. Wyllie

Elected by the Presbyteries

BRISBANE

Rev. Daniel A. Brown.....	Mr. John Campbell
„ David Galloway.....	„ M. H. Finlayson
„ Robert J. E. Martin.....	„ Robert Jones
„ Ronald E. Pashen.....	„ Alex. McCullough
„ William D. Mcilwraith, B.A. ..	„ E. A. Parker
„ John Sinclair.....	„ R. W. Ralph
„ N. L. D. Webster, B.A.....	„ L. J. Williams

MARYBOROUGH

Rev. James McPhail	Mr. W. R. Fleming
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ROCKHAMPTON

Rev. H. MacNeil Saunders, M.A. ..	Mr. B. G. Patterson, B.E.
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TOOWOOMBA

Rev. A. Hadden, B.D.....	Mr. John Cossart
„ N. H. Joughin, M.A., B.D.....	Major Costello
„ G. A. Reid.....	Mr. J. Savage

TOWNSVILLE

Rev. E. F. Farquharson.....
„ S. E. McKay.....
„ T. C. Watson.....

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Elected by the State Assembly

Rev. R. W. Macleod.....	Mr. W. J. Angus
Rt. Rev. J. I. Williamson, B.A.....	„ J. A. Rinder

Elected by the Presbyteries

ADELAIDE

Rev. J. R. Blanchard, B.A.....	Mr. J. T. Hobbs
„ L. J. Schmidt.....	„ H. E. Zelling, LL.B.

BELALIE

Rev. M. J. Both
„ K. I. Shrader.....

ONKAPARINGA .

Rev. D. Chapman.....	Mr. G. Davidson
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TASMANIA

Elected by the State Assembly

Rt. Rev. L. O. C. White.....	Mr. C. N. Hope
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Presbytery of Tasmania

Rev. A. R. Barnett.....	Mr. W. W. V. Briggs, M.A., Dip.Ed.
„ F. W. Boucher.....	„ E. R. Henry, LL.B.
„ Dr. J. A. Munro Ford, B.A., B.D.	
„ A. Thomas.....	

VICTORIA

Elected by the State Assembly

Rev. Geo. Anderson, M.A.....	Mr. J. P. McAdam, M.A., LL.B.,
„ A. M. Clark.....	Dip.Ed.
„ A. S. Houston, M.A.....	„ D. Bain
„ R. Wilson Macaulay, B.A., D.D.	„ H. R. Balfour
„ C. J. V. McKeown, M.A.....	„ J. W. Collings, F.C.A.
„ Principal H. Maclean, M.A.,	„ P. Forman
M.Sc., B.D.....	„ J. Faichney
„ W. Maclean, M.C.....	„ B. Kemp
„ Prof. N. MacLeish, M.A., B.Phil.	„ G. U. Nathan, LL.B.
„ J. McMaster, B.A.....	„ F. Norman
„ A. T. McNaughton, M.A., B.D.,	„ A. G. Proudfoot
Dip.Ed.....	„ C. W. Powell
„ W. D. Marshall, M.A.....	„ E. G. Ritchie
„ H. C. Matthew, M.A.....	„ A. J. Spencer
Rt. Rev. E. H. McLean Shugg, B.A.	„ D. Steel
Rev. M. Tremewan, B.A.....	„ W. H. Thompson, J.P.
„ W. H. Waters, B.A.....	Dr. R. Wettenhall
„ A. C. Watson, M.A., Dip.Soc.Sc.	

Elected by the Presbyteries

BALLARAT

Rev. Dr. C. N. Button, M.A., B.D. ..	Mr. G. Clarkson
„ S.J. Higginbotham.....	„ W. H. Eckersley
„ E. McI. Kippax.....	„ A. W. Nicholson

BEECHWORTH

Rev. J. Shaw.....	Mr. J. T. Ingram
„ I. M. Thomson.....	„ R. E. Thompson

BENDIGO

Rev. W. Floyd Shannon, O.B.E., E.D.,	Mr. E. A. Miller
„ B.	„ R. C. Page
„ C. J. Williams.....	„ S. E. Simpson
„ R. J. Williams.....	

FLINDERS

Rev. E. W. S. Bishop.....	Mr. D. Birss
„ H. C. Usher, B.Sc.....	„ H. J. Nichols
„ R. T. White, B.A., B.D.....	„ J. H. Reeves

GEEELONG

Rev. E. Wallace Archer, M.A.....	Mr. A. McD. Hair
„ E. E. Day, B.A., B.D.....	„ A. W. Harkness
„ W. W. Ingram.....	„ W. P. Hill
„ J. E. Smith.....	„ G. A. McAdam

GIPPSLAND

Rev. A. McMillan, B.A., B.D.....	Dr. Fraser
„ G. A. McC. Wood, B.A.....	Hon. W. Macaulay, M.L.C.
„ F. E. Yarnall, B.A.....	

GOULBURN VALLEY

Rev. J. B. Allison.....	Mr. J. H. Alexander
„ Earl E. Fabb.....	„ W. Hepworth

HAMILTON

Rev. D. I. Munro.....	Mr. G. F. Spencer
„ G. L. Richardson, B.A., B.D. ..	„ T. L. Simpson
„ T. Scott.....	„ W. Templeton

MACEDON

Rev. Neil McDonald.....	Mr. R. R. Green
„ J. Symington.....	„ W. Kerr

MALLEE DOWNS

Rev. A. C. Eadie, B.A., B.D.....	Mr. D. S. Daniell
„ J. C. Foyster, B.A., B.D., Dip.Ed. „	„ W. J. Jones

MARYBOROUGH

Rev. A. D. Brodie Mr. W. O. C. Will

MELBOURNE EAST

Rev. R. G. Butler..... Mr. J. D. Arthur
 „ P. L. Forster..... „ S. Hanna
 „ C. T. F. Goy..... „ A. G. Marshall
 „ J. E. Owen, M.A., B.D..... „ S. H. McDonald

MELBOURNE NORTH

Rev. W. A. Alston..... Mr. W. Beattie
 „ John Armour..... „ F. M. Bradshaw, M.A., LL.M.
 „ A. I. Davidson, M.A..... „ Jas. Hamilton
 „ C. T. Fletcher..... „ T. McClelland
 „ C. Harland..... „ H. S. Richardson
 „ A. G. Harrison..... „ John Steele

MELBOURNE SOUTH

Rev. J. P. Chalinor..... Mr. A. G. Cust
 „ E. R. G. Greenham..... „ C. Drinnan
 „ F. L. Heriot..... „ R. F. Jamieson
 „ C. E. Hipwell..... „ N. G. McNichol
 „ A. W. Ivory..... „ W. H. Peters

MELBOURNE WEST

Rev. J. P. Hamilton..... Prof. R. Marshall Allan
 „ A. C. M. Lusted..... Mr. N. J. McColl
 „ R. W. McLean, M.A..... „ R. McKenzie
 „ F. Spencer..... „ C. Owens
 „ R. W. Stephens..... „ J. F. Richardson

MORTLAKE

Rev. T. W. Darby..... Mr. J. C. Christopher
 „ H. G. Ford..... „ J. Errey
 „ R. Rankin..... „ W. Mahood

PENOLA

Rev. J. H. Price, B.C.E..... Mr. A. Cameron

SEYMOUR

Rev. A. R. C. Jamieson..... Mr. J. M. Halligan
 „ A. C. Weber..... W. D. Kekwick

WESTERN PLAINS

Rev. E. A. Forbes..... Mr. P. L. Edwards
 „ W. S. Laity..... „ C. P. Robertson

WIMMERA

Rev. W. Harrison, B.A..... Mr. Robert McCracken
 „ C. S. Petrie, B.A., B.D..... „ Eric Parkinson

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Elected by the State Assembly

Rt. Rev. J. G. Thrum..... Mr. R. Bracks
 Rev. T. Gibson.....

Elected by the Presbyteries

ALBANY

Rev. J. Adamson..... Mr. D. B. Michell

FREMANTLE

Rev. A. J. C. Tebbit..... Mr. R. C. Purdie

PERTH

Rev. A. E. Jones Mr. E. A. Black
 „ R. M. Herriman „ W. Raad
 „ Geo. Tulloch, E.D. „ F. R. Smith

THE GOLDFIELDS

Rev. B. W. Morey.....

CHAPLAINCY ROLL (Min. 176 (7))

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPLAINS WHO HAVE SERVED IN THE ARMY
IN THE COURSE OF THE WAR (1939-1945)

Queensland

S. Ballinger
R E. Braunholz
D. J. C. Cavanaugh
S. Dodds
G. B. Miller
W. C. R. Moore
D. McLeod

A. McD. MacKillop
J. McPhail
W. McPheat
R. M. Park
R. H. Noack
R. Ramsay
G. A. Reid

H M. Saunders
W. W. Smith
P. J. Thomas
E. L. Thompson
G. D. Whitney

New South Wales

N. G. Anderson
A. Balmer
G. Beatty
A. E. Brice
G. W. Brown
G. Cranston
H. Cunningham
(P.O.W.)
E. A. Davies
H. W. Deall
A. A. Dougan
L. J. Douglas

W. R. Faulkner
D. J. Flockhart
B. Galloway
H. Jones (P.O.W.)
C. G. D. Krust
F. A. Lackey
M. A. McAlpine
N. MacLeod
T. Mcvittie
T. Mathers
H. Prenter
R. C. Rackyleft

W. C. Reynolds
R. C. Russell
S. Russell-Scott
G. L. Sneddon
A. M. Stevenson
W. Torrance
W. A. Thompson
C. E. Turnbull
N. M. Ward
A. Watson
R. E. Williamson
W. Young

Victoria

A. A. Bell
A. Boag
F. T. Borland
S. C. Calder
W. L. Collins
B. J. R. Corr
C. M. Cox (K.I.A.)
A. I. Davidson
A. R. Dean (P.O.W.),
Deceased
R. H. Dean
D. Dow
K. Dowding
D. Brennan
H. G. Dwyer
A. C. Eadie
N. Faichney

J. A. Finlay
J. F. Forrest (P.O.W.)
W. A. Fraser
F. Fraser
H. W. Greenwood
(P.O.W.)
T. Guest
V. F. Hadley
W. J. Holt
A. S. Houston
W. B. Howden
J. L. Hurse
K. K. Luck
A. Martin
A. J. McAdam
R. McLelland
A. R. Macneil (P.O.W.)

C. Neville
F. C. Parker
N. W. Paul
G. A. Patton
R. W. Rankin
W. F. Shannon
F. Spencer
D. E. Sprigg
A. H. Stewart
F. P. Strickland
G. S. Taylor
I. M. Thomson
A. J. Tye
A. C. Weber
K. C. Wood
S. E. Yarnold

South Australia

J. R. Blanchard
H. E. Carey
W. Dykes

E. W. Hogben
J. E. Lloyd
P. McR. Roberts

J. S. Smith
W. H. D. Wallace

Western Australia

D. McK. Baird
K. E. W. Beckett
J. George

H. Harrison
R. M. Herriman
A. E. Jones

A. Macliver
J. G. Thrum
G. Tulloch

Tasmania

A. J. Absalom
J. A. M. Ford

A. E. Giles
W. F. Gilmour

J. S. Tanner
L. O. C. White

Darwin

C. T. F. Goy

A. W. Grant

SUMMARY

Qld.	N.S.W.	Vic.	SA.	W.A.	Tas.	Darwin
19	35	48	8	9	6	2

Total: 127

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

A. D. Marchant, Staff Chaplain

Full Time

A. A. Adam (N.S.W.)
 J. C. Alexander (Vic.)
 K. C. Beckett (W.A.)
 L. Clayton (Vic.)
 A. E. C. Collins (Vic.)
 A. T. Cottrell (S.A.)
 A. A. Dougan (N.S.W.)
 E. E. Fabb (Q'ld.)
 W. F. Gilmour (Tas.)
 S. A. Goddard (Vic.)
 D. M. Harper (N.S.W.)
 H. A. Harris (Vic.)
 W. G. Johnstone (Vic.)
 J. E. Lloyd (Vic.)
 M. C. Mayes (N.S.W.)
 A. J. W. McAllister (N.S.W.)
 J. C. Mcdiarmid (O'ld.)
 J. F. McKay (Q'ld.)
 A. H. Michell (Vic.)
 R. A. Miller (Tas.)
 E. W. C. New (W.A.)
 G. G. Powell (Vic.)
 M. W. Roberts (N.S.W.)
 E. E. Robinson (Vic.)
 R. C. Russell (N.S.W.)
 N. R. Scott (SA.)
 J. R. Sweet (Q'ld.)

Part Time

W. A. Alston (Vic.)
 K. W. Burton (N.S.W.)
 H. M. Coutts (N.S.W.)
 R. H. C. Crowe (Q'ld.)
 C. W. Dron (SA.)
 R. C. Foyster (Vic.)
 S. J. Higginbotham (Vic.)
 K. N. R. Innes (Q'ld.)
 D. McK. Jones (Vic.)
 S. E. McKay (Q'ld.)
 C. J. V. McKeown (Vic.)
 C. W. McLeod (SA.)
 A. McMillan (Vic.)
 A. R. Mcvittie (N.S.W.)
 G. Nesbitt (N.S.W.)
 A. T. P. North (Q'ld.)
 J. Perkins (N.S.W.)
 I. W. Ross (WA.)
 R. G. Skerman (Q'ld.)
 A. T. Walker (N.S.W.)
 W. H. Waters (Vic.)
 N. L. D. Webster (Q'ld.)
 R. T. White (Vic.)
 G. A. Wood (Vic.)

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

J. R. Barrie (N.S.W.)
 J. Marshall (N.S.W.)

N. H. Symes (N.S.W.)
 D. S. Broughton (Vic.)

Ureslh'tfrián djttrefj of Australia

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

SESSION TWENTY-THIRD

FIRST SEDERUNT

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, 156 Collins Street, on
Wednesday, the 12th day of September, 1945, at 7.30 p.m.*

Constitution.

1. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia convened. Public worship was conducted by the Right Reverend the Moderator, the Rev. Dr. R. Wilson Macaulay, who preached from Mark 9: 28, "Why could not we cast him out?"

Thereafter the Assembly was constituted with prayer.

Roll: Interim
Authority.

2. The Roll of Assembly, as printed in the White Book, with the 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.

Communica-
tion VI.

3. Communication VI was laid on the table and received.

Business.

4. The Rev. T. McDougall submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the Deliverance as follows:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Agree that an adjourned meeting of the Assembly in terms of Minute 94 had been impracticable.

"3. Declare the Twenty-second Session of the General Assembly to be duly closed.

"4. In view of the fact that the 1942 Assembly adjourned without making arrangements as to time and place of meeting of next Assembly, and in view also of the changed war situation, validate and confirm the action of the Moderator in calling this Assembly on the advice of the Business Committee and the Law Advisers."

The motion was seconded and approved.

Apologies.

5. The Clerk intimated that apologies had been received from the Revs. R. J. Howie, A. Hadden, D. J. Flockhart, A. D. Brodie, Dr. Bell, G. E. Howland, James McPhail, and Messrs. R. W. Dawson, A. M. M. Paterson and Geo. Johnston, and moved that they be sustained.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Deaths.

6. The Business Convener moved:

"That the Assembly learn with regret of the death of five representatives who have died since their election, viz., Sir R. W. Gillespie (N.S.W.), Hon. V. G. Petherick (Vic.), Mr. W. Christie (W.A.), Mr. Albert Ellis (Qld.), Mr. Bartlett (S.A.), place on record its appreciation of their service to the Church, and convey to their relatives its sincere sympathy."

The motion was seconded and approved by a standing vote and the Moderator led the House in prayer.

7. The Business Convener moved:

Sympathy.

"That the Assembly learn with sympathy of the illness of the following members of the Assembly: Rev. D. J. Flockhart (N.S.W.), Rev. Alex. Fleming (N.S.W.), Mr. B. G. Patterson (Qld.), Mr. A. G. Congreve (N.S.W.), and convey to them its best wishes for speedy and full recovery."

The motion was seconded and approved.

8. The Business Convener moved:

Greetings.

"That the Assembly instruct the Clerk to convey its affectionate remembrances to the past Moderators who are not present at this Assembly, viz., the Very Rev. Drs. R. G. Macintyre, G. R. S. Reid and J. Mackenzie, assure them of its continued regard and interest, and pray that they may have an increasing sense of the presence and love of the Heavenly Father during the eventide of their lives."

The motion was seconded and approved.

9. The Business Convener moved that the Junior Clerk, the Rev. W. D. Marshall, M.A., be appointed Acting Clerk, and that the appointment of the Acting Junior Clerk be deferred to a later sederunt. (Min. 40) Clerks.

The motion was seconded and approved.

10. The Procurator reported that the nominations for the Moderator of this Assembly had not been called for within the times prescribed by paragraph 223 of the Code. Nomination of Moderator Condoned.

Thereupon the Procurator moved that this irregularity be condoned and that the Assembly declare the nomination of the Rev. A. C. Grieve a valid nomination.

The Business Convener seconded the motion, which was approved.

11. The Moderator intimated that the Board of Nominators had unanimously agreed to nominate to the House the Rev. Alexander Campbell Grieve, B.A., minister of Grimm Memorial Church, Drummoyne, New South Wales, as Moderator of this Assembly. Moderator-Elect Nominated.

12. The Rt. Rev. E. H. McLean Shugg moved that the General Assembly accept the nomination and elect the Rev. A. C. Grieve as Moderator of this Assembly. Moderator Elected.

The motion was seconded and approved with acclamation.

13. The Rev. A. C. Grieve was conducted to the Chair and was inducted with prayer by the retiring Moderator, and delivered a suitable address on "Let us worship God." Inaugural Address.

14. The Business Convener moved:

Thanks to Retiring Moderator.

"That the Assembly thank the retiring Moderator, the Rev. Dr. R. Wilson Macaulay, for his great services to the Church and for his inspiring leadership during a period of grave national emergency, and assure him of its sincere appreciation and fraternal regard."

The Procurator seconded the motion, which was approved.

15. The Moderator conveyed the thanks of the Assembly to the Rev. Dr. R. Wilson Macaulay, who suitably acknowledged the same.

16. The Very Rev. Dr. Macaulay moved that the Assembly adopt the following Loyal Address: Loyal Addresses.

"The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, now in session in Melbourne, tenders to their Majesties the King and Queen this assurance of the loyal devotion of its Ministers and Ruling Elders and of the membership of the congregations throughout Australia which it represents. The Assembly rejoices that it can bear testimony to the profound love and gratitude toward their Majesties and to the Princesses which have grown ever stronger during the years of war, as there was revealed to the world the wisdom, courage and Christian faith of the Royal Household.

"The Assembly recognizes with gratitude to God that victory, complete and overwhelming, has crowned the Cause for which His Majesty with his Allies has striven during the war years. It promises that so far as lies within its power it will seek to maintain and increase among the King's subjects in this land that spirit of humility, of unselfishness, of obedience to the laws of God and to the Word of the Gospel to which

His Majesty's own speeches have so often and so stirringly called his people.

"The prayer of the Assembly is that His Majesty may long be spared to see in his Dominions and throughout the whole world the growth of those Freedoms for which men died and the building of a realm of human brotherhood which may usher in the Realm of God."

The motion was seconded and approved by a standing vote; and the Assembly directed that this Address be signed by the Moderator and Clerk and conveyed by the Moderator to their Majesties through His Royal Highness the Governor-General.

The General Assembly sang the National Anthem.

Welcome to
Rev. G.
Fairservice.

17. The Moderator welcomed the Rev. G. Fairservice, M.A., Dip.Ed., of Sikkim, Presbytery of the Eastern Himalayas, Church of Scotland.

Hospitality.

18. By leave of the House the Rev. S. L. McKenzie made necessary intimations regarding arrangements for hospitality.

Business
Committee.

19. The Business Convener moved that the Business Committee for this Assembly be as follows: The Revs. T. McDougall (Convener), V. Clark-Duff, J. Waugh, R. Bardon, J. P. Hamilton, A. R. Barnett, L. J. Schmidt, T. Gibson, Messrs. John Downes, R. S. Byrnes, W. H. Thompson, W. J. Angus, together with the Acting Clerks, the Very Rev. Dr. Macaulay and the Law Officers.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Selection
Committee.

20. The Business Convener moved that the following be appointed the Selection Committee: The Revs. W. A. Alston, A. E. Brice, Geo. Tulloch, R. W. Macleod, L. O. C. White (Convener), and Mr. R. S. Byrnes.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Ballot
Committee.

21. The Business Convener moved that the following be appointed the Committee of Ballot: The Rev. T. Gibson (Convener), Messrs. E. A. Black, C. P. Hughes, J. W. Collings and N. F. Nelson.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Hours of
Meeting.

22. The Business Convener moved that the ordinary meetings of the Assembly be from 9.45 a.m. till 5 p.m., with an interval at 12.50 till 2 p.m. for luncheon; evening sederunt from 7 p.m. till 9.30 p.m.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Limitation of
Speeches.

23. The Business Convener moved that the Assembly approve the following arrangements for limitation of speeches for this Session: Conveners of Christian Unity, Church's Attitude to Creed, and College Committees, presenting reports, 20 minutes each; seconders of these reports and movers of substantial amendments to them, 10 minutes each; Conveners of other Committees, presenting reports, 15 minutes each; seconders of these reports and movers of substantial amendments to them, 7 minutes each; other speakers, 5 minutes each. All these periods to be extensible by leave of the House.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Standing
Committees.

24. The Business Convener moved that the Assembly approve the following arrangements for the election of members of Standing Committees: Nominations close 12.50 p.m. Monday, 17th September, 1945, Ballot taken 4.45 p.m. Tuesday, 18th September, 1945.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Lord Supper.

25. The Business Convener moved that the Assembly meet to-morrow (Thursday, 13th September) in Scots Church at 9.30 a.m. for the celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Business
Order.

26. The Business Convener moved that the Order of Business for to-morrow (Thursday) and Friday be approved and that any of Thursday's or Friday's business not concluded be taken on Saturday morning.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Standing
Orders
Suspended.

27. It was moved, seconded and approved that the Standing Orders be suspended in order to permit Notices of Motion to be received without being read.

Notices of
Motion.

28. Notices of Motion were laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

28 . Standing Orders were resumed.

29. Leave to meet on Friday, September 14th, was granted to the
Presbytery of Maryborough. Standing
Orders
Resumed.

30. Leave to meet on Thursday, September 13th, was granted to the
Kirk Session of Malvern, Victoria. Leave to
Meet.

31. Leave to meet on Wednesday, 19th September, was granted to the
Presbytery of Flinders.

32. The House adjourned to meet at 9.30 a.m. to-morrow for Holy
Communion, and thereafter for ordinary business, which having been duly
intimated, the sederunt was closed with prayer. Adjourn-
ment.

W. D. MARSHALL, Acting Clerk.

SECOND SEDERUNT

At Melbourne, and within Scots Church, Collins Street, on Thursday, the 13th day of September, 19 5.

Lord Supper
and Constitu-
tion.

33. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, at 9.30 a.m. for the celebration of the Lord's Supper, in which the Moderator was assisted by the Very Rev. Dr. R. W. Macaulay, the Rev. Sydney Richardson, the Rev. John Waugh, and the Rev. Vernon McKeown. Thereafter the Assembly adjourned to the Assembly Hall, and the Business Session was opened with prayer.

Home
Missions.

34. By leave of the House, the Rev. E. H. McLean Shugg submitted the Report on Home Missions as altered, and moved the Deliverance as follows:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Record with grateful appreciation the services rendered the Church by the late Rev. K. Forster, Convener of the Home Mission Committee, and extend to his widow and family the sympathy of the Assembly in their bereavement.

"3. (a) Approve the following Constitution of the Commonwealth

Co-ordinating Committee on Home Missions:

Constitution: There shall be a Commonwealth Co-ordinating Committee on Home Missions composed of representatives of State Home Mission Committees, and the Australian Inland Mission in the following proportions:

N.S.W. 3, Victoria 3, Queensland 2, South Australia 1, W.A. 1, Tasmania 1, A.I.M. 3.

The members shall be appointed from time to time by their respective Committees. The Convener shall be the Convener of the Home Mission Committee of the General Assembly of Australia.

The Executive shall consist of two members from New South Wales, two from Victoria, one from Queensland, and two from the A.I.M., together with the Convener.

The Secretary of the A.I.M. Board shall be the Secretary of the Commonwealth Co-ordinating Committee.

Function: The function of the Committee shall be to administer or assist Home Mission work in those areas as arranged in consultation with the A.I.M. and State Home Mission Committees from time to time.

Meetings: The Executive shall meet half-yearly, or as circumstances require, and the full Committee annually.

In the Executive three shall form a quorum, one from the A.I.M. and the other two from separate Committees.

Meetings of both the full Committee and the Executive shall be held alternately in Sydney and Melbourne.

(b) Appoint this Special Committee with full authority to act in conjunction with State Assemblies or Committees appointed by such Assemblies.

"4. Direct the Home Mission Committee to confer with the A.I.M. and the Commonwealth Co-ordinating Committee regarding the possibility of keeping contact with Australians in the Islands and Dependencies north of Australia, and regions beyond, and take suitable action."

The motion was seconded and the Deliverance was approved.

Overture
(re-marriage
of divorced
persons).

35. Overture II was called for. Parties were called to the Bar. The Revs. W. A. Fraser and R. W. Stephens stated the Overture. Questions were called for. The parties were removed from the Bar.

36. The Rev. R. W. Stephens moved:

"That the Assembly—

"Sustain the Overture in so far as it brings the matter before the House; give general approval to the re-drafting of Chapter VIII; remit to the Code Committee for report to a later sederunt of this Assembly."

The motion was seconded and approved. (Min. 323.)

37. Overture III was called for. Parties were called to the Bar. The Rev. W. A. Fraser and the Rev. R. W. Stephens stated the Overture Questions were called for. The parties were removed from the Bar.

Overture I
(Uniformity
of Marriage
and Divorce
Laws).

38. The Rev. R. W. Stephens moved:

"That the Assembly—

"Sustain the Overture, remit it to the Public Questions Committee of the G.A.A., and direct this Committee, in conjunction with the Procurator, to take the necessary action with the Federal Government."

The motion was seconded and approved.

39. By leave of the House, the Rev. G. W. McAlpine made a statement in regard to his position as Acting Junior Clerk, and asked to be relieved of accepting the offer of the position.

The request was granted.

40. The Business Convener moved that the Rev. J. Waugh, the Junior Clerk of the State Assembly of New South Wales, be appointed Acting Junior Clerk of this Assembly pro tempore. (Min. 9.)

Acting Junior
Clerk.

The motion was seconded and approved.

41. The Moderator intimated his appointment to the Rev. John Waugh, who intimated his acceptance and made the declaration de fideli.

42. Overture VI was called for. Parties were called to the Bar. The Revs. J. G. Thrum and Geo. Tulloch stated the Overture. Questions were called for. The parties were removed from the Bar.

Overture VI
(assistance
to W.A.).

43. Consideration of the Overture was adjourned. (Min. 50.)

44. The Clerk laid on the table the corrected Roll of Assembly and moved that it be confirmed.

Roll.

The motion was seconded and approved.

45. Apologies from Mr. J. F. Henderson and Mr. K. V. McClelland were received.

Apologies.

46. The Clerk moved that the apologies be sustained.

The motion was seconded and approved.

47. The O.D. was called.

48. The Rev. Prof. N. MacLeish submitted the Report on the Church's Attitude to its Creed and moved the Deliverance as follows:

Church's
Attitude to
Creed.

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Give general approval to the proposed alterations to the Basis of Union and Declaratory Statement.

"3. Remit the same to State Assemblies and, directly, to Presbyteries for discussion and report.

"4. Direct that Reports from State Assemblies be sent to the Executive Committee by June 1, 1946, and from Presbyteries by September 30, 1946.

"5. Continue the Committee, with Professor MacLeish as Convener, instructing it to complete its task and to report to the next meeting of the G.A.A."

The Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom seconded the Deliverance, which was approved.

49. By leave of the House, the Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom moved that the Assembly send down to Presbyteries along with the documents the speech of the Convener.

The motion was seconded and approved.

50. Consideration of Overture VI was resumed. (Min. 43.)

51. The Rev. J. G. Thrum moved:

Overture VI:
Debate
Resumed.

"That the Assembly sustain the Overture in so far as it brings the needs of Western Australia before the House and direct the Commonwealth Co-ordinating Committee—

(a) To regard W.A. as a first priority.

- (b) To take the earliest possible action to relieve the burden upon the Church in this State.
- (c) To endeavour to provide ministers and missionaries to reach the need of the people with the Gospel and to provide them with reasonable sustenance to enable them to carry on the work.
- (d) To commend to the State Home Mission Committees the appeal of W.A. for men and money, with a view to
 - (i) securing at least one volunteer licentiate or young minister each year from the States of N.S.W. and Victoria, and one every second year from Queensland to serve the Church in W.A. for a period of five years, and
 - (ii) bringing before our people in the eastern States the need and the opportunity to help financially the development of our Church in W.A."

Mr. R. S. Byrnes seconded the motion.

52. The Moderator intimated that the question had been sufficiently discussed.

53. The Business Convener moved that the question be now put.

The motion was seconded and approved.

54. The motion was approved.

55. The Appeal of Miss Amy Blanch Todd, in regard to the action of the State Assembly of Victoria, was called for.

56. It was moved, seconded and agreed that the House sit in private. (Min. 61.)

57. It was moved, seconded and agreed that two shorthand writers, Messrs. Reginald Frank Sholl and Alfred Stanley Carbines, be permitted to take reports of the proceedings, and the declaration de fideli was made by them.

58. It was moved, seconded and agreed that these notes when transcribed, with the shorthand notes, be handed to the Moderator, and by him be made available to the parties on request, such parties to pay for such notes.

59. Parties were called to the Bar.

The Appellant's written statement of the grounds of her Appeal was read by the Procurator on her behalf.

The Revs. C. T. F. Goy and J. E. Owen responded on behalf of the State Assembly of Victoria.

Questions were called for.

The Appellant responded.

The parties were removed from the Bar.

60. The debate was adjourned. (Min. 90.)

61. The House resumed in public. (Min. 56.)

62. The Business Convener moved that the resumption of the debate on the Appeal be made an O.D. for 11 a.m. to-morrow.

The Procurator seconded the motion, which was approved.

63. The Assembly adjourned to meet at 7 p.m., which having been publicly intimated, the sederunt was closed with prayer.

W. D. MARSHALL,

JOHN WAUGH,

Acting Clerks.

Appeal by
Miss Amy B.
Todd.
Private
Sitting.

Adjournment.

THIRD SEDERUNT

At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, 156 Collins Street, on Thursday, September 13, 1945, at 7 p.m.

64. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and was constituted with prayer. Constitution.

65. Notices of Motion were read and laid on the table. Notices of Motion.

66. By leave of the House the Business Convener moved, and it was seconded and approved, that the Assembly appoint the following as a committee to revise the Minutes daily, viz.: Rev. R. T. White (Convener), A. Trafford Walker, and H. S. R. Innes. Minute Committee.

67. The Business Convener laid on the table the Order of Business for Friday, and moved that it be approved. This was seconded and approved. Business.

68. The Clerk submitted corrected Minutes of the First Sederunt and moved that they be confirmed. This was seconded and approved. Minutes.

69. By leave of the House the Rev. A. Watson submitted the report on the Book of Common Order and moved the Deliverance. Book of Common Order.

“That the Assembly—

“1. Receive the report.

“2. Designate the Book of Common Order Committee in future, ‘The Public Worship and Aids to Devotion Committee.’

“3. Instruct the Committee to prepare and issue such Orders of Service as the Assembly may direct, and also occasional aids to devotion which may appear to be necessary.

“4. Instruct the Committee to consider and report to next Assembly on the Church’s future policy regarding the preparation or revision of Orders of Worship.

“5. Instruct the Committee to revise and publish the Baptismal Order with such simple explanation as may best indicate to parents and others the Church’s conception of the meaning and implications of the Sacrament.

“6. Appoint the following Committee: Rev. A. C. Watson (Convener), Rev. A. C. Grieve (Vice-Convener), Revs. W. A. Alston, R. J. Howie, W. W. Ingram, W. D. Marshall, W. H. Steele, R. W. Macaulay, Z.E. Macdonald, A. A. McKenzie, C. J. V. McKeown, A. H. Stewart, E. W. Archer, W. Maclean, J. R. Blanchard, D. F. Mitchell, J. I. Williamson, J. B. Galloway, Dr. G. R. S. Reid, A. G. Mackintosh-Carter, D. J. Flockhart, A. J. Parker, G. Cowie, D. McDiarmid, W. Kinnmont, Alan A. Dougan, H. Harrison, H. F. McDonald, D. A. Ryrie, H. D. Mackie.”

The motion was seconded.

70. By leave of the House the Rev. E. H. Vines moved as an amendment in clause 4, after “the Committee,” the insertion of these words: “to proceed with the revision of the Australian Book of Common Order and.”

The amendment was seconded and approved and the words were inserted.

71. According to notice, the Rev. J. H. Price moved on behalf of the Rev. D. I. Munro, as an additional clause:

“7. Instruct the Book of Common Order Committee to consider the publication of a separate form of ‘Request for Baptism’ such as appeared in the original Overture from the Hamilton Presbytery on page 117 of the 1942 G.A.A., B.B., as follows:

FORM OF REQUEST FOR THE BAPTISM OF AN INFANT

1. Name of Child.....
2. Date and Place of Birth.....
3. Father’s Full Name.....
4. Mother’s Christian and Maiden Name.....
5. Address.....

As a Christian I undertake to endeavour, by God’s help, to provide that this child will be brought up to be a Christian, that I will order my life as an example of Christian living, that I will do my best by

regular attendance at worship to keep the child in touch with the Fellowship and Teaching of the Church.

.....Signature of Mother.

.....Signature of Father.”

The amendment was seconded.

72. The Moderator ruled that the amendment was out of order.

73. The Deliverance as amended was approved.

Overture VII
(re Overturists
at the Bar).

The Rev. E. Wallace Archer stated the Overture. Questions were called for. The parties were removed from the Bar.

75. The Rev. E. Wallace Archer moved:

“That the Overture be sustained and the Standing Orders amended as proposed therein.”

Mr. G. U. Nathan seconded the motion, which was approved.

Defence
Forces
Chaplaincy.

76. By leave of the House, the Rev. A. S. Houston submitted the Report of the Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee and moved the Deliverance as follows:

“That the Assembly—

“1. Receive the Report.

“2. Repeal existing regulations and give general approval and interim authority to the following:

Section I

“1. Name: The name of the Committee shall be the Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee.

“2. Constitution: The Committee shall consist of 20 members, nominated by the corresponding State Committees and appointed by the General Assembly of Australia. They shall be appointed in the proportion of one representative for every 32 sanctioned Charges or portion thereof in harmony with Article of Agreement 126, Book I. On this basis the numbers for the present shall be as follows:

Victoria, 8; New South Wales, 7; Queensland, 2; South Australia, 1; Tasmania, 1; Western Australia, 1.

This Committee shall have the right of co-option. The Senior Chaplain of the State wherein the Chaplain-General resides shall act as Convener.

“3. Executive: The Executive shall consist of the members of the G.A. of A. Committee within the State wherein the Chaplain-General resides, and shall have the right of co-option.

“4. Duties: This Committee, subject always to the power residing in State Assemblies, which alone have authority over ministers within the jurisdiction of the States, in co-operation with the Chaplain-General or the Staff Chaplain, as the case may be, shall be the Executive Authority of the General Assembly of Australia for the nomination, discharge and ecclesiastical control of Chaplains in Navy, Military and Air Service at home or abroad. A Chaplain shall in the first place be nominated by the Committee of the State of which he is a minister. The Federal Committee shall deal with (a) all matters submitted to it by the General Assembly of Australia, (b) all matters submitted to it by State Chaplaincy Committees, (c) all emergency matters connected with chaplaincy work.

“5. State Chaplaincy:

(a) State Committees shall be appointed by their own Assemblies and are answerable thereto.

(b) Senior Chaplains shall be nominated by the State Assemblies for appointment.

“6. Chaplain-General and Staff Chaplain: A Chaplain-General for the Army and a Staff Chaplain for the Air Force shall be appointed according to the procedure laid down in Section IV. The Chaplain-General and the Staff Chaplain shall be answerable in all matters, including acceptance and demission of office, to the General Assembly of Australia, and, between meetings, to its Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee.

"7. Policy and Practice: Neither the Chaplain-General nor the Staff Chaplain have authority to commit the Presbyterian Church to any change of policy or practice without the approval of the General Assembly of Australia or its Committee.

"8. Before the advancement of Chaplains to senior positions, or retrogression or release of Chaplains, the Chaplain-General or the Staff Chaplain, as the case may be, shall consult with the Federal Committee or Executive, and, as far as possible, with the Committees of the States from which the Chaplains were nominated.

Section II

"Subject to his obligations as a Commissioned Officer of the Crown:

"1. The Chaplain-General shall be the representative of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to the Army, and shall be answerable to the General Assembly of Australia through the Committee.

"2. The Chaplain-General shall be responsible for the posting and general superintendence of Chaplains in conference with the Senior Chaplains of their formations or areas.

"3. The Chaplain-General shall be responsible for co-ordinating the work of Presbyterian Chaplains with that of Chaplains of other denominations.

"4. On all matters of policy as defined by the Committee he shall give effect to the Committee's decisions.

"5. The Chaplain-General shall have no authority to commit the Presbyterian Church to any change of policy or practice without the approval of the General Assembly of Australia or its Committee.

"6. Before the advancement of Chaplains to senior positions, or retrogression or release of Chaplains, the Chaplain-General shall consult with the General Assembly of Australia Committee or Executive, and, as far as possible, with the Committees of the States from which the Chaplains were nominated.

"7. Since the appointment of the Chaplain-General has been made a full-time office, he shall not act as the Convener of the Committee.

Section III

Regulations for Staff Chaplain (R.A.A.F.)

"1. The election of the Staff Chaplain shall be carried out under the procedure governing the election of the Chaplain-General.

"2. The nomination of the minister thus elected shall be made by the Moderator-General to the Air Board which makes the appointment.

"3. The appointment shall be reported by the General Assembly of Australia Committee to State Committees and to the next meeting of the General Assembly of Australia.

"4. The Staff Chaplain shall be the representative of the General Assembly of Australia to the R.A.A.F., and shall be responsible to the Air Board, and, through the Federal Committee, to the General Assembly of Australia.

"5. The Staff Chaplain shall work in co-operation with the General Assembly of Australia Committee, to whom State Committees shall submit names of ministers selected from their States for nomination for chaplaincy work.

"6. The duties of the Staff Chaplain shall be:

- (a) To carry out, in conjunction with Staff Chaplains of other denominations, the chaplaincy policy of the Air Force, which is implemented by the allocation of Chaplains, full-time and part-time.
- (b) To submit to the Air Board, in accordance with Air Force procedure, nominations of ministers of his denomination for appointment to chaplaincies.
- (c) To supervise the work of all Chaplains of his denomination and to exercise authority over them.
- (d) To make necessary recommendations with regard to postings, promotions, transfers to reserve, and resignations of Chaplains of his denomination.

"7. The Staff Chaplain shall present an annual report to the General Assembly of Australia Committee in February of each year. A copy of this report shall be sent by the Convener of the General Assembly of Australia Committee to the Conveners of the State Committees for inclusion in their annual reports to their Assemblies.

"8. The Staff Chaplain shall submit a report to each General Assembly of Australia.

Section IV

Regulations for the Nomination of Chaplain-General and Staff Chaplain

"1. Allow one vote for every 16 Sanctioned Charges or portion thereof in each State, thus following the precedent adopted by the General Assembly of Australia and set forth in Book I, Rule 126. This gives to the various States voting power as follows, on the basis of Assembly Roll, 1942:

Victoria.....	16
New South Wales.....	14
Queensland.....	4
Western Australia.....	2
South Australia.....	2
Tasmania.....	1

"2. Appoint scrutineers to carry out all arrangements.

"3. Invite nominations from all the State Committees.

"4. Issue voting papers with names of candidates set forth in alphabetical order.

"5. Return same immediately after date of nomination to the scrutineers, signed by each voter, who must be a member of the State Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee.

"6. Should there be more than two (2) candidates, carry out the election by preferential voting."

77. By leave of the House, the Procurator moved the omission of clause 2 with a view to inserting the following words: "Approve all past actions of the Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee and authorize the new Committee to prepare regulations for submission to next Assembly."

The amendment was seconded.

78. The debate was adjourned. (Min. 176.)

79. The Clerk read the Notices of Motion and laid them on the table.

80. The Assembly adjourned to meet at 9.45 a.m. to-morrow, which having been publicly intimated, the sederunt was closed with prayer.

W. D. MARSHALL,

JOHN WAUGH,

Acting Clerks.

Notices of
Motion.

Adjournment.

FOURTH SEDERUNT

At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, 156 Collins Street, on Friday, the 14th day of September, 1945, at 9.45 a.m.

81. The General Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and, after Praise and the reading of the Scripture, was constituted with prayer. Constitution.
82. The Business Convener moved that the House sit in private. Private Sitting.
(Min. 103.)
The motion was seconded and approved.
83. The Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom submitted the Report on the Reception of Ministers, and moved that the Assembly receive the Report. Reception of Ministers.
The Rev. V. Clark-Duff seconded the motion, which was approved, and the Report was received.
83. The Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom presented the Petition of the Rev. Victor William Coombes, and moved: Petition (Rev. V. W. Coombes).
"That, subject to a satisfactory medical report being received, the prayer of the Petition be granted."
The motion was seconded and approved.
84. The Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom presented the Petition of the Rev. Wilfred Alfred Morrow Strong, and moved: Petition (Rev. W. A. M. Strong).
"That, subject to a satisfactory medical report being received, the prayer of the Petition be granted, provided that for one year he shall attend such classes as shall be determined by a Theological Faculty with the approval of the College Committee: and thereafter serve under the Home Mission Committee of N.S.W. for one year."
The motion was seconded.
85. The Rev. C. E. Turnbull moved as an amendment the omission of the clause "and thereafter . . . for one year."
The amendment was seconded and disapproved.
86. The motion was approved.
87. The Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom presented the Petition of the Rev. Sydney Piper, B.A., Dip.Ed., and moved: Petition (Rev. Sydney Piper).
"That, subject to a satisfactory medical report being received, the prayer of the Petition be granted, provided that for one year he shall attend such classes as shall be determined by a Theological Faculty with the approval of the College Committee; and thereafter serve under the Home Mission Committee of N.S.W. for one year."
The motion was seconded.
88. The Rev. A. R. Mcvittie moved as an amendment the omission of all words after "granted," with a view to inserting: "And that he be required to take a course extra-murally extending over a year, such course to be determined by the College Committee."
The amendment was seconded.
89. The debate was adjourned. (Min. 96.)
90. The O.D. was called and the debate on Miss Todd's Appeal was resumed. (Min. 60.) O.D. Miss Todd's Appeal.
91. The Rev. Geo. Tulloch moved:
"That the Assembly—
"1. Sustain the Appeal.
"2. Declare that the G.A. of V. was in error in declining to forward Miss Todd's Appeal to this Court.
"3. Instruct the Presbytery of Melbourne East to arrange as early as possible for the hearing of the case in accordance with the rules of discipline."
The motion was seconded.
92. By leave of the House, at the suggestion of the Procurator, the Rev. Geo. Tulloch withdrew his motion.

- Committee to Confer. 93. By leave of the House the Rev. J. C. Milliken moved:
 "That the Assembly appoint a Committee to confer with Miss Todd, and with the Rev. C. T. F. Goy and the Rev. J. E. Owen as respondents, and report to a later sederunt: the Committee to consist of the Revs. V. Clark-Duff, A. R. Mcvittie, R. Bardon, J. R. Blanchard, and Messrs. J. Downes and C. P. Hughes, with the Rev. J. C. Milliken as Convener."
 The motion was seconded and approved.
- Leave to Meet. 94. Leave was granted to the Committee to meet immediately.
 95. The debate was adjourned. (Min. 127.)
- Reception of Ministers. 96. The debate on the Reception of Ministers was resumed. (Min. 89.)
 97. The amendment was approved and the words were inserted.
 98. The motion as amended was approved.
- Petition (Rev. Frank Paton). 99. The Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom presented the Petition of the Rev. Frank Paton, and moved:
 "That, subject to a satisfactory medical certificate being received, the prayer of the Petition be granted, provided that for one year he shall attend such classes as shall be determined by a Theological Faculty with the approval of the College Committee; and thereafter serve under the Home Mission Committee of N.S.W. for one year."
 The motion was seconded and approved.
- Petition (Rev. W. H. P. McKenzie). 100. The Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom presented the Petition of the Rev. W. H. P. McKenzie, M.C., B.A., and moved:
 "That, subject to a satisfactory medical certificate being received, the prayer of the Petition be granted, subject to the completion of the necessary documents."
 The motion was seconded and approved.
- Petition (Rev. Kenneth Dyster). 101. The Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom presented the Petition of the Rev. Kenneth Dyster and moved:
 "That, subject to a satisfactory medical certificate being received, the prayer of the Petition be granted, provided that he completes the full course of instruction (without Hebrew) in the Theological Hall, Sydney, and that he be admitted to the Hall without further examination."
 The motion was seconded and approved.
- Press Not to Report. 102. The debate was adjourned. (Min. 129.)
 103. The House resumed in public. (Min. 82.)
 104. By leave of the House the Business Convener moved:
 "That the Assembly—
 "1. Request the Press not to report the discussion on Christian Unity;
 "2. Appoint the Revs. Frank Hanlin and L. O. C. White to draw¹ up a report of the discussion for the Press."
 The motion was seconded and approved.
- Christian Unity. 105. By leave of the House the Rev. Alan Watson submitted the report on Christian Unity and moved the Deliverance, clauses 1 to 4, as follows:
 "That the Assembly—
 "1. Receive the report.
 "2. Welcome the proposal to form a World Council of Churches (Australian Section) modelled on the constitution of the British Council of Churches, and acting in harmony with the World Council of Churches, now in process of formation; approve generally the draft Constitution hereunder appended, and agree that the Presbyterian Church of Australia become a constituent member.
 "3. Instruct the Christian Unity Committee to appoint representatives to the World Council of Churches (Australian Section).
 "4. Authorize the Finance Committee to pay preliminary expenses up to £20 per annum. In the event of a full-time secretariat being established, authorize the Finance Committee to make arrangements for the provision of the Presbyterian quota."
 The motion was seconded and approved.

Clause 5 was submitted as follows:

"5. Agree to enter into Federal Union with the Methodist and Congregational Churches on terms to be agreed upon by the three Churches.

106. According to notice, the Rev. E. Wallace Archer moved:

"That all the words in the Deliverance after clause 4 be omitted with a view to inserting other words, namely:

" '5. Declare that the Presbyterian Church of Australia believes the approach to Christian unity through the World Council of Churches is the will of God for our time, and pledges itself to the fullest co-operation with other Churches through this channel, believing that in the course of such co-operation God will reveal from time to time how the measure of unity then existing may be best expressed.' "

The amendment was seconded.

107. The Moderator intimated that in his opinion the question had been sufficiently discussed.

108. It was moved, seconded and approved that the question be now put.

The Moderator declared that in his opinion the amendment was disapproved.

109. A division was called for by Rev. E. Wallace Archer and five Division. others.

The Rev. R. G. Butler and Mr. D. Bain, Rev. John Hunter and Rev. J. G. Robertson were appointed tellers.

110. The vote was taken by a division.

The Moderator intimated the result of the vote as follows: For, 54; against, 141.

111. The amendment was disapproved.

112. Clause 5 was approved.

Clause 6, "Affirm Federal Union as a step towards corporate union with the Congregational and Methodist Churches," was moved, seconded and approved.

Clause 7, "Appoint representatives to a Joint Committee of the three Churches for the purpose of preparing a plan of Federal Union, approved by these representatives; instruct the representatives to submit this plan to the Christian Unity Committee, which is hereby authorized to forward it, with any suggested amendments, to State Assemblies and Presbyteries for consideration and report, through the Committee, to the next Assembly," was moved, seconded and approved.

113. The debate was adjourned. (Min. 220.)

114. By leave of the House the Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom moved:

"That the debate on the Reception of Ministers Report be resumed as an O.D. at 9 p.m. this evening." (Min. 129.)

The motion was seconded and approved.

115. By leave of the House the Rev. A. S. Houston moved:

"That the Defence Forces Chaplaincy Report be resumed as an O.D. at 2 p.m. on Monday." (Min. 176.)

The motion was seconded and approved.

116. The House adjourned to meet at 7 p.m., which having been duly Adjournment. intimated, the sederunt was closed with prayer.

W. D. MARSHALL,
JOHN WAUGH,
Acting Clerks.

FIFTH SEDERUNT

At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, 156 Collins Street, on Friday, the 1st day of September, 1915, at 7 p.m.

- Constitution. 117. The General Assembly met pursuant to adjournment, and after praise and reading of the Scripture was constituted with prayer.
- Notices of Motion. 118. Notices of Motion were called for.
- Business. 119. The Business Convener submitted the Report of the Business Committee and moved that the Order of Business for to-morrow be approved.
The motion was seconded and approved.
120. The Business Convener moved that the Report of the Canberra Executive be made an O.D. for Monday, at 10.30 a.m. (Min. 164.)
The motion was seconded and approved.
- Minutes. 121. The Clerk laid the Minutes of Sederunts 2 and 3 on the table, intimated the corrections, and moved that the Minutes be confirmed.
The motion was seconded and the Minutes confirmed.
- Board of Religious Education. 122. By leave of the House the Rev. W. H. Waters submitted the Report of the Board of Religious Education and moved the Deliverance, clauses 1 to 5.
This was seconded and approved.
Clauses 1 to 5 were approved.
Clause 6 was moved and seconded:
"6. Express appreciation of the care with which the Board has carried out its revision of the "Intermediate Catechism"; authorize the use of the Catechism in its revised form throughout the Sunday Schools of the Commonwealth; and commend the Board's efforts in planning to issue one or more companion Handbooks on the Catechism, containing explanatory and supplementary material."
123. According to notice, Mr. G. U. Nathan moved the omission of clause 6 with a view to inserting the words: "Refer back to the Board of Religious Education the revision of the Intermediate Catechism with instructions to prepare a Catechism more intelligible to the children for whom it is intended."
The amendment was seconded and disapproved.
124. According to notice, the Rev. A. T. McNaughton moved the addition of the following to clause 6 of the Deliverance:
"(1) In line 3, after 'revised form': 'as printed in the Report.'
"(2) In line 4, after 'Commonwealth': 'direct the Board to report to next General Assembly of Australia regarding any further modifications in the text of the Catechism which may then seem desirable, in the light of additional teaching experience.'
The amendment was seconded and approved.
The clause as amended was approved.
125. The debate was adjourned. (Min. 133.)
- Private Sitting. 126. The House sat in private and the debate on Miss Todd's Appeal was resumed. (Mins. 95 and 132.)
- Committee's Report on Conference. 127. By leave of the House the Rev. J. C. Milliken submitted the Report of the Special Committee on Miss Todd's Appeal "that the Conference had failed." (Min. 205.)
128. The Business Convener moved "that the Assembly, receive the Report; thank the Committee, especially the Convener, and discharge the Committee."
The motion was seconded and approved.
- Reception of Ministers. 129. The Debate on the Reception of Ministers Report was resumed. (Min. 102.)
- Petition (Rev. G. A. Thomson). 130. The Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom presented the Petition of the Rev. George Angus Thomson, L.Th., and moved "that the prayer of the Petition be granted on the basis of Regulation 219 (5), provided that a satisfactory medical certificate be secured."

The motion was seconded and approved.

131. The Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom presented the Petition of the Rev. Louis Morton Humphrey, M.A., and moved "that, subject to a satisfactory medical certificate being furnished, the prayer of the Petition be granted, provided he shall study for one year under the direction of a Theological Faculty."

Petition
(Rev. L. M.
Humphrey).

The motion was seconded and approved.

132. The House resumed in public. (Min. 126.)

133. The Debate on the Deliverance of the Board of Education was resumed. (Min. 125.)

Board of
Education.

Clauses 7-17 were approved.

134. According to notice, the Rev. P. L. Forster moved as an additional clause:

"18. In view of the decreasing interest and the increasing difficulties in Sunday School work for both teachers and scholars, instruct this Committee to consider the best way in which to provide a suitable and adequate copy of the Scriptures for general use in Sunday Schools."

The motion was seconded and approved.

135. The Deliverance as amended was approved in the following form:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Thank the Board; reappoint the Convener, the Rev. W. H. Waters, B.A., of St. David's, Geelong; express the Assembly's deep sense of indebtedness for his leadership as Convener of the Board, especially during this period of transition and new development; place on record its profound gratitude for the statesmanlike service rendered to the cause of religious education, through his membership over many years on the Presbyterian and the Joint Board, by the Very Rev. Dr. John Mackenzie; express its appreciation of the faithful and efficient service of the Director, and of the valuable assistance rendered by the Board's secretary, Miss Hazel Belcher; reappoint as Director the Rev. A. T. McNaughton, M.A., B.D., for a period of five years, commencing January 1, 1946, the salary being fixed at £600 per annum, with a house allowance of £150 (provided that the present relationship between the Board of Religious Education and the Joint Board remain as at present; should the scope of the Director's duties be altered by a reconstitution of the Board or Joint Board, the Board of Religious Education shall define his duties till the next meeting of the G.A.A.); thank the Treasurer of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, together with the accountant and the assistant in the Board's office, for their attention to the Board's finances; and convey to all State Committees, their Conveners and officers, the thanks of the Assembly for their devotion and enthusiasm, not only in the service of their own State, but also in loyal co-operation with the wider work of the Board.

"3. Express satisfaction that the work of publication has been carried on so successfully and harmoniously, in co-operation with the Methodist Young People's Department, the State Presbyterian Youth Committees, and the Youth Committee of the New Zealand Presbyterian Church; commend the action of the Board in seeking an improvement in the administrative arrangements of the Joint Board, with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of the Joint Board's work, and also relieving the pressure on the Presbyterian Director; and approve the principle of establishing the Joint Board as soon as possible on a semi-independent basis so that, while still under the control of the constituent Churches, it will appoint its own officers.

"4. Appoint the following to be the Assembly's representatives on the Joint Board of Graded Lessons of Australia and New Zealand, namely, the Revs. S. L. McKenzie, A. T. McNaughton, M. A. Tremewan, W. H. Waters, E. C. Day and S. A. Goddard.

"5. Strongly recommend Sessions and congregations to make fuller use of all the literature issued by the Board, including the many helpful pamphlets and booklets, and especially the "Book of Family Worship."

"6. Express appreciation of the care with which the Board has carried out its revision of the 'Intermediate Catechism'; authorize the use of the Catechism in its revised form, as printed in the Report, throughout the Commonwealth; direct the Board to report to next General Assembly of Australia regarding any further modifications in the text of the Catechism which may then seem desirable, in the light of additional teaching experience; and commend the Board's efforts in planning to issue one or more companion Handbooks on the Catechism, containing explanatory and supplementary material.

"7. Express appreciation of the efforts being made by State Youth Committees to meet more adequately the spiritual needs of parents, children, and young people, in the remoter areas; commend the enterprise of the Joint Board in seeking to provide literature for this purpose; and urge all the State Committees, in co-operation with the Presbyterian and Joint Board, to evolve, if possible, a more complete and more unified scheme of publications, to provide for adults, young people, and children in such scattered districts Christian education of a kind that will strengthen, rather than diminish or destroy, their attachment to the Church of their fathers.

"8. Commend to our people the work of the National Council of Religious Education of Australia, stressing the urgent necessity and the great value of hearty co-operation with other Christian Churches, in equipping leaders who shall be able to¹ meet adequately the pressing needs of young people beset by the problems and temptations of to-day; endorse the action of the Board in making arrangements to publish, under the auspices of the National Council of Religious Education of Australia, the book entitled "Up From Childhood," written by the Revs. R. R. Adair, Dr. John Mackenzie, J. C. Jamieson, and A. T. McNaughton; and heartily recommend to parents, ministers and teachers, this volume of guidance in matters relating to the Christian nurture of children and young people.

"9. Authorize the Board to continue its co-operation with the New Zealand Presbyterian Youth Committee, with a view to the production of a Youth Hymnal.

"10. Thank the Rev. ^Eneas Macdonald for the able manner in which he has edited the "Record"; commend the Board for planning to increase still further the attractiveness and teaching value of the "Record"; and urge a far greater use of this Sunday School and missionary magazine among the schools of the Commonwealth.

"11. Express gratification at the growth and spiritual power of the Presbyterian Fellowship of Australia; urge Youth Committees and Sessions, throughout the Commonwealth, to seek every opportunity of unifying their work for and with young people under this organization; heartily commend the efforts being made by its leaders in the various States to maintain contact with its members, both men and women, who are serving with the Forces within and beyond Australia; and approve the steps being taken by the Board to revise the Constitution of the Federal P.F.A.

"12. Authorize the Board to appoint an assistant to the Director, preferably an ordained minister with Australian experience, whose duties shall include:

- (a) co-ordinating the P.F.A. on a national basis;
 - (b) editorial work on youth publications;
 - (c) development of teacher and leader training by interstate visitation.
- The appointment shall be for 3 years, terminable by 3 months' notice on either side, and the salary shall be £400 per annum, with a manse, or in lieu of a manse, an allowance of up to £150 per annum.

"13. Approve the Board's proposal to inaugurate, in consultation with other relevant organizations of our Church, a scheme of Adult Christian Education.

"14. Authorize the Board to fill all vacancies that may arise before next Assembly, in consultation with any States that may be concerned.

"15. Direct the Board to continue its consultations with the College Committee and the various Theological Hall Committees, in order to improve the facilities now available for the training of theological

students in the theory and practice of religious education, and urge the establishment of a Diploma Course in Religious Education and eventually the inauguration of Chairs of Religious Education in Sydney and Melbourne.

"16. Reaffirm the principle that all profits derived within each State from the sales of Presbyterian and Joint Board publications belong to, and are to be used solely for the purposes approved by, the Assembly's Youth Department of that State; and instruct the State Assembly's Youth Departments to furnish to the Board, when required to do so, a return showing, for the information of the Assembly, how the moneys have been expended which have been derived, during each inter-Assembly period, from profits on the Board's own literature, and the publications of the Joint Board of Graded Lessons.

"17. Convey to all Sunday School teachers and leaders of young people the thanks of the Assembly for their loyal and self-sacrificing labours in the service of Christ, and of the young people in our Church and nation; and unite with them in the prayer that all who have responsibility for training the leaders of the coming generation may so bear themselves in these days of testing as to promote the power and glory of God and a world-wide Christian citizenship"

"18. In view of the decreasing interest and the increasing difficulties in Sunday School work for both teachers and scholars, instruct the Committee to consider the best way in which to provide a suitable and adequate copy of the Scriptures for general use in Sunday Schools."

136. By leave of the House and according to notice the Rev. C. T. F. Goy moved that the Assembly "learn with approval of the development of religious films in Australia and of the action taken by the Victorian Visual Education Department for the formation of an inter-denominational and Australia-wide Religious Film Society, and commend the Society to the people of the Church as worthy of their most cordial and generous support."

137. The Debate was adjourned. (Min. 264.)

138. The Rev. A. T. McNaughton submitted the Report of the Home Religion Committee and moved the Deliverance as follows:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Thank the Board of Religious Education for arranging the compilation and publication of the annual "Book of Family Worship"; and request the Board to continue to render both these services.

"3. Express satisfaction at the continued growth in circulation of the "Book of Family Worship," and the earnest desire that it may be still more widely extended; and urge ministers and office-bearers to recommend its use throughout our congregations.

"4. Impress upon parents and all others who have in their hands the religious training of children and youth, the duty of encouraging the practice of personal and family prayer and the reading of Scripture, with the aids thus provided.

"5. Heartily commend to parents, ministers and teachers the book entitled "Up From Childhood," which has been prepared under the direction of the Board of Religious Education and is about to be published¹ by the National Council of Religious Education of Australia.

"6. Appoint the following as the Home Religion Committee: The Revs. A. T. McNaughton (Convener), H. F. Peak, Dr. G. R. S. Reid, M. A. Tremewan, and W. H. Waters."

The Deliverance was seconded and approved.

139. The House adjourned to meet to-morrow at 9.45 a.m., which having been duly intimated, the sederunt was closed with prayer.

W. D. MARSHALL

JOHN WAUGH

Acting Clerks.

SIXTH SEDERUNT

At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, 156 Collins Street, on Saturday, the 15th day of September, 1945, at 9.45 a.m.

- Constitution. 140. The General Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and, after praise and reading of the Scripture, was constituted with prayer.
- Notices of Motion. 141. Notices of Motion were called for.
- Business. 142. By leave of the House the Business Convener laid on the table the Order of Business for Monday and moved that it be approved.
The motion was seconded and approved.
- Federal Advisory Committee. 143. The Rev. Dr. Macaulay submitted the Report of the Federal Advisory Committee and moved the Deliverance as follows:
"That the Assembly—
"1. Receive the Report.
"2. Reappoint the Federal Advisory Committee, as constituted in 1939."
The Deliverance was seconded and approved.
- Fire Insurance. 144. The Rev. V. Clark-Duff submitted the Report on Fire Insurance and moved the Deliverance as follows:
"That the Assembly—
"1. Receive the Report.
"2. Congratulate State Committees on progress made and urge establishment of State Funds where not now existing.
"3. Authorize the Committee to press on with the establishment of a Central Insurance Fund.
"4. Reappoint the Committee as follows:—N.S.W.: Rev. V. Clark-Duff, H. G. Jeffreson, T. O. McCreadie. Qld.: A. R. Gillespie, G. Johnston. S.A.: H. H. Richardson. Tas.: C. N. Hope. W.A.: Rev. G. Tulloch, R. Bracks, W. R. G. Mitchell. Vic.: J. M. Carroll, W. H. Thompson, W. A. Love, G. D. McKinnon. Convener: Rev. V. Clark-Duff."
The Deliverance was seconded and approved.
- Statistics. 145. The Rev. V. Clark-Duff submitted the Report on Statistics and moved the Deliverance as follows:
"That the Assembly receive the Report."
The Deliverance was seconded and approved.
- Immigration. 146. The Rev. J. P. Chaliner submitted the Report on Immigration and moved the Deliverance as follows:
"That the Assembly—
"1. Receive the Report.
"2. Appoint the following Committee: Revs. J. P. Chaliner (Convener), A. R. Barnett, M. Tremewan, E. H. McL. Shugg, R. W. Stephens, W. Maclean, F. Spencer, J. Adamson, G. Tulloch, A. J. C. Tebbitt, A. E. Brice, Hector Harrison, A. R. Mcvittie, L. J. Schmidt, A. Duff, R. V. Macleod, R. V. Merritt, J. C. Milliken, D. A. Brown, H. S. Bunn, and Messrs. R. Bracks, R. C. Purdie, J. Downes, R. S. Byrnes, N. F. Nelson, A. R. Campbell, with power to add.
"3. Instruct the Committee to give consideration to the matters raised in Overture I and Communications IX and X, and report to a later sederunt." (Min. 226.)
The Deliverance was seconded.
- Dr. McLaren. 147. By leave of the House Dr. McLaren addressed the House.
148. The debate was adjourned. (Min. 225.)
- College Committee. 149. By leave of the House the Rev. A. C. Grieve submitted the Report of the Collège Committee and moved Clauses 1-8 of the Deliverance as follows:
"That the Assembly—
"1. Receive the Report.
"2. Express sympathy with the Church in New South Wales in the loss sustained by the death of the Rev. Dr. Samuel Angus, and its

regret at the passing of a former Convener, Rev. Dr. Wm. Borland, and the Rev. Karl Forster, who served for many years as Secretary.

"3. Renew the request made in 1939, that State Theological Education Committees or Committees on Candidates for the Ministry report annually to the College Committee the names of all candidates accepted or rejected.

"4. Approve the action taken by the College Committee re Miss E. A. Kerr and Mr. D. Claude Robertson.

"5. Adopt the proposals submitted by the College Committee re candidates for the ministry returning from service with the defence forces, and re training for teaching service, as follows:

- (a) That students for the ministry who had begun a year of their course before joining the Forces be conceded the completion of such year where this is recommended by the Theological Education Committee of the State concerned.

That Third-Year Home Mission students granted such concession be required to undergo a special course of training in Greek with a view to entrance to the Theological Hall.

That the case of each student in the University course be considered by the College Committee on its merits.

- (b) To enable the College Committee to give consideration to the introduction of a suitable course for men who desire to be trained for a special form of teaching service, invite Theological Education Committees in the various States to make suggestions and recommendations; provided that the minimum requirement shall be an Arts Degree together with two years in a Theological Hall, the subjects of the Hall course to be determined by the College Committee in consultation with the Theological Education Committee of the State in which the instruction is to be given.

- (c) That an approach be made through the Chaplains Committee to men serving with the Forces, with a view to enlisting candidates for the ministry.

- (d) That action be taken to have the Home Mission course registered as a course of training for the ministry under the Government's Rehabilitation Scheme.

That students in the Home Mission course be advised, that the grant should be accepted not during their Home Mission service, but during their course in the Theological Hall.

- (e) That on the question of granting concessions in their course to men now in the Forces who may become candidates for the ministry, the Theological Education Committees be invited to submit suggestions and recommendations as to how this may be done without impairing the efficiency of men so trained; provided that the minimum course required shall be two years (or six courses) in Arts and the normal course in a Theological Hall.

Further, that Theological Education Committees be asked if they favour a re-arrangement by which portions of the University and Theological Hall courses would be made concurrent, and the duration of training reduced to five years.

- (f) That the Executive seek the release from the Forces of men received as candidates for the ministry after enlisting, who have served not less than two years in the Forces; and that State Committees, before accepting such men as candidates, should secure from a Chaplain a report as to their probable suitability.

"6. Instruct State Committees on the Reception of Candidates for the Ministry to obtain a satisfactory certificate from an approved medical adviser before accepting any candidate.

"7. Confirm the action taken by the College Committee re the Rev. G. F. Buckley, A. C. Karmouche, E. M. Kippax, and C. E. Bowles.

"8. Amend Rule 3 of the Rules of Exit to read: "Passes at the same standard in subjects for the B.D. Degree at the University of Sydney or the Melbourne College of Divinity may be accepted, as passes in the corresponding subjects of the Exit Examination; provided that it shall be certified, in the case of every candidate, that he has

studied Theology in the Theological Hall and that the reformation period has been included in his course of study in Church History. The College Committee shall have discretion to accept similar equivalents, in terms of other degrees of divinity." Instruct the College Committee, for the present, to make no other alterations in the Rules of Entrance, Rules for the Home Mission Course, and Rules of Exit.

The motion was seconded and Clauses 1-8 were approved.

150. According to notice the Rev. John A. Hunter moved on behalf of the Rev. Dr. Cumming Thom the following additional clause:

"9. Give general approval to the provision of optional subjects in Exit Examinations, remit the scheme concerning optional subjects in Exit, as set down in the Report, for consideration by the Executive of the College Committee, and instruct the Committee, in consultation with State Assemblies and Theological Education Committees, to prepare a scheme for presentation to the next meeting of the General Assembly of Australia."

The motion was seconded.

151. The Rev. V. Clark-Duff moved as an amendment the omission of all the words "Give ... Examinations."

The amendment was seconded and approved and the words omitted.

152. The motion was approved and the new clause inserted. Clauses 10-13 were approved.

153. The Deliverance as amended was approved in the following form:
"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Express sympathy with the Church in New South Wales in the loss sustained by the death of the Rev. Dr. Samuel Angus, and its regret at the passing of a former Convener, the Rev. Dr. Borland, and the Rev. Karl Forster, who served for many years as Secretary.

"3. Renew the request made in 1939, that State Theological Education Committee or Committees on Candidates for the Ministry report annually to the College Committee the names of all candidates accepted or rejected.

"4. Approve the action taken by the College Committee re Miss E. A. Kerr and Mr. D. Claude Robertson.

"5. Adopt the proposals submitted by the College Committee re candidates for the ministry returning from service with the defence forces, and re training for teaching service, as follows:

- (a) That students for the ministry who had begun a year of their course before joining the Forces be conceded the completion of such year where this is recommended by the Theological Education Committee of the State concerned.

That Third-Year Home Mission students granted such concession be required to undergo a special course of training in Greek with a view to entrance to the Theological Hall.

That the case of each student in the University course be considered by the College Committee on its merits.

- (b) To enable the College Committee to give consideration to the introduction of a suitable course for men who desire to be trained for a special form of teaching service, invite Theological Education Committees in the various States to make suggestions and recommendations; provided that the minimum requirement shall be an Arts Degree together with two years in a Theological Hall, the subjects of the Hall course to be determined by the College Committee in consultation with the Theological Education Committee of the State in which the instruction is to be given.
- (c) That an approach be made through the Chaplains Committee to men serving with the Forces, with a view to enlisting candidates for the ministry.
- (d) That action be taken to have the Home Mission course, registered as a course of training for the ministry under the Government's Rehabilitation Scheme.

That students in the Home Mission course be advised that the grant should be accepted *not* during their Home Mission service, but during their course in the Theological Hall.

- (e) That on the question of granting concessions in their course to men now in the Forces who may become candidates for the ministry, the Theological Education Committees be invited to submit suggestions and recommendations as to how this may be done without impairing the efficiency of men so trained; provided that the minimum course required shall be two years (or six courses) in Arts and the normal course in a Theological Hall.

Further, that Theological Education Committees be asked if they favour a re-arrangement by which portions of the University and Theological Hall courses would be made concurrent, and the duration of training reduced to five years.

- (f) That the Executive seek the release from the Forces of men received as candidates for the ministry after enlisting, who have served not less than two years in the Forces; and that State Committees, before accepting such men as candidates, should secure from a Chaplain a report as to their probable suitability.

"6. Instruct State Committees on the Reception of Candidates for the Ministry to obtain a satisfactory certificate from an approved medical adviser before accepting any candidate.

"7. Confirm the action taken by the College Committee re the Rev. G. F. Buckley, A. C. Karmouche, E. M. Kippax, and C. E. Bowles.

"8. Amend Rule 3 of the Rules of Exit to read: 'Passes at the same standard in subjects for the B.D. Degree at the University of Sydney or the Melbourne College of Divinity may be accepted as passes in the corresponding subjects of the Exit Examination; provided that it shall be certified, in the case of every candidate, that he has studied Theology in the Theological Hall, and that the Reformation period has been included in his course of study in Church History. The College Committee shall have discretion to accept similar equivalents, in terms of other degrees of divinity.' Instruct the College Committee, for the present, to make no other alterations in the Rules of Entrance, Rules for the Home Mission Course, and Rules of Exit.

"9. Remit the scheme concerning optional subjects in Exit as set down in the Report, for consideration by the Executive of the College Committee; and instruct the Committee, in consultation with State Assemblies and Theological Education Committees, to prepare a scheme for presentation to the next meeting of the General Assembly of Australia.

"10. Direct that the provisions for a special Entrance Examination by public examiners as an alternative for the Intermediate Examination (Home Mission course) be utilized only after the circumstances of each case shall have been reported for consideration, and the College Committee's consent has been given.

"11. Declare that for the Exit Examination in Old Testament and New Testament two papers shall be set in each subject:

- (a) A general paper for all candidates.
 (b) A paper on the prescribed Text Translation, and Exegesis for those studying the language, or
 A paper on the specified portions of the English Bible, with Exegesis, for students not taking the language.

"12. Request Theological Education Committees to provide for lectures on Religious Education and Christian Missions, and guidance on Present-day Heresies.

"13. Note the considerable number of Home Missionaries who have been authorized to dispense the Sacraments under the permission given by the Assembly in 1933; require State Home Mission Committees and Presbyteries to see that only those duly authorized as by regulation of the G.A. of A. are permitted to dispense the Sacraments of the Church; and moreover, renew the instruction to Presbyteries to grant such permission only after careful consideration of the merits of each case."

Petition II
(Mr. C. J. R.
Price).

154. The Business Convener laid on the table Petition II from Mr. C. J. R. Price and moved that it be received.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The Rev. A. C. Grieve moved:

“That the Assembly grant the prayer of the Petition; give the College Committee power to prescribe the further course of study to be followed by him, and that he be eligible to be taken on Trials for Licence thereafter.”

The motion was seconded and approved.

Petition III
(Mr. Alan
Maclachlan).

155. The Business Convener laid on the table Petition III from Mr. Alan Maclachlan and moved that it be received.

The motion was seconded and approved.

The Rev. A. C. Grieve moved:

“That the Assembly grant the prayer of the Petition provided that the Petitioner produce a medical certificate satisfactory to the Candidates for the Ministry Committee; spend at least one year in a Theological Hall under the direction of the College Committee, and satisfies the requirements of the Faculty or Senatus; having fulfilled these conditions declare him to be thereafter eligible to be taken on Trials for Licence.”

The motion was seconded and approved.

Notices of
Motion.

156. The Notices of Motion were read and laid on the table.

Adjournment.

157. The House adjourned to meet on Monday, 17th, at 9.45 a.m., which having been duly intimated, the sederunt was closed with prayer.

W. D. MARSHALL,

JOHN WAUGH,

Acting Clerks.

SEVENTH SEDERUNT

At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, 156 Collins Street, on Monday, the 17th day of September, 1945, at 9.45 a.m.

158. The General Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and after praise and reading of the Scripture was constituted with prayer. Constitution.

159. Notices of Motion were called for. Notices of Motion.

160. By leave of the House Mr. A. G. Proudfoot submitted the Report on the Code and moved the Deliverance in the following form: Code.

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Remit the Chapter on Discipline de novo, through the Clerk, to Assemblies and Presbyteries for report by the 30th June, 1946.

"3. In reference to the Overture from the General Assembly of Victoria on Standing Order No. 36 (B.B., 1942, Min. 47), amend Standing Order No. 36 by the elimination of the last six words so that it shall read: 'A mover of an amendment shall not afterwards speak to the main question.'

"4. Accept the interpretation of the powers of the Board of Mission^A submitted by the Code Committee, as follows: 'Declare that, having regard to Article VII, the Board of Missions has absolute control of the management and administration of all Missions to the Heathen conducted by any State Assembly with the exception of Missions which, pursuant to any Trust, must be controlled by a State Assembly.'

161. The Deliverance was seconded and approved.

162. By leave of the House Mr. Roland Love submitted the Report of the G.A. of A. Trustees and moved the Deliverance in the following form: Trustees.

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Accept the resignation of the Trustees and resolve to drop the suggestion regarding a Trust Deed for Australia.

"3. Request the corporate bodies representing the Presbyterian Church in each of the States to act as agents for the G.A. of A. in respect to all financial matters that arise within the bounds of their respective States."

Clause 1 was approved and the Report received.

By leave of the House the Rev. Dr. Macaulay moved, as an amendment the omission of clause 2.

The amendment was seconded.

163. The debate was adjourned. (Min. 169.)

164. By leave of the House the Rev. Sydney Richardson submitted the Report of the Canberra Executive and moved the Deliverance in the following form: Canberra Executive.

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Congratulate the Rev. Hector Harrison on the completion of five years' fruitful service at Canberra.

"3. Confirm the action of the Executive in extending the present appointment until the cessation of hostilities and twelve months thereafter.

"4. Express gratification that the historic Church of St. Ninian, Australian Capital Territory, has been recovered and restored, and is now in use for worship.

"5. (a) Approve of the amount raised by the Victorian Church to clear off its share of the Canberra debt and the amount advanced towards Rev. Dr. John Walker's salary being treated as a debt owing by the General Assembly of Australia to the Victorian Church.

"(b) Approve of the allocation to the various States, on the following basis, of the total debt and the interest thereon to the 31st December, 1945, amounting to approximately £26,350, and request the State

Churches to accept as their liability the amounts set out in the following table, and pay interest thereon at 3½%:

State	Share of Debt	Interest
Victoria	£10,672	£400 4 0
New South Wales	9,688	363 6 0
Queensland.....	3,930	147 7 6
South Australia.....	730	27 7 6
Western Australia	780	29 5 0
Tasmania.....	550	20 12 6
	£26,350	£988 2 6

"(c) Approve of any State being freed from further liability for this debt on payment of its share of the debt.

"6. Approve of the proposals submitted in the report for the furnishing of the Warriors' Chapel, and thank Col. M. J. Holmes, D.S.O., for his generous offer. Authorize the Canberra Executive to complete the scheme as funds are available.

"7. Approve of the formation of a second Charge within the Australian Capital Territory, to be known as Braddon Charge, the said Charge, when formed, to retain the nexus with the G.A. of A., and the appointment of the minister of the parish to be made in accordance with the Assembly's regulations for the filling of vacancies in pastorates within the Australian Capital Territory. (See 'The Canberra Executive—Section 2.')

"8. Declare that the minister of the Church of St. Andrew, Canberra, be the recognized local channel of approach to official, diplomatic and governmental circles and persons.

"9. Advise the Presbytery of Goulburn of the foregoing resolutions 7 and 8, and instruct the Presbytery, in consultation with the Canberra Executive, to define the boundaries of the proposed Charge and to determine all relevant issues.

"10. Determine the functions of the Executive as set forth hereunder:

The Canberra Executive

It is desirable that the powers of the Canberra Executive be more clearly defined, and it is recommended:

That an Executive be appointed to act for the General Assembly of Australia, between Assemblies, in relation to the interests of the G.A. of A. in the Australian Capital Territory: and more particularly:

1. To confer with the local Church authorities (Parochial and Presbyterial), as may be necessary from time to time, to ensure:
 - (a) The maintenance of all Church properties in good order and condition;
 - (b) the extension of religious ordinances to fresh or growing centres of population;
 - (c) the de-limiting of parish* boundaries to make room for the creation of additional parishes;
 - (d) the authorization of new building projects;
 - (e) the furtherance, where practicable, of the Assembly's policy of co-operation with other denominations.
2. To set in operation the following regulations with regard to the procedure to be adopted in the filling of vacancies in pastorates within the Australian Capital Territory.
 - (a) When a vacancy occurs in a pastorate within the Australian Capital Territory, the Canberra Executive shall appoint four representatives to meet with four representatives of the vacant parish (to be appointed by the congregation concerned): and the Interim Moderator, or a representative of the Presbytery of Goulburn; such meeting to be empowered to nominate one or more ministers who shall be eligible for call by the vacant congregation. The Chairman of the Canberra Executive to be the Convener.

- (b) The pastorate shall be limited to five years.
- (c) The minister, prior to his induction, shall be required to give an undertaking to the congregation that he will resign the Charge at the end of the five-year period.
- (d) The minister shall be eligible to receive a further call to the Charge.
- (e) The minister shall be free during the fifth year of the settlement to accept a call to another sphere of labour.

"11. Authorize the continuance of the grant from the Lloyd Bequest for use by the Canberra Executive in the A.C.T.

"12. Appoint the Canberra Executive to consist of the Revs. D. J. Flockhart, Dr. G. R. S. Reid, Dr. John Flynn, Dr. Cumming Thom, V. Clark-Duff, J. Hunter, J. B. Galloway, A. C. Grieve, Sydney Richardson, T. McDougall, Mr. Roland Love, the minister of St. Andrew's, Canberra, and the Moderator of the Goulburn Presbytery, with the Rev. D. J. Flockhart as Convener and the Rev. Sydney Richardson as Vice-Convener."

The motion was seconded and the Deliverance approved.

165. The Moderator conveyed the congratulations of the House as indicated in clause 2 of the Canberra Executive's Deliverance, to the Rev. Hector Harrison.

Congratulations.
Communication V (re Canberra Debt).
Closer Co-operation.

166. Communication V was laid on the table and received.

167. The Rev. C. E. Turnbull submitted the Report of the Special Committee on Closer Co-operation and moved the Deliverance:

"That the Assembly—
"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Instruct the Board of Missions to carry out the work of co-ordinating the Church's foreign mission activities in accordance with Article 7 of the Deed of Union. (Procedure and Practice I, 134-140.)

"3. Discharge the Committee."

The motion was seconded.

168. The debate was adjourned. (Min. 188.)

169. The Debate on the Deliverance of the G.A.A. Trustees was resumed. (Min. 163.)

Trustees.

170. By leave of the House the Rev. Dr. Macaulay's amendment was withdrawn.

171. By leave of the House Mr. Roland Love moved that the Assembly:

"Instruct the Law Officers to reconsider the whole matter of the Trust Deed and the question of the trust control of the property and funds of the G.A.A. and report to a future sederunt of this Assembly."
The motion was seconded and approved.

172. The debate was adjourned. (Min. 272.)

173. Mr. Roland Love submitted the Report of the Finance Committee and moved the Deliverance:

Finance.

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Approve and adopt the Statement of Accounts.

"3. Authorize assessment for General Expenses as set forth:

State	Assessment on 3-yearly basis	Assessment on 2-yearly basis
Victoria.....	400	500
New South Wales.....	350	450
Queensland.....	90	120
South Australia.....	25	25
Western Australia.....	25	25
Tasmania.....	20	20
	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/> £910	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/> £1,140

"4. Make provision for Moderatorial expenses of the Moderator at rate of £200 per annum, and fix honorarium for Clerk of Assembly £30 per Assembly, and Junior Clerk £20 per Assembly.

"5. Fix honorarium to the Editor of the Year Book at £21 per annum, and confirm the payment on behalf of the Year Book loss, namely:

1943	£24	126
1944	26	211
1945	19	98

Total £70 5 1

"6. Authorize the payment of £25 plus expenses to the General Presbyterian Alliance, Edinburgh.

"7. Authorize payment to the Treasurers of the G.A. of A. at 2 per cent, on all revenue received excepting the Capital and Income of the John Frazer Foreign Missions Endowment.

<48. Authorize payment of travelling expenses as in the Report and set forth herewith:

- (a) Those paying less than £2, nothing.
- (b) Those paying £2 to £4, one half.
- (c) Those paying from £4 upward, three-quarters.
- (d) Railway fares from South Australia, New South Wales and within Victoria to be calculated at Second Class Rail-way rates.
- (e) Members who require two or more nights in the train on the journey to Melbourne may claim a proportion calculated on First Class Railway fares.

"9. Allow delegates unable to obtain transport for return 16/- per day expenses up to four days after close of Assembly."

The Deliverance was seconded.

By leave of the House the Rev. J. W. Stewart Lang moved as an additional clause:

"10. Recommend to the consideration of the Finance Committee that for next Assembly the basis of travelling allowance be as follows:

- (a) Each member to pay the first £3 of his expenses himself.
- (b) As in (d) and (e) in the above conditions."

The amendment was seconded and approved and the clause added.

174. The Deliverance as amended was approved.

175. The Rev. Dr. Macaulay withdrew, by leave of the House, the motion of which he had given notice at an earlier sederunt:

"That the General Assembly direct the Finance Committee to consider the provision made for the expenses and clerical work of the Moderator-General and/or of his congregation, and to report to a later sederunt what is a reasonable allowance for expenses involved in the acceptance of the office of Moderator and to submit recommendations as to the best method of making such provision; and also what can be done to provide suitable clerical or office assistance and accommodation."

176. The O.D. was called for and the Debate on the Defence Forces Chaplaincy was resumed (Min. 78).

The amendment was disapproved.

Clause 2 was approved.

Clauses 3-7 were approved, as follows:

"3. Direct the Committee to prepare a Draft Constitution and Regulations for the Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee.

"4. Thank Chaplain-General A. Irving Davidson for his long and distinguished service in Chaplaincy work.

"5. Thank the loyal voluntary workers in the various States for the splendid contribution they have made and are making for the comfort and welfare of the men and women in the Services at home or overseas.

"6. Note the reference to impending changes in the positions of Chaplain-General and Staff-Chaplain and the proposed action there anent.

Motion
withdrawn by
Dr. Macaulay.

Defence Forces
Chaplaincy.

"7. Instruct the Clerks of Assembly to insert in the Blue Book a complete list of Presbyterian Chaplains of the Navy, Army and Air Force who have served in the 1939-45 war."

177. Staff-Chaplain the Rev. A. D. Marchant addressed the House.

Chaplains.

178. By leave of the House Chaplain-General the Rev. A. M. Stevenson, M.C., addressed the House.

179. Ex-Chaplain-General the Rev. A. I. Davidson addressed the House.

180. Chaplains the Rev. K. C. W. Beckett, the Rev. Frank Borland and the Rev. Reford Corr were welcomed by the Moderator and addressed the House.

181. Reference was made to the deaths on active service of Chaplains the Revs. Clive Cox and Ross Dean.

The Assembly expressed its appreciation of their services by a standing vote and instructed the Clerk to express its sympathy to their relatives.

At the Moderator's request Staff Chaplain Marchant led in prayer.

182. Senior Chaplain the Rev. A. S. Houston moved Clause 8: "Reapoint the Committee."

The motion was seconded.

183. The Business Convener raised a point of order as to whether under Rule³/₄ 127 and 158 it is competent for the Assembly to pass rules in regard to the work of the Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee.

Competency
of Proposed
Rules
Challenged.

The Moderator put the decision on the point of order to the House in terms of Standing Order 60 (3).

184. The Rev. Dr. Macaulay moved:

"That the Assembly determine that the Deed of Union does not forbid the General Assembly the exercise of powers committed to it by the consent of State Assemblies and record the fact that State Assemblies have agreed to leave the administration of the Executive work of the Chaplaincy Department to the General Assembly and its appropriate Committee."

The motion was seconded.

185. The debate was adjourned. (Min. 306.)

186. The Debate on the Defence Forces Chaplaincy was adjourned (Min. 306).

187. The Rev. Jas. McMaster submitted the Report of the Board of Missions and moved the Deliverance as follows:

Board of
Missions.

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report, thank all who have co-operated in the prosecution of its work; congratulate the State Foreign Mission Committees on the maintenance of their work during these difficult years (and especially the Foreign Mission Committee of N.S.W. on its steady advance and increased revenue; and the Missionary Council of Western Australia in its plans to raise £500 for work in India in co-operation with N.S.W.); commend the missionaries at Kunmunya and Ernabella for their diligence and loyalty; express warm sympathy with the missionaries at Kunmunya in the isolation and hardships consequent upon the wreck of the 'Watt Leggatt'; rejoice in the steady progress achieved at Ernabella, and thank all those who made that progress possible.

"2. Record its sense of great loss sustained by the Church and its missionary work through the death of the Rev. T. Watt Leggatt, and send its sympathy to his relatives.

"3. Authorize the Board of Missions to continue and extend its work of issuing missionary literature calculated to stir up interest amongst the people of the Church.

"4. Authorize the Board of Missions to issue a Prayer Fellowship for 1946, embracing all the missionary work of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

"5. Give cordial approval to the plan of the Church in Victoria to open new work in China; congratulate the four volunteers who have offered to pioneer this work, and wish them God-speed on their way.

"6. Instruct the Board to bring into full operation the provisions of Section VII of the Deed of Union.

"7. Authorize the Board of Missions to establish a Secretariat, with a full-time Secretary, appointed after consultation with the State Foreign Mission Committees.

"8. Authorize the Board of Missions, in consultation with the State Assemblies, to make such adjustments in its Budget as are required to implement the provisions of Clause 7 of this Deliverance.

"9. (a) Approve the proposal that the Assemblies of New South Wales and Western Australia be requested to undertake jointly the responsibility for the oversight of the Kunmunya Mission; and the Assemblies of Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia be asked jointly to accept responsibility for the oversight of the Ernabella Mission, (b) Empower the Board of Missions to confer with the F.M. Committees of the States concerned and, when the foregoing proposal is agreed to by the State Assemblies, to give effect thereto.

"10. Adopt the Financial Statement to 30/6/1945 as submitted, and approve the Annual Assessment and anticipated Expenditure as follows:

Expected Income	Expected Expenditure
Vic.....£1660	Grant to Queensland..... £400
N.S.W..... 1350	Salaries—
W.A..... 140	Ernabella..... £1120
S.A..... 130	Kunmunya..... 650
Tas..... 130	----- 1770
S.A. Com. .. 300	Fares, Freight and Incidentals..... 250
Donations .. 400	Kunmunya Station and Boat..... 500
	Ernabella Station and Truck..... 760
	Presbyterian Church of Victoria (keep-
	ing books)..... 50
	General Expenses..... 348
	Rev. J. N. Hey..... 32
<u>£4110</u>	<u>£4110</u>

"11. Commend the Church's missionary work to the prayerful interest and liberality of the people of the Church."

The Deliverance was seconded and approved.

Closer
Co-operation.

188. The Debate on the Deliverance of the Special Committee on Closer Co-operation in Missionary Work of the Churches within the Presbyterian Church of Australia was resumed. (Min. 168.)

Clauses 2 and 3 were seconded and approved.

The Deliverance was approved as follows:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Instruct the Board of Missions to carry out the work of co-ordinating the Church's foreign mission activities in accordance with Article 7 of the Deed of Union (Procedure and Practice I, 134-140).

"3. Thank the Committee, especially the Convener, and discharge the Committee."

Overture XIV
(re Member-
ship of the
Board).

189. Overture XIV was called for. The Revs. J. McMaster and H. C. Matthew stated the Overture. Questions were called for.

190. According to notice the Rev. J. McMaster moved that the Overture be sustained and sent down to State Assemblies and Presbyteries; that it be given interim authority; and that the Selection Committee be instructed to arrange for the appointment of the necessary members of the Board of Missions and report to a later sederunt.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Notices of
Motion.

191. Notices of Motion were read and laid on the table.

Adjoui V ment.

192. The House adjourned, to meet at 7 p.m., which having been duly intimated, the sederunt was closed with prayer.

W. D. MARSHALL,
JOHN WAUGH,
Acting Clerks.

EIGHTH SEDERUNT

At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, on Monday, the 17th day of September, 1955, at 7 p.m.

193. The General Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and, after Constitution. praise and reading of the Scripture, was constituted with prayer.

194. Notices of Motion were called for.

195. The Clerk laid the Minutes of Sederunts 4, 5, and 6 on the table, intimated the corrections, and moved that the Minutes be confirmed.

The motion was seconded and approved and the Minutes confirmed.

196. The Business Convener submitted the Order of Business for to-morrow and moved that it be approved.

The motion was seconded and approved.

197. The Rev. J. Gray Robertson submitted the Report of the A.I.M. and moved the Deliverance, clauses 1-9, as follows:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Thank all subscribers and voluntary workers for their untiring interest and sympathetic support; all patrolling ministers, nursing Sisters, welfare officers, associated resident ministers and Home Missionaries for their patient service under difficult conditions.

"3. Express its profound thanks to the Rev. R. C. Racklyeft, for his long period of service as a Member of the Board, including eleven years as its Convener.

"4. Commend to the care of Almighty God the patrolling ministers of the A.I.M. at present serving as Chaplains in the Army and Air Force.

"5. Congratulate the Y.M.C.A. on its work in the Inter-Church Club in Darwin and thank them for the care taken of the property.

"6. Approve generally the proposed Post-War Programme as outlined in the Report.

"7. Congratulate all concerned in the establishment of an additional nursing home at Leigh Creek, S.A.

"8. Welcome the extension of operations begun under the East-West Railway Mission and approve arrangements made for operations under the Inter-Church Association Incorporated.

"9. Receive the Superintendent's Report and reappoint the Very Rev. Dr. John Flynn, O.B.E., as Superintendent until next Assembly."

Clauses 1-9 were seconded and approved.

197 . By leave of the House, Mr. C. P. Hughes moved as an additional clause:

"10. Congratulate Mr. J. A. Rinder, Rev. J. R. Blanchard, the P.W.M.U., and all helpers, on the phenomenal success of their Badge Day."

The amendment was seconded and approved and the clause added.

197b. Clause 11 was moved, seconded and approved as follows:

"11. Appoint the following to constitute the Board: N.S.W.: Revs. J. Gray Robertson (Convener), Dr. John Flynn, John Waugh, D. J. Flockhart, A. S. McCook, R. C. Racklyeft, L. G. K. Blanchard, Mr. A. M. Merrington; Victoria: Revs. A. S. Houston, Coledge Harland, James Walker, E. G. Petherick, C. T. F. Goy, E. H. McLean Shugg, Dr. George Simpson, Messrs. H. M. Rolland, A. J. Lyne; Queensland: Revs. D. A. Brown, Alex Duff, Mr. A. R. Gillespie; South Australia: Revs. J. R. Blanchard, A. R. Macleod, Mr. D. B. Adam; Western Australia: Revs. Geo. Tulloch, John Aitken, Mr. E. A. Black; Tasmania: Rev. John Henderson."

The Deliverance as amended was seconded and approved.

198. Overture VIII was called for. The Rev. E. Wallace Archer stated the Overture. Questions were called for. The Rev. E. Wallace Archer moved:

Overture VIII
(re Associate
Members).

"That the Overture be sustained and Standing Order 107 amended to read as follows: 'Ministers of settled Charges and bona fide Elders, who are members of other Courts of equal standing may when present at the meeting of a Court be associated therewith.'"

The motion was seconded.

199. According to notice, Mr. G. U. Nathan moved the omission of all words after "sustained" with a view to inserting the following words: "in so far as it brings the matter before the House, and that Rule 107 be referred to the Code Committee to re-draft in the light of present requirements."

The amendment was seconded and approved.

The motion as amended was approved.

200. Notices of Motion were read and laid on the table.

201. The House adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9.45 a.m., which having been duly intimated the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

W. D. MARSHALL,

JOHN WAUGH,

Acting Clerks.

Notices of
Motion.

Adjournment.

NINTH SEDERUNT

At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, on Tuesday, the 18th day of September, 1945, at 9.45 a.m.

202. The General Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and, after praise and reading of the Scripture, was constituted with prayer. Constitution.
203. Notices of Motion were called for. Notices of Motion.
204. The House sat in private. (Min. 217.) Private Sitting.
205. The O.D. was called for and the consideration of Miss A. Todd's Appeal was resumed. (Min. 127.) Miss Todd's Appeal.
206. By leave of the House, the Business Convener moved: Limitation of Speeches.
 "That the Assembly allow movers of amendments in the Appeal of Miss Todd 10 minutes and seconders 5 minutes in which to speak."
 The motion was seconded.
- By leave of the House, the Rev. R. W. G. Crawford moved that all the words after "Assembly" be omitted, with a view to inserting the following words: "disallow the time limit for speeches and give the Moderator full discretionary power in the matter."
 The amendment was seconded and approved.
 The motion as amended was approved.
207. According to notice, the Rev. Geo. Tulloch moved:
 "That the Assembly—
 "1. Sustain the Appeal.
 "2. Instruct the Presbytery of Melbourne East to take action as early as possible for the hearing of the case in accordance with the strict rules of discipline."
 Clause 1 was seconded.
208. On a point of order the Moderator ruled that the members of the Tasmanian and South Australian Assemblies may vote on the Appeal. Ruling.
209. By leave of the House, the Rev. E. H. Vines moved that the Moderator's ruling be disagreed with.
 The motion was seconded and disapproved.
 The ruling of the Moderator was upheld.
210. Clause 1 was approved and the Appeal sustained.
211. By leave of the House, the Rev. A. R. Mcvittie withdrew the motion of which he had given notice, as follows: Motion withdrawn by Rev. A. R. Mcvittie.
 "That in view of the fact that the conciliatory methods adopted by this Assembly went far toward a settlement of the case, this Assembly resolve to withhold its judgment meantime, and instruct the Assembly of the Church of Victoria to adopt such conciliatory methods as may conduce to an amicable settlement between the parties in the case and report to next Assembly."
212. Clause 2 was moved and seconded.
213. According to notice, the Rev. J. C. Milliken moved the omission of clause 2 with a view to inserting these words:
 "Send back the case of Miss Amy Blanch Todd to the Presbytery of Melbourne East, through the State Assembly of Victoria, with instructions to hear and determine the matter according to the laws of the Church."
 The motion was seconded and approved.
214. The motion as amended was approved.
215. The Moderator conveyed the decision of the House to the parties.
216. The parties were removed from the Bar.
217. The House resumed in public. (Min. 204.)
218. By leave of the House, the Rev. A. M. Clark submitted the Report of the Beneficiary Fund Committee and moved the Deliverance in the following form: Beneficiary Fund.

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Instruct the Committee to confer with the Committees in the States and report on objections raised by State Assemblies to the scheme tentatively adopted in 1926.

"3. Instruct State Assemblies which have not yet reported, to carry out the instruction in Minute 81, clause 4, G.A.A., 1939.

"4. Remit to the Beneficiary Fund Committee the duties entrusted to the Special Committee in 1939 and discharge the Special Committee.

"5. Reappoint the Committee as follows: The Revs. A. M. Clark (Convener), James Jones, W. Huey Steele, J. Priestley, V. Clark-Duff, D. J. Flockhart, Sydney Richardson, Alex Duff, R. S. Byrnes, D. Chapman, T. Gibson; Messrs. A. G. Proudfoot, G. D. McKinnon, J. W. Collings, W. H. Thompson, G. Roland Love, A. W. Sneddon, G. Johnston, W. J. Angus, L. P. Morris, E. A. Black and J. T. H. Bolle."

The Deliverance was seconded and approved.

219. Communication VIII was laid on the table and received.

By leave of the House, the Business Convener moved:

"That the Assembly accept the invitation with pleasure and defer further consideration until the next meeting of the Assembly."

The motion was seconded and approved.

220. The consideration of the Christian Unity Deliverance was resumed. (Min. 113.)

221. According to notice, the Rev. E. Wallace Archer moved the suspension of the Standing Orders to permit of the re-committal of clause 5, with a view to substituting therefor the following words, namely:

"Agree to enter into Federal Union with the Methodist and Congregational Churches if and when a plan of union has, after due process, in accordance with the Church's law and practice, been accepted by the Church."

The motion was seconded.

The Moderator intimated that in his opinion the matter had been sufficiently discussed.

It was moved, seconded, and approved "that the question be now put."

280.> The motion was approved and the Standing Orders suspended. (Min.

222. The debate was adjourned. (Min. 278.)

223. It was moved, seconded and approved that the debate be resumed after the O.D. for 2 p.m.

Sympathy. 224. By leave of the House, the Business Convener moved:

"That the Assembly express its deep sympathy with Mr. David Steel, and with his wife and the members of their family, in the loss of his son."

The motion was seconded and approved by a standing vote.

Immigration. 225. The O.D. was called for and the debate on Immigration was resumed. (Min. 148.)

Clauses 1 and 2 were approved.

226. By leave of the House, the Convener submitted in place of clause 3, the following new clauses:

"3. Empower the minister of St. Andrew's, Canberra, on behalf of this Committee, to wait upon the Minister in Canberra to ascertain from him the Policy of the Government in regard to suitable immigrants and to discuss generally any matters related to immigration, and report to this Committee.

"4. Recommend the Children's Homes of our Church seriously to consider the possibility of extending accommodation with a view to accepting child immigrants.

"5. Empower the Victorian members of this Committee of the G.A.A. as the Executive to deal with immediate and all other problems related to Immigration.

Communication VIII (re Queensland Centenary).

Christian Unity.

S.O. Suspended.

Sympathy.

Immigration.

"6. Continue its sympathetic co-operation with V.I.R.E.C."

The Moderator welcomed Professor Emeritus H. A. Woodruff, who addressed the House and was thanked by the Moderator. Prof. H. A. Woodruff.

The motion was seconded and the clauses approved.

Clause 7 was moved, seconded and approved as follows:

"7. Instruct the Committee to frame an active Immigration Policy ensuring a steady flow of immigrants, including an adequately high percentage of British stock."

Clause 8 was moved, seconded and approved as follows:

"8. Recommend to the Commonwealth Government the renewal of the family immigration scheme of assisted passages from Great Britain."

227. According to notice, the Rev. A. R. Mcvittie moved as an additional clause:

"9. Declare itself in favour of a quota system whereby Asiatic Nationals may be permitted to enter Australia as acceptable immigrants, and that the resolution be forwarded to the Minister for the Interior."

The amendment was seconded.

228. The debate was adjourned. (Min. 232.)

229. Overture I was called for.

By leave of the House, the Rev. W. A. Fraser stated the Overture in conjunction with the Rev. R. W. Stephens. Overture I
(re Immigration).

Questions were called for.

230. By leave of the House, the Rev. R. W. Stephens moved as follows:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Sustain the Overture.

"2. Furthermore, declare that first priority in Immigration should be extended to the nationals of those countries who were allied in the struggle against Nazi, Fascist or Japanese aggression, and forward this declaration to the Federal Government."

By leave of the House, the Rev. J. C. Milliken moved the omission of all words after "Overture" with a view to inserting the following words: "remit it to the Committee on Immigration."

The amendment was seconded and approved.

231. The motion as amended was approved.

232. The debate on Immigration was resumed. (Min. 228.) Immigration.

233. The amendment was approved and the clause added.

234. By leave of the House, the Rev. R. W. Stephens moved as an additional clause:

"10. Declare that first priority in Immigration should be extended to the nationals of those countries which were allied in the struggle against Nazi, Fascist or Japanese aggression, and forward this declaration to the Federal Government."

The amendment was seconded.

235. The Moderator intimated that in his opinion the question had been sufficiently discussed.

It was moved, seconded and approved "that the question be now put."

236. The amendment was approved.

237. Clauses 11 and 12 were moved, seconded and approved as follows:

"11. That an important feature of the Immigration Policy be, that, alien immigrants should be absorbed as soon as possible into the Australian way of life and not permitted to form alien communities.

"12. Assure the Government that this Assembly is prepared to co-operate by continued contact with the Presbyterian Churches of Great Britain and with the Reformed Churches of Europe."

238. The Deliverance as amended was approved as follows:

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Appoint the following Committee: Revs. J. P. Chalinor (Convener), A. R. Barnett, M. Tremewan, E. H. McL. Shugg, R. W. Stephens, W. Maclean, F. Spencer, J. Adamson, G. Tulloch, A. J. C. Tebbitt, A. E. Brice, Hector Harrison, A. R. McVittie, L. J. Schmidt, A. Duff, R. V. Macleod, R. V. Merritt, J. C. Milliken, D. A. Brown, H. S. Bunn, and Messrs. R. Bracks, R. C. Purdie, J. Downes, R. Byrnes, N. F. Nelson, A. R. Campbell, with power to add.

"3. Empower the Minister of St. Andrew's, Canberra, on behalf of this Committee, to wait upon the Minister in Canberra to ascertain from him the Policy of the Government in regard to suitable immigrants and to discuss generally any matters related to immigration, and report to this Committee.

"4. Recommend the Children's Homes of our Church seriously to consider the possibility of extending accommodation with a view to accepting child immigrants.

"5. Empower the Victorian members of this Committee of the G.A.A. as the Executive to deal with immediate and all other problems related to Immigration.

"6. Continue its sympathetic co-operation with V.I.R.E.C.

"7. Instruct the Committee to frame an active Immigration Policy ensuring a steady flow of immigrants, including an adequately high percentage of British stock.

"8. Recommend to the Commonwealth Government the renewal of the family immigration scheme of assisted passages from Great Britain,

"9. Declare itself in favour of a quota system whereby Asiatic nationals may be permitted to enter Australia as acceptable immigrants, and that the resolution be forwarded to the Minister for the Interior,

"10. Declare that first priority in Immigration should be extended to the nationals of those countries which were allied in the struggle against Nazi, Fascist or Japanese aggression, and forward this declaration to the Federal Government.

"11. Declare that an important feature of the Immigration Policy be, that, alien immigrants should be absorbed as soon as possible into the Australian way of life and not permitted to form alien communities.

"12. Assure the Government that this Assembly is prepared to co-operate by continued contact with the Presbyterian Churches of Great Britain and with the Reformed Churches of Europe."

Communication X (re V.I.R.E.C.).

239. Communication X (from the President of V.I.R.E.C.) was laid on the table.

240. According to notice, the Rev. Dr. Macaulay moved:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Communication.

"2. Record its stern disapproval of anti-Semitic and all anti-alien movements and propaganda.

"3. Invite State Assemblies and Presbyteries and all ministers and missionaries to use their best efforts to promote goodwill and mutual understanding between all sections of the community, and in particular to encourage patient and generous treatment of refugee immigrants.

"4. Support the proposal of V.I.R.E.C. that the Federal Government make provision for the admission to Australia of a certain limited number of 'displaced persons' from Europe."

The motion was seconded and approved.

Communication IX (re Child Migration).

241. Communication IX was laid on the table and received.

By leave of the House, the Rev. J. Armour moved:

"That the Assembly refer the Communication to the Immigration and Social Services Committees."

The motion was seconded and approved.

242. By leave of the House, the Business Convener moved that the Christian Unity Deliverance be) an O.D. for 11 a.m. to-morrow.

The motion was seconded and approved.

243. The Rev. L. O. C. White submitted the Report of the Selection Committee and moved: Selection Committee.

"That the Assembly receive the Report."

244. The motion was seconded and approved.

244 . The O.D. was called for and the Ballot was taken at 4.45 p.m. Ballot.

245. It was moved, seconded and approved that the method of voting be by striking out the names that are not required.

246. The Ballot was declared closed.

247. Notices of motion were read and laid on the table. Notices of Motion.

248. The House adjourned to meet at 7 p.m., which having been duly intimated the sederunt was closed with prayer. Adjournment.

W. D. MARSHALL,
JOHN WAUGH,
Acting Clerks.

TENTH SEDERUNT

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, on
Tuesday, the 18th day of September, 191₇, at 7 p.m.*

- Constitution. 249. The General Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and, after praise and reading of the Scripture, was constituted with prayer.
- Notices of Motion. 250. Notices of Motion were called for.
- Minutes. 251. The Clerk laid on the table the Minutes of Sederunts 7 and 8, intimated the corrections, and moved that the Minutes be confirmed.
The motion was seconded and approved.
- Business. 252. The Business Convener submitted the Orders of the Day for to-morrow and moved that they be approved.
The motion was seconded and approved.
- Public Questions. 253. The Rev. R. Maidment submitted the report on Public Questions and moved the Deliverance:
"That the Assembly—
"1. Receive the report.
"2. Express thanks to Almighty God for making victory possible, and pledge itself to seek first God's Will in the coming world community."
Clauses 1 and 2 were seconded and approved.
Clause 3 was moved and seconded as follows:
"3. Whilst not desiring to return to Sabbatarianism, call the attention of the Church to its duty to society, to the need for vigilance in resisting the attempts to break down the legislation which sets a bound to the commercialization of the Lord's Day."
254. The Rev. Robt. Campbell moved as an amendment the omission of the words, "call . . . society" with a view to inserting these words:
"Call upon all its people to observe the Lord's Day as a day of worship and service, and call the attention of its people to their duty to society."
The amendment was seconded, and disapproved.
Clause 3 was approved.
Clause 4 was moved and seconded and approved in the following form:
"4. Request the Governments of the Commonwealth and of the States to institute Royal Commissions to enquire into the operations of the Liquor Trade, especially in regard to its political, social and economic aspects."
255. Communication IV was laid on the table and received.
By leave of the House clause 5 was moved, seconded and approved as follows:
"5. Approve the recommendation to appoint a National Temperance Committee and appoint the Committee as follows: N.S.W., Rev. S. A. Eastman, A. Trafford Walker; Victoria, Hon. W. F. Finlayson, Rev. J. E. Smith; Western Australia, Rev. George Tulloch, D. M. Baird; Queensland, Rev. A. C. Kennedy, W. H. Jack; South Australia, Rev. J. R. Blanchard, Mr. Howard E. Zelling; Tasmania, Rev. L. O. C. White, A. R. Barnett. Convener, Hon. W. F. Finlayson."
Clauses 6, 7 and 8 were moved and seconded and approved as follows:
"6. Instruct the Committee to examine and report on ways and means whereby greater use can be made for the witness of the Presbyterian Church over the air.
"7. Instruct the Committee to inquire into the best means whereby the Presbyterian Church can make its voice heard on public questions of importance.
"8. Re-appoint the Committee with power to add, with Rev. R. Maidment as Convener."
256. The Deliverance as a whole was approved as follows:
"That the Assembly—
"1. Receive the Report.
- Communication IV (re Temperance).

"2. Express thanks to Almighty God for making victory possible; and pledge itself to seek first God's will in the coming world community.

"3. Whilst not desiring to return to Sabbatarianism, call the attention of the Church to its duty to Society, to the need for vigilance in resisting the attempts to break down the legislation which sets a bound to the commercialization of the Lord's Day.

"41. Request the Governments of the Commonwealth and the States to institute Royal Commissions to enquire into the operations of the Liquor Trade, especially in regard to its political, social and economic aspects.

"5. Approve the recommendation to appoint a National Temperance Committee and appoint the Committee as follows: N.S.W.: Rev. S. A. Eastman, A. Trafford Walker; Victoria: Hon. W. F. Finlayson, Rev. J. E. Smith; Western Australia: Rev. George Tulloch, D. M. Baird; Queensland: Rev. A. C. Kennedy, W. H. Jack; South Australia: Rev. J. R. Blanchard, Mr. Howard E. Zelling; Tasmania: Rev. L. O. C. White, A. R. Barnett. Convener, Hon. W. F. Finlayson.

"6. Instruct the Committee to examine and report on ways and means whereby greater use can be made for the witness of the Presbyterian Church over the air.

"7. Instruct the Committee to inquire into the best means whereby the Presbyterian Church can make its voice heard on public questions of importance.

"8. Reappoint the Committee, with power to add; with Rev. R. Maidment as Convener."

257. According to notice, the Rev. Dr. Macaulay moved:

U.N.A.

"That the Assembly—

"1. Record its satisfaction with the long and faithful service of the Australian League of Nations Union in its efforts to promote international goodwill and peace and to ensure protection for the victims of greed and lust.

"2. Congratulate it on beginning a new career as the United Nations Association.

"3. Affirm cordial approval of the aims of the U.N.A. and agree to apply for membership as a corporate member of the Federal Organization.

"4. Instruct the Finance Committee to pay annually to the Federal Treasurer of the United Nations Association the subscription to which full members are liable.

"5. Appoint the Rev. Dr. R. W. Macaulay its representative to the U.N.A."

The motion was seconded and approved.

258. Communication XIV, from Senator Cameron, anent Commercial Radio Clubs, was laid on the table and received. The Business Convener moved:

Communication XIV (re Commercial Radio Clubs).

"That the Assembly—

"1. Appoint the Rev. A. T. McNaughton to represent this Assembly at the Conference on October 15.

"2. Express warm appreciation of the Children's Hour as broadcast by the Australian Broadcasting Commission in the various States, and also of the School Sessions and other broadcasts for children."

The motion was seconded and approved.

259. The Rev. Vernon McKeown submitted the Report of the Year Book Committee and moved the Deliverance as follows:

Year Book.

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report and thank the Committee.

"2. Confirm the appointment of the Rev. E. C. Day, B.A., B.D., as Editor; congratulate him upon the excellent work he has done in this position in the past two years; and appoint him Editor.

"3. Continue the arrangement for publication of the Year Book by the Board of Religious Education."

Social
Services.

The motion was seconded and the Deliverance approved.

260. The Rev. T. McDougall submitted the Report of the Social Services Committee and moved the Deliverance:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Express its thanks for the increase in the social work of the Church and thank all who have assisted."

Clauses 1 and 2 were seconded and approved.

261. According to notice, the Rev. A. R. Mcvittie moved as an additional clause:

"3. Having regard to the need for the adequate hospitalization of returned service men and women, resolve to urge the Federal Government, through the appropriate authority, to undertake immediately a programme whereby Base Repatriation Hospital units will be established in both city and country areas throughout the Commonwealth for the treatment of returned personnel in need of medical care." The motion was seconded and approved and the clause added.

262. According to notice, the Rev. P. L. Forster moved as an additional clause:

"4. Because of the rapid and far-reaching changes taking place in social service work, and the deeper entry by the States and Commonwealth Governments, and because of the urgent necessity of a closer relationship between our Churches and the State in order to insure a more profitable contribution of Church to State and vice versa, proceed to set up a strong and active Social Service Committee comprised of representatives of such States as have social services. Such Committee to meet through an Executive at regular periods to consider any matter of common concern to all the States, make representation and tender advice and suggestions to the Government on social services. Any expense involved to be born proportionally by the Social Service Institutions."

263. The debate on the motion was adjourned. (Min. 339.)

Visual
Education.

264. By leave of the House and according to notice, the Rev. C. T. F. Goy moved as a substantive] motion (Min. 137):

"That the Assembly—

"1. Learn with approval of the development of religious films in Australia and of the action taken by the Victorian Visual Education Department for the formation of an interdenominational and Australia-wide Religious Film Society, and commend the Society to the people of the Church as worthy of their most cordial and generous support.

"2. Appoint a Visual Education Committee consisting of a Convener and two representatives from New South Wales and Victoria respectively, one each from Queensland, Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia respectively, and two representatives from the Board of Religious Education to co-ordinate the work of Visual Education in the respective States, to foster the use of visual aids for religious purposes and maintain an effective contact with similar committees of other denominations in Australia and Visual Education Organizations overseas.

"3. Appoint the following: Rev. C. T. F. Goy (Convener); N.S.W.: Rev. Dr. John Flynn, Mr. H. W. Mason; Victoria: Revs. J. P. Hamilton, Hamilton Aikin; Queensland: Mr. N. F. Nelson; South Australia: Rev. J. R. Blanchard; Tasmania: Rev. L. O. C. White; Western Australia: Mr. Don Moore; and two representatives from the Board of Religious Education."

The motion was seconded and approved.

Notices of
Motion.

265. Notices of Motion were read and laid on the table.

Adjournment.

266. The House adjourned to meet at 9.45 a.m. on Wednesday, the 19th September, which having been duly intimated the sederunt was closed with prayer.

W. D. MARSHALL,
JOHN WAUGH,
Acting Clerks.

ELEVENTH SEDERUNT

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, on
Wednesday, the 19th day of September, 1945, at 9.45 a.m.*

The General Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and, after praise and reading of the Scripture, was constituted with prayer. Constitution.

267. Notices of Motion were called for. Notices of Motion.

268. The Rev. T. Gibson submitted the Report of the Committee on the Ballot, and moved: Ballot.

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Confirm the elections.

"3. Thank and discharge the Committee."

The motion was seconded and approved.

269. Overture XII was called for. The Rev. A. R. McVittie stated the Overture. Questions were called for. The Rev. A. R. McVittie moved: Overture XII
(re Nominating the Moderator-General).

"That the Assembly—

"Sustain the Overture and send it down to Presbyteries and State Assemblies for consideration, and report to next Assembly."

The motion was seconded and approved.

270. Overture XIII was called for. The Rev. F. Hanlin formally stated the Overture. Questions were called for. The Rev. F. Hanlin moved: Overture XIII
(re Election of Moderator-General).

"That the Overture be sustained and sent down to Presbyteries and State Assemblies for consideration, and report to next Assembly."

The motion was seconded and approved.

271. By leave of the House, the Rev. J. R. Blanchard withdrew the first clause of his Notice of Motion as follows:

"Sustain the Overture in so far as it raises the matter: and appoint a Special Committee with power to co-opt, to investigate the whole question of the method of nominating the Moderator-General."

272. The debate on the Deliverance of the G.A.A. Trustees was resumed. (Min. 172.) Trustees.

273. The Report of the Law Officers was laid on the table and received.

274. Clause 2 was moved, seconded and approved as follows:

"Accept the resignation of the Trustees."

275. By leave of the House, clause 3 was moved, seconded and approved as follows:

"Approve of the recommendations of the Law Officers as follows:

"1. That the present Trustees, other than Mr. J. R. B. Campbell, (it is reported) being prepared to continue to act at least for a time so as to provide for continuity, the necessary reappointments be made by the Assembly with the substitution of the Rev. John Waugh for Mr. Campbell as a Trustee, and that Mr. Campbell be cordially thanked by the Assembly for his faithful services in the matter.

"2. That if and when suitable new Trustees are, in the opinion of the Moderator, available in Victoria or the Australian Capital Territory, should the Trustees in their discretion be still desirous of retiring, arrangements be made for the matter to be dealt with under the appropriate provisions of the Trust Deed to secure the appointment of the new Trustees.

"3. That the Trustees be excused from any obligation to administer the whole or any part of the existing property and funds specified in the Schedule to the Trust Deed until the Assembly so directs.

"4. That the Trustees be excused from any obligation to administer property and funds in Queensland and Western Australia until the Assembly so directs.

"5. Pending the directions mentioned in paragraphs 3 and 4 herein the Assembly requests the Corporate Bodies representing the Presbyterian Church in Queensland and Western Australia to act as agents for the Trustees in the administration of any property or funds in those States.

"6. That for the purposes of the Trust Deed the Moderator for the time being shall be deemed to be the official Head or Representative of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

"7. Following paragraph 1, that Messrs. John Downes, George Roland Love, David James Mackay Sim, Nathaniel Chivas and the Rev. John Waugh be and are hereby approved as Trustees under the Trust Deed?"

276. Clause 4 was moved, seconded and approved as follows:

"Appoint the Rev. John Waugh, Messrs. John Downes, George Roland Love, David James Mackay Sim and Nathaniel Chivas as Trustees."

277. The Deliverance as a whole was approved, as in Mins. 162, 274-276.

278. The consideration of the Christian Unity Deliverance was resumed. (Min. 222.)

279. By leave of the House, the Rev. E. Wallace Archer withdrew his motion on clause 5. (Min. 221.)

280. Standing Orders were resumed. (Min. 221.)

281. By leave of the House, the Rev. A. C. Watson moved clause 8 as follows:

"Appoint the Committees on Christian Unity of the State Assemblies as the Christian Unity Committee of the General Assembly, the Victorian Committee to be the Executive, Rev. C. T. F. Goy, Convener, and the Rev. W. A. Alston, Vice-Convener."

The motion was seconded and the clause approved.

282. The Deliverance as a whole was approved as follows:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Welcome the proposal to form a World Council of Churches (Australian Section) modelled on the constitution of the British Council of Churches, and acting in harmony with the World Council of Churches, now in process of formation; approve generally the draft Constitution hereunder appended, and agree that the Presbyterian Church of Australia become a constituent member.

"3. Instruct the Christian Unity Committee to appoint representatives to the World Council of Churches (Australian Section).

"4. Authorize the Finance Committee to pay preliminary expenses up to £20 per annum. In the event of a full-time secretariat being established, authorize the Finance Committee to make arrangements for the provision of the Presbyterian quota."

The motion was seconded and approved.

"5. Agree to enter into Federal Union with the Methodist and Congregational Churches on terms to be agreed upon by the three Churches. (Min. 285.)

"6. Affirm Federal Union as a step towards corporate union with the Congregational and Methodist Churches. (Min. 285.)

"7. Appoint representatives to a Joint Committee of the three Churches for the purpose of preparing a plan of Federal Union, approved by these representatives; instruct the representatives to submit this plan to the Christian Unity Committee, which is hereby authorized to forward it, with any suggested amendments, to State Assemblies and Presbyteries for consideration and report, through the Committee, to the next Assembly.

"8. Appoint the Committees on Christian Unity of the State Assemblies as the Christian Unity Committee of the General Assembly, the Victorian Committee to be the Executive. The Rev. C. T. F. Goy to be Convener, and the Rev. W. A. Alston, Vice-Convener.

(Appendix)

THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

(Australian Section)

A Suggested Constitution

1. Name

The name of this organization shall be "The World Council of Churches" (Australian Section).

2. Functions

The functions of this Council shall be:

1. To establish and maintain close relations with the World Council of Churches.
2. To assist the growth of ecumenical consciousness in the members of all Churches, and generally to promote Christian Unity.
3. To act as a distributing centre of all the available literature on the Ecumenical Movement, and generally to increase the contact of Australia with Church thought and action in other countries.
4. To promote co-operation and the study of existing differences in such a spirit that the underlying unity may become clearer.
5. To facilitate common action by the Churches within the Commonwealth of Australia on all matters where there is agreement, or the possibility of agreement.
6. To arrange Commissions as may be necessary, to study and report to the Council on matters coming under the heading of "Faith and Order" and "Life and Work."
7. To establish a Regional Committee in each State, and to co-ordinate their work.
8. To call national conferences on specific subjects as occasion may require.
9. To arrange the representation of the constituent Churches in the Australian Section of the World Council of Churches at International Conferences.

3. Membership

The following constitute the Section: The Church of England, the Presbyterian Church, the Methodist Church, the Baptist Union of Australia, the Congregational Union of Australia, the Australian Churches of Christ, the Salvation Army, and the Society of Friends.

Members shall be appointed by their Churches as follows: Church of England, 20; Presbyterian, 9; Methodist, 9; Baptist, 4; Congregational, 4; Churches of Christ, 4; Salvation Army, 4; and Society of Friends, 2. The Council shall be empowered to co-opt additional members.

Each constituent Church shall have the right to appoint alternates on the basis of 25 per cent, of their representation, and these alternates may attend the meetings of the Council in place of absentee members and shall be entitled to receive copies of the Minutes of the meeting of the Council.

4. Organization

1. The Council shall be constituted as under "Membership." The Office-bearers shall be the President, 5 Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and these, together with 8 elected members, shall form the Executive. The location of the Executive, the frequency of its meetings and the method of financing the work of the Council shall be decided by the Council. The Executive shall carry out the decisions of the Council, and also institute and prepare business for the Council.

2. The office of Chairman shall be held for not more than 2 years consecutively. The office of Vice-Chairman shall not be held for more than one year consecutively. If neither Chairman nor Vice-Chairman is resident at the centre where the Executive is located, the Executive shall appoint its own Chairman.

3. The Council shall meet at least once a year.

4. Fifty per cent, of Members shall constitute a quorum for the Council and the Executive.

5. Authority

The Council shall advise, provide opportunity of united action, and take action on behalf of constituent Churches, where that authority is committed to it. It may not legislate for the Churches, nor may it act for them except in ways specified.

6. Finance

Financial contributions shall be on the proportional basis of membership of the Council.

7. Amendments

Amendments to the Constitution shall be made at general or special meetings of the Council, and on a majority of at least two-thirds of members present and voting. Proposed amendments shall be received by the Secretary at least three weeks before the date of such meeting, and shall be signed by the member proposing the amendment. Before amendments to clauses 1 to 6 are finally adopted, they shall be ratified by the constituent Churches.

Dissent
Recorded.

283. The Rev. E. Wallace Archer and others recorded their dissent on the following grounds:

"We, the undersigned, crave leave to dissent from clauses 5, 6 and 7 of the Christian Unity Deliverance on the following grounds:

The decision embodied, in clauses 5, 6 and 7

- (1) shows a misconception of the character of the true unity of the Church as a spiritual entity and allows undue importance to mere organization;
- (2) approves a course of action to which many ministers and others in the Church are conscientiously opposed as not in the best interests of the Kingdom of God, and which they will therefore feel obliged to continue to resist;
- (3) makes controversy, strife, and division within our Church inevitable;
- (4) represents a turning aside from our historic position as a Reformed Church, and from our sister Churches of the Reformation, to seek an unnatural union with bodies between whom and our Church there are profound differences in ethos, theology, conception of the Church and Ministry, and government;
- (5) will tend to the disintegration of the world-wide Presbyterian Communion and the weakening of its influence;
- (6) opens the way for the creation of a new ecclesiastical body in Australia in which the distinctive Presbyterian heritage and witness must inevitably be first diluted and then lost;
- (7) displays provincialism of outlook in a failure to appreciate the spiritual possibilities of the expression of unity through the Ecumenical Movement, and the World Council of Churches;
- (8) will hinder the operations of the Australian Section of the World Council of Churches by weakening through controversy the unity of spirit which is its necessary basis;

E. Wallace Archer, F. Maxwell Bradshaw, Samuel Hanna, John P. Chaliner, Robert M. Herriman, Laurence O. C. White, Louis J. Schmidt, Hector McDonald, David Bain, E. W. S. Bishop, Geo. Cowie, Walter Harrison, Robert L. White, George Tulloch, T. Gibson, A. C. Weber, E. N. Black, Robt. Bracks, J. B. Allison, R. J. Williams, J. Munro Ford, G. F. Buckley, R. W. Stephens, W. D. Marshall."

284. By leave of the House, Mr. G. U. Nathan moved that the Revs. A. Watson and Dr. R. W. Macaulay be appointed to answer the reasons for dissent. (Min. 337.)

The motion was seconded and approved.

Declaration
re Resolutions
on Federal
Union.

285. According to notice, the Rev. E. Wallace Archer moved:

"That the Assembly declare that the resolutions anent Federal Union (Min. 282) are to be interpreted to mean that the Presbyterian Church of Australia is committed to such union with the Methodist and Congregational Churches only when a plan of union, agreed upon by the representatives of the three Churches, has, after due process in accordance with the Church's law and practice, been accepted by the Church."

The motion was seconded.

286. The Moderator ruled that the motion was incompetent.

Moderator's
Ruling
Challenged.

287. The Rev. T. McDougall moved that the Moderator's ruling be disagreed with.

The motion was seconded and approved.

288. By leave of the House, the Rev. Harold Perkins moved as an amendment the omission of the word "only."

The amendment was seconded and disapproved.

The motion was approved.

289. According to notice, the Rev. Geo. Tulloch moved:

World
Communion
Services.

"That the Assembly—

"1. Commend to all our ministers and congregations the World Communion Services, to be held on Sunday, October 7th—World Communion Sunday—under the auspices of the World Council of Churches.

"2. Request all congregations to arrange such services on the above date, where possible, as a mark of World Christian Unity."

The motion was seconded and approved.

290. Communication XIII was laid on the table. According to notice, the Rev. T. McDougall moved:

Communica-
tion XIII.

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Communication.

"2. Express its sympathy with the Churches of Europe in their present sore distresses.

"3. Express its willingness to act in association with the World Council of Churches (Australian Section) in alleviating those distresses.

"4. Instruct its representatives on the World Council of Churches (Australian Section) to act accordingly."

The motion was seconded and approved.

291. By leave of the House and according to notice, the Rev. Sydney Richardson moved:

Law Officers
(re Deed of
Union).

"That the Assembly instruct the Law Officers to draft the necessary amendments to the Deed of Union and Articles of Agreement so as to give the G.A. of A. the necessary power to legislate as regards Immigration, Chaplaincy, Canberra, Jewish Mission, Fire Insurance, Temperance Council, and others not expressly provided for, and submit them in the form of Overtures, through the Code Committee, to the next Assembly."

The motion was seconded and approved.

292. According to notice, the Rev. Sydney Richardson moved:

Committees
to Continue.

"That the Assembly approve of those of its existing Committees on such matters as are outside the scope of the Deed of Union and Articles of Agreement continuing to function until the next General Assembly of Australia."

The motion was seconded and approved.

292 . Overture X was called for.

The Rev. T. McDougall stated the Overture.

Overture X
(re Reception
of Ministers).

Questions were called for.

The Rev. T. McDougall moved that the Overture be received and remitted to the Committee for further consideration and report to next Assembly.

The motion was seconded and approved.

293. Petition I was called for.

The Rev. Harold Perkins stated the Petition.

Petition I
(re IVlr G o
McLean).

Questions were called for.

According to notice the Rev. H. Perkins moved:

"That the prayer of the Petition be granted as a special case in so far that the Presbytery of Wagga Wagga be authorized to take Mr. George McLean on trials for licence when he has completed a Reading Course to be prescribed by the College Committee covering the subjects of the Exit Examination without languages."

The motion was seconded and approved.

Overture IV
(re Women
and the
Ministry).

294. Overture IV was called for.

The Rev. Principal Maclean and, by leave of the House the Rev. J. M. Young, stated the Overture.

Questions were called for.

The Rev. Principal Maclean moved:

"That the General Assembly—

"1. Sustain the Overture in so far as it brings the matter before the Assembly.

"2. Remit the Overture to the College Committee with instructions:

- (i) To inquire into the attitude of other Presbyterian Churches to the admission of women to the ministry.
- (ii) To draw up a statement of the considerations for and against the proposal.
- (iii) To report with a recommendation, if possible, to the next General Assembly."

The motion was seconded.

The Rev. F. Hanlin moved the omission of all the words after "Assembly" in clause 1 with a view to inserting the following words:

"2. Affirm the principle that women shall be eligible as candidates for the ministry.

"3. Refer the Overture to the Code Committee to consider any changes that may be required in the codes and to remit the matter to State Assemblies and Presbyteries for report to next Assembly."

The amendment was seconded and approved.

295. The motion as amended was approved.

296. Overture XI was called for.

Parties were called to the Bar. The Rev. E. H. McLean Shugg and the Rev. Principal H. Maclean stated the Overture.

Questions were called for.

Pursuant to notice the Rev. E. H. McLean Shugg moved:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Sustain the Overture.

"2. Affirm the principle that the standards of training and status of women workers in the Church should be uniform throughout Australia.

"3. Agree to appoint a Committee to prepare the necessary policy and regulations, and submit them to the next meeting of the General Assembly: the members of the Committee to be—the Revs. Principal Maclean, J. E. Owen, E. H. McLean Shugg, Colin Dyster, E. H. Vines, J. Faulkner, R. Maidment, T. G. Allan, Miss Ritchie (Principal of Rolland House), Miss G. H. Holmes, Mrs. Sinclair, with power to add; Con- vener—Rev. E. H. McLean Shugg."

The motion was seconded and approved.

297. Overture V was called for.

The Rev. A. C. Watson and the Rev. P. L. Forster stated the Overture.

Questions were called for.

298. Communication I was laid on the table and received.

299. According to notice and on behalf of the Rev. H. D. Mackie the Rev. T. McDougall moved:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Sustain the Overture in so far as it brings the question before the House.

"2. Though it has not been the practice to elect women to the eldership, declare there is nothing contrary to Presbyterian principle in so doing."

The motion was seconded.

300. By leave of the House the Rev. F. Hanlin withdrew the second clause of the motion of which he had given notice as follows:

"2. Affirm the principle that women shall be eligible for election and ordination to the eldership."

Overture XI
(re Standards
of Training
for Women
Workers).

Overture V.
(re Women
and the
Eldership).

Communica-
tion I.

301. By leave of the House Mr. H. R. Balfour moved the omission of Clause 2 with a view to inserting the words: "Affirm the principle that women are eligible for election and ordination to the eldership."

By leave of the House the Rev. T. McDougall accepted the proposed V(ords, which were inserted.

Clause 2 as altered was approved.

According to notice the Rev. F. Hanlin moved an additional Clause 3:

"3. Refer the Overture to the Code Committee to consider any changes that may be required in the Codes and to remit the matter to State Assemblies and Presbyteries for report to the next Assembly."

The amendment was seconded and approved.

302. The motion as amended was approved.

303. Overture IX was called for.

The Revs. Geo. Tulloch and R. M. Herriman stated the Overture. Questions were called for.

The Rev. Geo. Tulloch moved:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Sustain the Overture in so far as it brings the matter before the House.

"2. Remit the question to the Code Committee for consideration, and report to next Assembly."

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

304. It was moved by Mr. G. U. Nathan that the Overture be dismissed. This was seconded and approved.

305. Communication II was submitted by the Business Convener, who moved:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Communication.

"2. Note the information therein."

The motion was seconded and approved.

306. Consideration of Defence Forces Chaplaincy Deliverance was resumed. (Mins. 185 and 186.)

307. The Procurator moved the omission of all words after "Assembly" with a view to inserting these words: "uphold the point of order."

The amendment was seconded and approved and the words inserted.

The motion as amended was approved.

308. The Business Convener's point of order (Min. 183) was upheld.

309. The Business Convener moved:

"That the Assembly, in view of Minutes 291, 292, approve of the appointment of the Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee and the continuance of its work as hitherto."

The motion was seconded and approved.

310. Clause 8 was moved and seconded, and approved as follows:

"8. Reappoint the Committee with the Rev. A. S. Houston as Convener."

311. The Deliverance as amended (Mins. 76, 176, and 310) was approved.

312. Communication III was laid on the table and received.

313. By leave of the House, Communication VII was withdrawn.

314. The House adjourned to meet at 7 p.m., which having been duly intimated, the sederunt was closed with prayer.

Overture IX
(re Amend-
ment of the
Deed of
Union).

Communica-
tion II (re
Wentworth).

Defence
Forces
Chaplaincy.

Communica-
tion III.

Communica-
tion VII.

Adjournment.

W. D. MARSHALL,
JOHN WAUGH,

Acting Clerks.

TWELFTH SEDERUNT

*At Melbourne, and within the Assembly Hall, Collins Street, on
Wednesday, the 19th day of September, 19 5, at 7 p.m.*

- Constitution. 315. The General Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and, after praise and reading of the Scripture, was constituted with prayer.
- Minutes. 316. The Clerk laid on the table the Minutes of sederunts 9 and 10, intimated the corrections, and moved "that the Minutes be confirmed."
The motion was seconded and approved and the Minutes confirmed.
317. The Clerk asked for guidance in connection with the Appeal of Miss Amy B. Todd.
- Papers in Miss Todd's Appeal. 318. By leave of the House, the Business Convener moved that the Papers in connection with the Appeal of Miss Amy B. Todd be not printed in the Blue Book, but be held "in retentis."
The motion was seconded and approved.
- Mission to Jews. 319. By leave of the House, the Rev. Prof. Yule submitted the Report on Jewish Missions and the Business Convener moved the Deliverance:
"That the Assembly—
"1. Receive the Report.
"2. Gratefully record the valuable assistance rendered for twelve months by a gifted Jewish Christian in Sydney. Express its earnest hope that, even though he can no longer continue, someone of equal ability will yet be found to carry on the good work.
"3. Comment to all ministers and congregations the booklets ('Truth about the Jew,' etc.) published by the Victorian Committee.
"4. Urge all to do what they can to combat anti-Semitism, and to show a spirit of true friendliness to Jewish folk."
Clauses 1-4 were seconded and approved.
320. By leave of the House, the Business Convener moved as an additional clause; and it was seconded and approved:
"5. Instruct the Committee to invite to Australia a representative of the Jewish Mission of the Church of Scotland who has experience of mission work amongst Jews, provided the necessary finance can be arranged."
Clause 6 was moved, seconded and approved as follows:
"6. Appoint the following as the Committee: New South Wales and Victorian State Committees, together with the Revs. S. Martin (S.A.) and G. Tulloch (W.A.), and Mr. J. S. R. Wyllie (Queensland). Convener: Rev. John Symington. Vice-Convener: Rev. R. J. H. McGowan."
321. The Deliverance as amended was approved.
- Code (supplementary). 322. Mr. A. G. Proudfoot submitted the Supplementary Report of the Code Committee and moved the Deliverance:
"That the Assembly—
"1. Receive the Report.
"2. Approve of the revision of Chapter VIII, "Marriage and Divorce," in the form set out below and remit it to State Assemblies and Presbyteries for consideration, and report to the next meeting of the Assembly.
- Marriage and Divorce
201. (Reprinted in its existing form.)
202. With reference to the marriage of divorced persons, the Assembly expresses the opinion that it is undesirable and dangerous to the public welfare that divorce on the grounds of desertion, adultery, or any other ground, should be too easily obtained.
203. In every case where a divorced person has obtained such divorce by regular legal proceedings, and presents himself or herself for re-marriage, the minister may use his own discretion as to whether he shall accede to such request.
204. Where on the considered opinion of any minister licensed to perform marriages, the interests of morality, Christian nurture of children or good citizenship would be best served by the re-marriage of a person divorced under State laws, upon grounds other than those

recognized by the subordinate standard of the Church, he may perform the marriage, but in every such case he must report his action promptly to his Presbytery."

The motion was seconded.

By leave of the House, the Rev. J. C. Milliken moved the omission of the words after "marriage" in clause 2 (204)—"but in every case . . . Presbytery."

The amendment was seconded and disapproved.

The Deliverance was approved.

323. The Rev. P. L. Forster asked that his dissent be recorded.

324. Communication XV was laid on the table.

The Business Convener moved:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Communication.

"2. Refer the matter therein to the Committee on the Church's Attitude to its Creed to prepare a suitable statement for publication by the Board of Religious Education."

The motion was seconded and approved.

325. According to notice, the Rev. A. E. Brice moved:

"That the Assembly—

"Appoint the C.S.O. Committee of the Assembly in New South Wales to be the C.S.O. Committee of the Assembly with the addition of Revs. A. J. Porter, J. C. Jones, Stewart Lang, and Gilbert Cameron."

The motion was seconded and approved.

326. The Rev. Dr. J. Flynn submitted the Report of the Committee on Churches within the Empire and moved the Deliverance as follows:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Recommend State Assemblies to appoint special committees to investigate possible action to multiply and strengthen contacts between Australian States, and between the Australian Church and other Presbyterian communities overseas.

"3. Appoint a Special Committee, to be known as the Committee on Closer Relations with Sister Presbyterian Churches, consisting of the Very Revs. Dr. R. W. Macaulay and Dr. John Flynn, Revs. John Waugh, A. C. Watson, J. R. Blanchard and delegates selected by the corresponding committees of State Assemblies in the following proportions: Victoria 3, New South Wales 3, Queensland 2, South Australia 1, Western Australia 1, Tasmania 1; Convener, the Rev. Dr. R. W. Macaulay.

"4. Authorize this Committee to continue investigations, and to take such appropriate action as may become practicable from time to time.

"5. Thank and discharge the Committee."

The Deliverance was seconded and approved.

327. Pursuant to notice, the Rev. Dr. R. W. Macaulay moved, it was seconded and approved:

"That the General Assembly direct the Committee on Closer Relations with Sister Presbyterian Churches to consider the possibility of making arrangements for the mutual appointment of corresponding members to and from other Presbyterian Churches in Australia and New Zealand; to make such proposals as may seem practicable for the appointment of these delegates as associate members of the supreme Courts of the Churches concerned and the provision of requisite finance; and to prepare an Overture for relevant changes in the Deed of Union if such be deemed necessary."

328. Communication XI was laid on the table. The Business Convener moved:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Communication.

"2. Commend the Appeal and any from other bombed Presbyterian churches in the United Kingdom to the generosity of our people, through the Moderator-General in association with State Moderators."

Dissent by
Rev. P. L.
Forster.

Communica-
tion XV
(re Second
Advent).

Christian
Social Order.

Churches
within the
Empire.

Communica-
tion XI (re
Bombed
Churches).

Communica-
tion XII (re
Presbyterian
Church
League).

Improved
Theological
Education.

Moderator's
Committee.

The Very Rev.
Dr. Macaulay
(Apprecia-
tion).

Message to
Church
Courts, etc.

The motion was seconded and approved.

329. Communication XII was laid on the table and received.

330. According to notice, the Rev. Principal Maclean moved:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Request the Rt. Rev. the Moderator (a) to examine, and report on, the whole process of training students for the ministry in the various States; and (b) to make recommendations for the improvement of theological education in the future.

"2. Empower him to associate with himself anyone who in his opinion can assist him to carry out these tasks."

The motion was seconded and approved.

331. The Rev. E. H. McLean Shugg submitted the Report of the Moderator's Committee.

332. According to notice, the Rev. Dr. Macaulay moved:

"That the General Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Thank the Officers and Office Staffs named in the Report for their cordial and generous co-operation in planning and arranging itineraries for the Moderator's visits from 1942 to 1945.

"3. Thank the Chaplains named in the Report and their assistants for their loyal and invaluable personal aid to the Moderator-General."

The motion was seconded.

333. By leave of the House and on behalf of the Rev. J. R. Blanchard, the Business Convener moved as an additional clause:

"4. Instruct the Moderator's Committee to investigate and report on the provision of adequate facilities for the Moderator-General to fulfil the functions of his office."

The amendment was seconded and approved and the clause added.

334. The Deliverance as amended was approved.

335. According to notice, the Rev. E. H. McLean Shugg moved on behalf of the Rev. G. W. McAlpine:

"That the General Assembly express its appreciation of the services of the Very Rev. Dr. Wilson Macaulay as Moderator-General during the past three years, which were years of great anxiety and difficulty owing to the war, and extend to him best wishes for many more years of usefulness and success in the work of the Church in Australia; and further express its appreciation of the fine loyalty and generosity of the Congregation of Camberwell, Victoria, who provided at their own cost an Assistant, so that Dr. Macaulay, their minister, might be able to carry out his Moderatorial duties for the benefit of the Church as a whole."

The motion was seconded and approved.

The Moderator conveyed to the Rev. Dr. Macaulay the Assembly's appreciation of his services.

336. According to notice, the Rev. Dr. R. W. Macaulay moved:

"That the General Assembly request the Moderator to convey to Courts of the Church, and especially to Congregations, Home Mission Stations and Preaching Centres to which he may pay official visits, the substance of the message following, namely: 'The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church sends to its Courts and Congregations its greetings and an assurance that their spiritual welfare is continually in the thoughts and prayers of the Assembly.'

"The General Assembly believes that the Church has a responsibility for the evangelization of Australia and for the building up of a strong and definite Christian witness in the Pacific area; and it asks its people to keep constantly before their minds our individual responsibility for creating and maintaining public opinion at a high moral and spiritual level.

"That the General Assembly also ask the Moderator to convey to small groups and lonely people an assurance that they are remembered by their Church and are valued highly for their courageous and faithful lives."

The motion was seconded and approved.

337. The Rev. A. Watson submitted the Report of the Committee to answer the Reasons for Dissent given by the Rev. E. Wallace Archer and others. Answer to
Reasons for
Dissent.

The Business Convener moved:

"That the Assembly—

"1. Receive the Report.

"2. Record the answers as follows:

Answers to Reason of Dissent

1. True unity has always sought expression in outward and visible form, and, if there is at present such unity between some Christian Communion, this inevitably desires such expression.

2. The strong approval given by the General Assembly to the proposed course of action indicates a desire to keep the door open, and for an examination and testing of the principle of Federal Union. In the course of negotiation there would be given opportunity of discovering a way of meeting truly conscientious objections to the proposal.

3. A sincere and conscientious search, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, for any possible closer fellowship within our own and Sister Communion, is very far removed from controversy, strife, and division.

4. The General Assembly of Australia has declared more than once that there is no bar in principle to such negotiations for closer fellowship.

5 and 6. Judging by the unions already consummated in the world-wide Presbyterian Church, there is no evidence of disintegration, weakening of influence or dilution of heritage.

7 and 8. The Edinburgh Conference of 1937, out of which came the decision to form the World Council of Churches, recommended, inter alia, that wherever possible separated Communion should enter into negotiations for closer unity.

ALAN C. WATSON.

R. WILSON MACAULAY."

The motion was seconded and approved.

338. The Rev. R. W. Macaulay moved by leave of the House:

"That the General Assembly learns with satisfaction of the proposal to form an Australia-wide 'Tryst-for-Prayer,' to include ministers, elders, members and friends of the courts of this Church who are unable to attend Assembly or other Church meetings but who are willing to join the Tryst by offering a promise to remember the meetings in prayer. The Assembly notes that the Tryst has appointed an organizing committee, whose members are: In New South Wales, Revs. Robert Campbell, A. R. McVittie and Dr. G. R. S. Reid; in Queensland, Rev. D. Galloway; in South Australia, Rev. Frank Engel; in Tasmania, Rev. L. O. C. White; in Victoria, Revs. Dr. R. W. Macaulay and David Smith; in Western Australia, Rev. A. J. C. Tebbitt." Assembly
Tryst.

The motion was seconded and approved.

339. The consideration of the Social Services Deliverance was resumed. Social
Services.
(Min. 263.)

By leave of the House, the Rev. P. L. Forster moved clause 4 in the following form:

"4. (a) Set up a larger and more representative committee, comprised of the existing committee and members representative of such states as have Social Services. Such committee to appoint an executive (three from N.S.W. and three from Victoria) which shall meet at regular periods to consider all matters concerning Social Services within the States, make representations, tender advice, and make suggestions to the Governments in the name of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, on Social Services.

"(b) Appoint the following additional members: New South Wales, Revs. J. C. Milliken, R. Maidment, Mr. N. Chivas; Victoria, Revs. T. G. Allan, P. L. Forster, G. A. Wood; Queensland, Rev. P. W. Pearson and Mr. John Campbell.

"(c) Suggest that any expense involved be borne proportionally by the Social Services institutions."

Clause 4 was seconded and approved.

340. The Deliverance as amended was approved as in the Minutes 260, 261, 339.

Business
Committee.

341. The Business Convener moved:

"That the Assembly appoint the following Business Committee to act as from the close of this sederunt till the next meeting of Assembly: Rev. T. McDougall (Convener), the Right Rev. the Moderator, Rev. Dr. Macintyre, Rev. V. Clark-Duff, Rev. D. J. Flockhart, Rev. D. F. Brandt, Rev. Frank Hanlin, Rev. G. W. McAlpine, the Clerks of State Assemblies for the time being the Clerks and Law Officers of this Assembly, with Messrs. John Downes, G. Roland Love, and C. P. Hughes.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Next Meeting.

342. According to notice, the Rev. Geo. Tulloch moved:

"That the next meeting of the General Assembly be held two years hence."

The motion was seconded.

The Rev. V. Clark-Duff moved the omission of the word "two*" with a view to inserting the word "three."

The amendment was seconded and approved and the word "three" inserted in place of the word "two."

The motion as amended was approved.

Thanks.

343. By leave of the House the Business Convener moved:

"That the Assembly convey its thanks to the Hospitality Committee, especially the Convener (the Rev. S. L. McKenzie), the ladies, the manager of the Information Bureau (the Rev. C. E. Hipwell); and to all who extended hospitality in their homes and entertained delegates in other ways; to the Headmaster and Mrs. Gilray and the Council of Scotch College; to the authorities of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria and of the Scots Church, Melbourne; to the Assembly officers and Miss Campbell, the organist; to the Assembly printers and to the Press."

The motion was seconded and approved.

Remit (re
Administration
of Sacraments
by Home
Missionaries).

344. By leave of the House the Business Convener moved:

"That the Assembly send down the Remit on the Administration of Sacraments by Home Missionaries to Assemblies and Presbyteries *de novo*, for report under the Barrier Act, and instruct them to send the returns to the Clerk by the 30th June, 1946."

The motion was seconded and approved.

Minute
Commission.

345. By leave of the House the Business Convener moved:

"That the Assembly appoint the Moderator, the ex-Moderator, the Clerks and the Business Convener a Commission to examine and confirm the Minutes of Wednesday's sederunts."

The motion was seconded and approved.

Next Meeting.

346. It was moved, seconded and approved that the Assembly hold its next meeting at Sydney on the second Wednesday of September, 1948.

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

Conclusion.

343. The Assembly joined in singing Psalm 122, after which the Moderator, having intimated that, in pursuance of the General Assembly's appointment, the next General Assembly would convene in the Assembly Hall, York and Margaret Streets, Sydney, on the second Wednesday of September, 1948, at 7.30 p.m., closed the Session with the Benediction.

W. D. MARSHALL,

JOHN WAUGH,

Acting Clerks.

CERTIFICATE

The Minutes of Sederunts 11 and 12 have been carefully perused and confirmed, as instructed in Minute 345.

On behalf of the Commission,

A. C. GRIEVE.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

AND OTHER PAPERS

PRESENTED TO

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA



MELBOURNE, SEPTEMBER, 1945

Communications

I.—From the Presbyterian Women's Federation of New South Wales (re Equality of Status with Men)

3rd September, 1944.

Rev. T. McDougall,
14 Ian Street, Rose Bay.

Dear Mr. McDougall,

You will probably remember that, when the report of the Women's Federation was submitted to the General Assembly in May last, it was suggested that the matter of granting to women equality of opportunity with men in the Courts of the Church of Australia should forthwith receive the consideration of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

In accordance with the suggestion made by yourself, viz., that the Women's Federation approach the General Assembly of Australia (as the question was not one to be dealt with by the State Assembly), I now forward copy of Resolution passed by the P.W.F. Council (the governing body of the Federation) at a duly constituted meeting held in the Church Offices, Sydney, on 20th July, 1944, as follows:

"On the motion of Miss C. A. Morrison, seconded by Miss R. McDiarmid, it was unanimously resolved that the Women's Federation approach the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, through the proper channels, requesting that at the next meeting of the General Assembly of Australia consideration be given to the question of granting to women equality of status with men in the Courts of the Presbyterian Church of Australia."

We shall be obliged if you will kindly arrange for the request, contained in above resolution, to be considered by the General Assembly of Australia at first opportunity.

Yours faithfully,

C. A. MORRISON,
Hon. Secretary,
Presbyterian Women's Federation of N.S.W.

II.—From the Victorian State Assembly (re the Charge of Wentworth)

21st June, 1945.

The Acting-Clerk,
General Assembly of Australia.

Dear Mr. Marshall,

A Communication was received by the Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria from the Presbytery of Mallee Downs asking approval for the transfer of the Charge of Wentworth (N.S.W.) to the Presbytery of Mallee Downs (Vic.). The Victorian Assembly approved the following Minute: "That the Assembly approve the change of bounds between the Presbytery of Murrumbidgee (N.S.W.) and the Presbytery of Mallee Downs, and that the decision be intimated to the General Assembly of Australia." In terms of the Minute quoted I now make the required intimation of the proposed change.

Since the Victorian Assembly closed, word has been received that the Assembly of the New South Wales Church has agreed to the "temporary attachment of the Charge (of Wentworth) to a neighbouring Charge in Victoria for a period not exceeding five (5) years."

As the change of boundaries involves two States, the approval of the General Assembly of Australia is necessary before the proposed change can become operative.

Yours sincerely,

THOS. J. RIDDLE,

Clerk of the Victorian Assembly.

III.—From Church of Scotland (re the work carried out by the Kirk Session in Prisoner-of-war Camps in Italy and Germany)

At a meeting of the Kirk Session in Oflag V-A, Germany, on Sunday, 26th November, 1944, it was decided to forward to you this complete report of their work, both in Italy and Germany.

1. Campo P.G. 75, Bari: At this Camp there were three Presbyterian Chaplains: Captains the Rev. J. Birnie Allan, C.F., W. G. Burns, C.F., both of the Church of Scotland, and Captain the Rev. Mathieson, C.F. (Free Church of Scotland). Communion Services were held, at one of which, on

September 6th, 1942, two officers having been properly instructed, were admitted to the full membership of the Church of Scotland.

2. Campo P.G. 35, Padua (Italy): On his arrival at this Camp at the end of July, 1942, Captain the Rev. H. B. Jamieson, C.F. (Presbyterian Church of England), found a Presbyterian Community of 35, one of whom, Capt. C. A. Ferguson (N.Z.E.F.), was an Elder. A united service of all Protestant denominations was held each Sunday morning, also a monthly Presbyterian Communion Service was instituted. Captain Ferguson^{so} was warned for transfer to another Camp, and as it was felt expedient to have an Elder, Captain A. J. S. Elliot, M.C. (St. Giles', Edinburgh), was approached and agreed to accept the office. Accordingly, at a Communion Service on October 23rd, 1942, Captain Elliot was duly ordained and admitted as an Elder according to the order laid down in "The Book of Common Order" of the Church of Scotland. On the 7th February, 1943, 13 officers and other ranks, having been instructed and prepared, were admitted to full membership, answering the questions set out in "The Book of Common Order." In August, 1943, the entire Camp was moved to Bologna.

3. Campo P.G. 19, Ruffillo, Bologna (Italy): The two Presbyterian Chaplains, Captain the Rev. H. B. Jamieson, C.F., and Captain the Rev. W. G. Burns, C.F., and one Elder, Captain A. J. S. Elliot, M.C., met on August 10th, 1943, and decided to form a Session of the Presbyterian Communion. The Rev. H. B. Jamieson, C.F., was elected Moderator, and Captain Elliot Session Clerk. Minutes of all future meetings were kept and a young Communicants' Class started. On August 22nd, 1943, a Communion Service was held which was attended by 70 members and adherents. On September 9th, 1943, the Camp was taken over by the Germans and moved to Germany.

4. Campo P.G. 47, Modena (Italy): On December 8th, 1942, at the newly formed Camp, a meeting was held of the four Presbyterian Chaplains: Captain the Rev. J. Birnie Allan, C.F., Captain the Rev. W. G. Burns, C.F., Captain K. J. Watson, C.F. (New Zealand), and Captain the Rev. G. P. Wiles, C.F. (South Africa), and the one Elder, Captain C. A. Ferguson. It was decided to form a Kirk Session and draw up a roll of Communicants and adherents, which when completed totalled 161. Captain the Rev. D. Birnie Allan was elected Moderator. It was also decided that the necessary steps be taken to ordain four new elders. Accordingly, at a Communion Service on January 3rd, 1943, the following: Major S. Hanton (N.Z.E.F.), Captain R. J. Thomson (U.D.F.), Captain R. G. Brydone (U.D.F.), and Captain N. C. Struthers (U.D.F.), duly answered the questions of the formula put to them and were ordained. In February, 1943, Captain the Rev. K. J. Rodger, C.F. (South Africa), arrived at the Camp and was welcomed to the Session. For Sunday services the Congregation united with the Methodist, Baptist, and Congregational Churches, but separate Communion Services were held at regular intervals. Young Communicants' Classes were held, and the following additions to the Communion Roll made on profession of faith: 18th February, 1943, 11; 19th April, 1943, 9; 7th July, 1943, 9. On the 9th June, 1943, Captain the Rev. J. Birnie Allan, C.F., Captain the Rev. W. G. Burns, C.F., and Captain the Rev. G. P. Wiles, C.F., were warned to move to other Camps, and Captain the Rev. K. J. Watson, C.F., was elected Moderator. As a result of these moves, and of the repatriation of Captain Brydone (Elder), it was decided to hold another election of Elders. Accordingly, the proper steps having been taken, Lieut. J. L. Douglas (U.D.F.) and H. W. Shove (Y.M.C.A. Commissioner, N.Z.E.F.) were duly ordained on 1st August, 1943. Communion Cards had been printed and certificates of membership and ordination, and proper records were kept of all meetings of Session. On 12th September, 1943, the Camp was taken over by the Germans and transferred to Germany.

5. Oflag V.A., Germany: After passing through various transit Camps the majority of the officers from Bologna and Modena found themselves in Oflag V.A. On 15th October, 1943, a meeting was held at which it was decided to fuse the two Sessions. The Oflag V.A. Kirk Session was thus constituted and comprised Captain the Rev. K. J. Watson, C.F. (Moderator), Captain the Rev. W. G. Burns, C.F., Captain the Rev. H. B. Jamieson, C.F., Captain the Rev. K. J. Rodger, C.F., Captain C. A. Ferguson (Session Clerk), Captain A. J. S. Elliot, M.C., Captain N. C. Struthers, Captain R. J. Thomson, and Lieut. J. L. Douglas. The existing membership rolls were purged and a new roll prepared. Separate Presbyterian Services have been held each Sunday morning. Preparatory and Communion Services at regular intervals and Young Communicants' Classes. On 3rd December, 1943, three officers

were admitted to full membership on profession of faith, and on 17th November, 1944, another three, and one by Certificate from the Church of England. Session Minutes have been properly kept and certificates of membership and Communion Cards issued. In March, 1944, Captain the Rev. K. J. Rodger, C.F., was moved to Stalag 344, and at the end of November, 1944, Captain K. J. Watson, C.F., to Stalag 383. Captain the Rev. W. G. Burns, C.F., was elected Moderator in his place. With the holding of separate weekly services, the Session has been able to function in a very real way, systematic teaching has been possible and the congregation has grown in fellowship and faith. It is not just that the congregation, which numbers 145 members and adherents, has added to its roll new members, but, what is perhaps more important, a great many of the former members will return home with a deeper understanding of their creed and a more active sense of their responsibilities as Church members.

The Session forward this Report because the unusual circumstances under which they have been working have made necessary actions which may have been outside the normal forms of procedure. This is a congregation drawn from all parts of the Empire, with a properly constituted Session, regular Services, according to the Order prescribed yet not under the jurisdiction of any Presbytery. In forwarding this Report, the Session would make the following requests:

1. That you should take the necessary steps to present this Report to the Assembly or to the appropriate Assembly Committee, in order that the Assembly may approve and confirm the actions of the Session. Their particular concern here is for the standing of those admitted to full membership, and of those ordained to the office of Elder.

2. Because those admitted to full membership or ordained to the office of Elder were drawn from all the Dominions, that you forward a copy of this Report to the Presbyterian Churches in England, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and South Africa (including Rhodesia), and, if Assembly should confirm the actions of the Session, notify the above Churches of this Confirmation.

The Session would be most grateful to you if you could act for them in these matters. They send greetings to Assembly and ask for their prayers and for their blessing upon the work in this Camp.

H. BURNS JAMIESON, C.F.

(Countersigned)

LIEUT.-COL.....

Senior British Officer, Oflag V.A.

(This signature was undecipherable.)

IV. —From the Victorian Temperance Committee

25th July, 1945.

The Clerk, G.A. of A.

Dear Sir,

At the Victorian General Assembly in 1942, the Deliverance submitted by the Temperance Committee included the following clause: "Recommend the General Assembly of Australia to appoint a National Temperance Committee." (See Blue Book Minute 174.)

This Deliverance was approved, but as there has been no opportunity to have the matter considered by the G.A. of A. during the interval, the Temperance Committee respectfully requests that the proposal be included in the Agenda of the Assembly to be held in September this year.

Believe me to be,

Dear Sir,

Yours sincerely,

W. F. FINLAYSON,

Convener, Temperance Committee.

V. —From Board of Finance (re Canberra Debt)

The Acting Clerk,

General Assembly of Australia.

Dear Mr. Marshall,

The Victorian Church is very much exercised regarding the debt on the Canberra Church.

The Communication forwarded by the Federal Advisory Committee on the matter was considered by the General Assembly, which passed the following resolution:

"That the Assembly inform the Convener of the Canberra Committee:

1. That they are in accord with it that the Canberra debt should not be increased, and consider that it should be pegged as at 31st December, 1945.
2. That they consider:
 - (a) that the amount raised by the Victorian Church under the leadership of the late Mr. W. G. Balfour for the purpose of paying off the £6,500 under the arrangement with the New South Wales authorities that they would provide the sum of £12,000 contingent upon Victoria furnishing £6,500 should be regarded as a loan by the Victorian Church and added to the amount of the debt owing by the General Assembly of Australia;
 - (b) that this debt should be allocated to the various States, who can bear it in proportion to their membership, and that each such State should be liable for interest on its share of the pegged debt at 33% p.a. until its share of the debt is paid off."

The Victorian Church considered that the Federal Advisory Committee should have taken into account (a) the right of a State to pay off its share of the debt and thus be freed from the payment of interest, and (b) that the financial statement set out in the memorandum was not correct, as no credit had been given to the Victorian Church for the amount of £4,627 contributed by it towards its share of debt (£6,500) as arranged with the Canberra Committee.

In November, 1930, a pro re nata meeting of the Victorian General Assembly was held to deal with an application from the General Assembly of Australia for a loan of £10,000 for 5 years at 7% p.a. to be used towards completing the buildings at Canberra. The Assembly decided, on the advice of the Trusts Corporation and the Board of Finance in consultation with the Law Agent, that the Trust Funds of the Church may not be used for such a purpose. At the same meeting it was resolved, believing that the honour of our Church was involved, to make an appeal to our people for £7,850, which was afterwards reduced (when it was found that the total liability would be £18,500) to £6,500, and which was regarded by the Victorian Church as its share of the amount required to complete the buildings.

To understand the position clearly, you require to know the whole story, and to give that the following communications are appended:

1. A copy of a letter sent to Rev. V. Clark-Duff in August, 1940.
2. A copy of an appeal sent to the ministers of our Church in December, 1930.

You will see, from these documents that the balance of the Victorian Church's share of the original debt of £18,500 is £1,873 with interest added from 1933 to the end of this year.

The members of our Church who took part in the appeal for £6,500 "for the honour of our Church," which was launched at the time of a depression in our State by the faith and courage of the late Mr. W. G. Balfour and his Committee, find it difficult not to adhere to what they regard as the obligation of the Victorian Church, i.e., the sum of £1,873 (being balance of the £6,500 promised but not collected) with interest added. It is realized, however, that the New South Wales members hold strongly that the £12,000 and £6,500 asked for from the two States by the Canberra Committee was by way of loan to the General Assembly, and to secure a settlement of an extremely difficult position our Assembly decided to forgo their strict rights and accept a settlement on the loan basis, although it means increased financial liability for the Victorian Church.

Under the new arrangement, the Canberra debt at 31/12/45, based on the figures shown in the memorandum received from the Federal Advisory Committee and the amount raised by the Victorian Church, will be £29,126, made up as follows:

Advances (by N.S.W. Treasurership Committee) £13,063	
Interest to 31/12/45.....	8,160
Due to N.S.W. Treasurership Committee ..	£21,223
Add amount raised in Victoria and paid to N.S.W. Treasurership Committee.....	£4,627
Interest on £4,627 for 12 years @ 4% p.a.....	2,776
	£7,403
Amount advanced by Victorian Church towards Rev. Dr. John Walker's salary.....	500
Due to Victorian Church.....	7,903
Total Debt.....	£29,126

The allocation of this debt on a membership basis will be as follows:

State	Membership	Share of Debt	Share of Interest
Victoria	40,927	£12,440	£466 10 0
New South Wales . . .	32,537	10,012	375 9 0
Queensland.....	14,190	4,248	159 6 0
South Australia ..	2,632	910	34 2 6
Western Australia . . .	2,847	910	34 2 6
Tasmania.....	2,000	606	22 14 0
	<u>95,133</u>	<u>£29,126</u>	<u>£1,092 4, 0</u>

From these statements, it will be seen that Victoria's share of the debt is £12,440 and the amount due to it by the General Assembly of Australia is £7,903, and that, if at any time after the 31st December, 1945, the sum of £4,537 plus accrued interest is paid by the Victorian Church, its full liability will have been discharged.

In the time available to the Board of Finance, it has not been possible to secure all the details of the £21,223, and, therefore, any material variation will naturally affect the final calculation.

Yours sincerely,

W. A. LOVE,
Chairman, Board of Finance,
Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

A.

Rev. V. Clark-Duff,
Presbyterian Church Offices,
Box 100 CC, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W.

August, 1940.

Dear Mr. Clark-Duff,

I brought your letter of the 31st May, 1940, and also two letters from the Rev. J. B. Galloway dated 9th April and 1st May, 1940, before the Board of Finance at a meeting held yesterday.

The Board was disappointed that the Canberra Executive Committee had failed to keep suitable records of such important meetings, and that it has been compelled to rely on the memory of its members concerning what took place years ago. Further, the report of the G.A.A. in 1936 shows clearly what was the impression of the 1931 agreement in the minds of the Canberra Executive at the time Mr. Galloway took over the Convener-ship.

The Board wishes to place before your Committee a summary of the various references to the agreement taken from Blue Books and from other sources.

1. In November, 1930, a pro re nata meeting of the Victorian General Assembly was held to consider an appeal of the General Assembly of Australia to our Church for a loan of £10,000 for 5 years at 7% p.a., to complete the church building at Canberra. The Board of Finance and the Corporation, after consulting with the Law Agent, decided that the Trust Funds of the Church may not be used for such a purpose, and the Assembly passed a resolution to that effect regretting that the appeal from the G.A.A. could not be acceded to. At the same meeting, Mr. W. G. Balfour moved and Mr. A. G. Proudfoot seconded a motion which was approved as follows:

"That the Assembly, believing that the honour of our Church is involved in connection with the contract for the church building at Canberra, resolve to make an urgent appeal to our people for £7,850. and appoint the following Committee, with power to add, to prosecute the appeal: Sir John MacFarland, Sir Wm. McBeath, Hon. D. MacKinnon, Messrs. George Aitken, Wm. P. Shaw, R. Mathieson, Dr. Wettenhall, J. M. Gillespie, Samuel Cooke, A. G. Proudfoot, T. Henderson, M. M. Brodie, Wm. Macrae, W. L. Davidson, J. M. Balfour, W. E. B. Macleod, H. T. McKean, J. Tallent, P. Forman, F. Thompson, and W. G. Balfour (Convener)."

Mr. W. G. Balfour reported that sixteen gentlemen had already contributed or promised £1,800. Members of the Assembly who were present supplemented this by gifts and promises amounting to £415.

2. "Messenger," November, 1930. For the Honour of the Church. Important meeting of the General Assembly. Though the membership may be identical, there is a legal difference between "Assembly" and "Commission," and members who attended the 1930 Commission of Assembly had to be constituted legally as the Assembly by the procedure provided for the purpose. The important business demanding such urgency was the case of the church building at Canberra, far from complete yet, but for which funds are exhausted. The circumstances under which the contract was let were fully and frankly set out to members in a lucid speech by the Board of Finance (Mr. W. G. Balfour). The attitude to be taken was felt to be aptly put by a Presbyterian business man—"for the honour of the Church." The proposal set down by the General Assembly in Sydney was set aside as impossible, as it involved the use of trust moneys definitely given for quite other purposes. The proposal adopted was made by a number of Presbyterian business men after full discussion. The Assembly authorized an appeal for £7,850, as the share of Victorian Presbyterians of the liability required to complete the contract. The gentlemen referred to at once promised or contributed £1,800, and members of the Assembly, on the suggestion of the Rev. E. H. Chapple, backed up their resolution by promises of £415. "The spirit of spiritual earnestness manifested the Church's sincerity."

3. Victorian B.B., May, 1931, page 80. The Canberra Committee reported:

"In connection with the urgent appeal of the General Assembly in November to our people to find the sum of £7,850 for the church building at Canberra, arrangements were at once made by your Committee for a conference at Canberra between members of the Canberra Executive Committee, the architect, the contractor, and the Convener of the Melbourne Committee.

"It was agreed to eliminate from the contract certain works to the value of £1,018, leaving a total of £18,500 to be found as soon as possible. Arrangements were then made under which the N.S.W. authorities agreed to provide the sum of £12,000 contingent upon Victoria furnishing £6,500, so that the contract as thus revised be duly honoured.

"A letter was sent to each of our congregations bringing under their notice the facts, and appealing for funds. The response was most disappointing, and in consequence a second letter was despatched on the 1st April. A number of replies have since been received from country centres regretting that owing to the stress of circumstances they are unable to help in any way. Up to the time of writing, only one Charge (East Malvern) has, as from the Charge, sent in any large financial help. The Board there, immediately the matter was brought under their notice, made an extensive canvass of the congregation, and as a result was able to forward a sum of £270. It is known, however, that several other Charges have the matter in hand, and it is believed that further substantial amounts will soon be forthcoming. The Committee would again like to impress upon our people that the appeal is being made only on the ground that the honour of our Church is involved."

"It is with gratitude the Committee reports that since the meeting of Assembly five sums of £100 each have been received, and an anonymous donor has recently forwarded an additional amount of £300. The position now is set out hereunder:

Amount required.....	£6,500
Amount promised.....	3,630
Balance still to collect.....	2,870

Of the amount promised there has actually been received the sum of £3,060."

Deliverance moved by Mr. W. G. Balfour:

"That the Assembly receive the Report; urge upon our ministers the necessity of stressing this appeal for the 'honour of our Church'; thank all who have responded to the appeal; thank and reappoint the Committee, with Mr. W. G. Balfour as Convener."

The motion was seconded by Sir John MacFarland and approved.

The following letter* was sent by the Victorian Committee to ministers in this State in June, 1931:

"Canberra Appeal. Lists for the purpose of securing contributions of £1/1/- towards the Canberra Appeal were distributed during the meetings of the Assembly, and with its approval. The names of those who took the lists were not taken. I am, therefore, enclosing a list for your Charge in case you were not present when they were distributed. It was thought that if this plan was adopted by our congregations we should be able to secure the balance required to pay our share of the debt, and so uphold the honour of our Church."

4. Victorian B.B., May, 1935, Minute 51:

"The Convener of the Business Committee reported that a letter had been received from the Chairman of the Canberra Executive of the General Assembly of Australia, requesting the Victorian Assembly to accept a proportion of the liability for the remaining debt on the Canberra church, and suggesting the sum of £5,242 as the amount to be accepted by this Assembly, a similar amount for the N.S.W. Assembly, the sum of £1,549 for Queensland and £880 for each of the other States. The Business Committee further intimated that in its judgment this request amounted to an appeal to the State Assemblies for money which had not been authorized by the General Assembly of Australia, and, therefore, cannot be dealt with. Their Report was received and the decision of the Business Committee approved."

5. Victorian B.B., May, 1936, page 60. (Report of Board of Finance):

"The Commission of Assembly referred a Communication from the Canberra Executive to the Board of Finance for its report. The Communication stated that the indebtedness of the Presbyterian Church of Australia for the Canberra church building amounted to £14,673, and suggested that the best method of dealing with it is to allocate a certain proportion to each State, and the following assessment was proposed:

New South Wales	£5,242
Victoria.....	5,242
Queensland.....	1,549
South Australia.....	880
Tasmania.....	880
Western Australia.....	880
	<hr/>
	£14,673

The Board recognizes that there is a certain moral obligation on all the State Churches to contribute towards this amount, but seeing that the Victorian Church came to the assistance of the Canberra Executive in 1932, and by strenuous personal efforts of its Chairman, the late Mr. W. G. Balfour, and others, collected a sum of £4,627, which was handed over as a contribution, the Board considers that a substantial credit should be given therefore. It is suggested that if our Church contributes an additional amount of £1,873, making a total of £6,500, which sum of £1,873 should be made a charge on the proposed New Century Fund, it will have discharged its obligation." B.B., May, 1936, Minute 184. (Deliverance of Board of Finance.) "Approve of the Victorian Church contributing £1,873 towards the Canberra Building Fund, and the amount being a charge on the proposed New Century Fund."

In a letter dated 20th May, 1935, to the Convener of the Canberra Committee, Mr. W. G. Balfour writes, "Recently the Clerk of Assembly received a communication, dated 18th April, from you, which caused me surprise."

6. G.A.A.B.B., September, 1936, page 137. (Report of Canberra Executive Committee):

"As indicated in the Executive's letter to the State Assemblies in April, 1935, the position which had arisen could scarcely be considered

equitable. At the General Assembly in 1930 a scheme was launched whereby N.S.W. was to lend £15,000 and Victoria £10,000 to complete the buildings. It was found impossible to carry this out. A later arrangement arrived at in 1931 reduced these amounts to £12,000 and £6,500 respectively. Of this £6,500 Victoria had paid in £4,627 by April, 1935, and has now agreed to add to it the sum of £1,873, which will complete the amount then agreed upon. But since 1931 considerable amounts have been added to the total liability (furnishings, interest, etc.), and even if £1,873 were now paid up there would still remain the sum of £12,925 due to the Treasurership Committee of N.S.W. in repayment of money advanced." (Note: The G.A.A. in 1930 directed that there should be no expenditure by the Canberra Committee or any other Committee of the Church in respect of the St. Andrew's Church or Parish, except of the money contributed by the Canberra congregation for its own church purposes, without the consent of the Conveners of both the Treasurership and Property Committees of the N.S.W. Church and the Executive of the Board of Finance of the Victorian Church. This condition to continue until the loans by the said Churches of N.S.W. and Victoria are entirely repaid.) Therefore the only increase in the original £18,500 that the Board can recognize is the accrued interest.

Several members of the Committee appointed by the Victorian General Assembly in 1931, and who contributed largely towards the appeal, have been consulted and they are quite positive that when the appeal was made it was understood that the Victorian Church was to be free of liability if it raised the £6,500 agreed upon.

The Canberra Executive claims that the G.A.A. cannot give the Victorian Church a clearance on the basis of £6,500 and accrued interest. Surely the time to challenge the figures was when this Report was before the Assembly, or if missed there, by letter to the Victorian Church when the Blue Book was issued.

The Board of Finance is of the opinion, in view of the arrangement made in 1931 whereby the N.S.W. authorities agreed to provide the sum of £12,000 contingent upon Victoria furnishing £6,500, and in view of the appeal then made to Victorian congregations, that the provision of such sum of £6,500 would discharge the debt, that the moral responsibility of the Victorian Church is limited to the balance of £1,873, plus interest, and less £500 advanced for Dr. Walker's salary, and that in fairness to its members, the Church cannot undertake any greater responsibility.

Yours sincerely,

W. H. THOMPSON, Secretary.

B.

Presbyterian Church of Victoria
FOR THE HONOUR OF OUR CHURCH

Reverend and Dear Sir,

From the report of the proceedings of the General Assembly, you are no doubt aware of the critical position that has arisen in connection with the building of the Church at Canberra. Serious disappointment has been experienced in raising funds to meet the commitments which have been entered into, and the whole Church is faced with the possibility of being unable to honour its obligations.

The position is that a contract was entered into amounting to £42,870, of which £24,278 has been paid. There is a liability under the contract of £18,592 and a further amount to the architect and clerk of works of £926, making a total of £19,518 without any funds to meet this debt.

Every effort has been made, regardless of all other considerations, to cut down our legal obligations.

After consultation with the architect and the contractor, arrangements have been made to eliminate certain works which can be deferred. These will save for the present £1,018, leaving £18,500 to be found as soon as possible.

New South Wales had agreed to find £12,000, and Victoria, through its General Assembly, has resolved to make an urgent appeal to our people to raise £6,500, "believing that the honour of our Church is involved." Of this amount, £2,500 has already been promised, and an appeal is now being made for the balance of £4,000.

The Assembly appointed the following Committee to prosecute the appeal: Sir John MacFarland, Sir Wm. McBeath, Hon. D. Mackinnon, Messrs. George Aitken, Wm. P. Shaw, R. Mathieson, Dr. Wettenthal, J. M. Gillespie, Samuel Cooke, A. G. Proudfoot, T. Henderson, M. M. Brodie.

Wm. Macrae, W. L. Davidson, J. M. Balfour, W. E. B. Macleod, H. D. McBean, J. Tallent, P. Forman, F. W. Thompson, and W. G. Balfour (Convener), with power to add.

The Committee invites you to call together the members of your Session and Board of Management and to place the matter before them at as early a date as is practicable.

The appeal is to all members and adherents, not on behalf of the Church of Canberra, but to save the honour of the Church as a whole.

Contributions may be sent to the Treasurer of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, 156 Collins Street, Melbourne. If desired, they can be made in instalments.

On behalf of the Committee,

J. H. MacFARLAND, Chairman.

W. G. BALFOUR, Convener.

9/12/30.

VI.—From the Right Reverend the Moderator-General (in re Procedure adopted in calling this Assembly and allowing the 1942 Assembly to lapse).

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

Fathers and Brethren,

The General Assembly, which met in September, 1942, is recorded in Minute 94 of its Proceedings as having passed the following:

"94. The Business Convener moved: That the Assembly adjourn to a date and a place to be fixed by the Moderator in consultation with the Business Committee, and direct Presbyteries which have not nominated Representatives to do so, and/or to fill up any vacancies. The Rev. T. McDougall seconded the motion, which was approved."

It will be remembered that this unusual procedure was adopted in view of the possibility, then acute, that enemy invasion on Australian territory might occur and might create some situation in which the sudden summoning of the Assembly might be urgently required. In the Providence of God, our nation was spared the horrors of invasion; and no special summons to the Assembly was needed. When transport difficulties became less acute the question arose as to when and where the Assembly should meet. After varying advice had been received and considered, it was agreed at first that the Assembly should meet at Albury. Along with the Business Committee I wish to record the generous proposals made to that end by the Minister, Church and College Authorities to make us sure of a welcome to Albury.

As the transport situation changed we were urged, and agreed, that the meeting place be changed to one of the capital cities, Melbourne or Sydney for preference. Melbourne was chosen. A different question then arose. Should the Assembly now to meet be the same (1942) Assembly reconstituted in accordance with Minute 94, or should it be an entirely new Assembly?

My own view coincided with that of the Business Committee that the real or working Assembly should be newly elected. But it seemed to me that to put the matter in order we should advise the Church that the Assembly which adjourned in 1942 should be summoned by me for merely technical reasons. These were that it determine its own dissolution and appoint the time and place of the new Assembly, as well as any matters incidental to these decisions. Under this arrangement, it would be intimated to all State Assemblies and Presbyteries that this legal meeting would be formal and that if enough members were present to make a quorum, that would suffice to enable the business to be done. Then it would be proposed to such Assembly that it appoint the new one to meet the same evening at 7.30. The intention to propose these arrangements having been notified in advance, the Courts would elect their representatives to the new Assembly. To this arrangement, however, for reasons which seemed good to them, the Procurator and the Business Committee did not agree. Their advice to me was to call a new Assembly and to allow it to take as its first business a motion regularizing the procedure and declaring the 1942 Assembly dissolved. In either procedure, theirs or mine, there are obvious irregularities arising from the unprecedented war situation of 1942. Although I still thought that my proposed method of arranging matters was the better, at least from the point of view of answering the question

whether this Assembly has a legal existence, I did not think it right that, in a matter so unprecedented, my view should prevail against that of the Procurator and the Business Committee. Accordingly, I summoned this Assembly in accordance with their advice. In a lower Court this procedure would require validation by a higher Court to maintain the legal existence of the Court taking action of the kind we are now taking. But in the Supreme Court of the Church there is power to cure any irregularity. It seems wise, however, that the exact position should be placed on record and that this Assembly should be asked, as it will be by the appropriate authorities, to accept a resolution covering the matters herein mentioned and any other relevant subject.

Respectfully submitted by

R. WILSON MACAULAY, Moderator.

August 10th, 1945.

VII.—From the Presbytery of Macedon (re Presbytery of North Sydney's Regulation)

The Acting-Clerk,
General Assembly of Australia,
Melbourne.

Dear Mr. Marshall,

At yesterday's meeting of the Presbytery of Macedon I was instructed to forward to you the following motion, moved by the Rev. Paul Baker, seconded by the Rev. A. M. Clark, and carried:

"That the Presbytery of Macedon draw the attention of the General Assembly of Australia to the regulation of the Presbytery of North Sydney, as set out on page 2 of the circular letter issued by the Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee, declaring that no minister from a country Charge shall be inducted into a metropolitan Charge within its bounds during the period of war. And, further, that such regulation is an invasion of the rights of congregations and ministers, and exceeds the powers of Presbytery in the control of ministers."

Presbytery appointed the Revs. J. Symington and Neil McDonald to support the Communication.

Yours sincerely,

NEIL McDONALD, Clerk.

VIII.—From the State Assembly of Queensland (re delegates to Queensland Church Centenary)

Brisbane,

17th August, 1945.

The Clerk,
The General Assembly of Australia.

Dear Sir,

The last State Assembly of the Queensland Church resolved to invite the General Assembly of Australia to appoint a delegation of ministers to visit this State during the Centenary Year of the Queensland Church (1949).

Would you kindly arrange that this invitation be submitted to the General Assembly.

Yours sincerely,

RICHARD BARDON.

IX (re Child Migration)

To the Clerk of the General Assembly,
Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Dear Mr. Marshall,

As the Commonwealth Government has made known its intention to encourage child migration to Australia, and especially its intention to settle in this country many orphaned children from other lands, it seems fitting that the Presbyterian Church of Australia should make suitable arrangements for its share in this work.

Many Presbyterian people would gladly receive such children into their homes and give them a start in Australia. Presbyterian Orphanages and

Homes could be extended to make room for large numbers of suitable children.

It therefore seems appropriate that committees should, at once, be set up and a programme submitted that would appeal to the imagination of Presbyterian people and to the Commonwealth Government.

We therefore respectfully bring this matter before the notice of the General Assembly of Australia.

We are,
Faithfully Yours,

JOHN ARMOUR,
R. W. STEPHENS.

X.—From the President of V.I.R.E.C.

V.I.R.E.C.,
Kurrajong House;
Collins Street.
September, 1945.

The Right Reverend the Moderator,
and Members of the Assembly.

Gentlemen,

I am writing on behalf of the Victorian International Refugee Emergency Council (V.I.R.E.C.) to draw the attention of the Assembly to two questions, which are causing anxiety to those of us who are connected with V.I.R.E.C., a body which by reason of your support, in co-operation with other Churches and other organizations, has had the opportunity of being actively concerned with the welfare of those who in the years immediately preceding the war came to Australia as refugees from religious and political persecution at the hands of the Nazis.

First, we are concerned about the prejudice, misunderstanding, and even active hostility, manifested in many quarters against all aliens, but often with particular venom against persons of the Jewish Faith or race. Instances will, no doubt, occur to members of the Assembly, but we would mention in particular attacks in the Press, in Parliament, and by resolutions passed at Returned Soldiers', etc., conferences. There is also the matter of prejudice by employers of labour, even in these days of manpower shortage.

If, as we believe, V.I.R.E.C. has been acting throughout as the instrument and agent of those who called it into being, then we can with full assurance ask for the full co-operation of the Church in an active campaign on behalf of these, our unfortunate brethren from overseas. We believe such a campaign could well begin in the Churches, among Christian people, and then through them to the wider community.

We should aim to place before our constituency: (1) Some of the important facts, such as the small numbers involved (only about 10,000 all told under the refugee immigration scheme); (2) the circumstances under which they escaped the terror, and then made their homes here; (3) the great part many of them have played in the war effort in both military and civilian service; (4) the baselessness of the fear of economic competition in general; (5) the severe disabilities under which they have suffered during the war, due to their classification as "enemy aliens"; and, lastly, their gratitude for the asylum provided for them and their keenness, with very few exceptions, to become good Australians.

We believe that the fairly general manifestation of an anti-alien spirit is inimical, even on a material plane, to the best interests of Australia, and that such an attitude is entirely unworthy of the British tradition of asylum and hospitality to oppressed people. There are surely sufficient among us who inherit this tradition and whose forebears have benefited by it to make a determined effort that it shall not be lost or betrayed.

This policy will not be easily accepted by some of our fellow-citizens, but we believe we can confidently appeal to Christians to show forth and practise a spirit of tolerance and sympathy for these our needy brethren; to refuse to be dominated by selfish interests; and to recognize our obligation to share the freedom and resources of Australia with those who have sought refuge here.

Second, we are concerned that Australia should play a worthy part and take up a generous attitude in relation to immigration in general. When we contemplate soberly the situation in Europe, and the millions of

"displaced persons," homeless, destitute, in large measure helpless, and either to be provided for or to be allowed to die, we believe that Australia should make provision for the admission as immigrants of a certain number of these displaced persons who must be provided for in some country-outside Europe. We ask, then, for the continued support of the Assembly and the Church for V.I.R.E.C. in its advocacy of such a policy, and for the representations which V.I.R.E.C., in collaboration with the Jewish Welfare Society, and other organizations in other States, is making to the Government along this line. In particular we are pressing for immigration permits to two small classes of persons who have special claims, viz.: (a) the near relatives of those already established here (wives, parents, etc.), and (b) those who had, prior to the beginning of the war, already been granted permits, but who were prevented from sailing for Australia when war was declared.

Should the Assembly desire it, the writer, or some other representative of V.I.R.E.C., will be happy to attend to answer questions or give explanations.

On behalf of the V.I.R.E.C. Executive,

Yours faithfully,

HAROLD A. WOODRUFF,

Chairman.

XI.—From the Rev. Dr. R. F. V. Scott (re St. Columba's, London)

St. Columba's Church of Scotland,

Church House,

7 Lennox Gardens,

London, S.W.1.

To the General Secretary,

Offices of the Presbyterian Churches of Australia,

156 Collins Street, Melbourne, C.I.

Dear Sir,

The links between the Church of Scotland and other Presbyterian Churches throughout the world have been strong and enduring. These links are specially precious to us in St. Columba's, since we are ourselves an outpost of the Scottish Church. Situated as we are in the heart of London, it has been our pleasure and privilege to offer a welcome to many visitors from Presbyterian Churches overseas. With us they have worshipped after the manner of our fathers and have shared our social fellowship.

The enemy has laid our church and hall in ruins. Yet—if we may without irreverence reverse a saying of the Apostle—"we are destroyed, but not cast down!"

We have no wish to enlarge upon the place and work of St. Columba's in the Church of Scotland. We leave this appeal in your hands, confident that you will bring it to the notice of your own Church, or its General Assembly, in the manner that seems to you most fitting.

Very sincerely yours,

ROBERT F. V. SCOTT, Minister.

A. BALLINGALL, Hon. Treasurer.

XII.—From the Rev. Gilbert Cameron (re use of name of Presbyterian Church)

The Rev. W. D. Marshall, M.A.,

The Acting-Clerk,

General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Dear Sir,

During the past twelve months I have received through the post several leaflets issued with the words at the end: "Published by the authority of the Presbyterian Church League." There has never been any covering letter explaining the origin or purpose of these pamphlets, on the printed matter no printer's name appears, neither is there the name of any officer or address of the League. The result is that one who is a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia receives a publication of a Presbyterian Church League of which he knows nothing, and can know nothing except that behind its cloak of anonymity it holds definite views on subjects such as Church Union, about which there is considerable difference of opinion without and within the Presbyterian Church.

I do not know to whom these leaflets are circulated. I have received occasional copies only. It would seem that ministers and elders of the Presbyterian Church would be the most likely people on the mailing list. The leaflets, however, are sure to fall into the hands of many others, and leaving only the footnote, "Issued by the authority of the Presbyterian Church League," the contents may naturally be taken by misinformed or uninformed people to be the views of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

I wish to bring this matter under the notice of the General Assembly, because (without entering into any consideration of the subject matter of the leaflets) it does not seem honourable to me (at the least it is not courteous) for a small section of the Church to issue without any accompanying information such leaflets in the name of the Presbyterian Church, bearing material which may be construed as the views of the Church. I see no reason why any group of people should not express themselves openly on matters about which they feel deeply, but when for reasons best known to themselves "a league" prefers to remain anonymous, it brings itself under suspicion and embarrasses those in the Presbyterian Church who hold a different point of view.

I feel that the Assembly should insist that publications bearing the name of the Church should be issued with the name of the person giving authority for publication clearly stated.

I enclose a copy of the latest leaflet I have received. The envelope bore the post office stamp: "Ashfield."

With fraternal greetings,

Yours sincerely,

GILBERT CAMERON.

XIII.—From Dr. Hutchison Cockburn (re World Council of Churches)

41, Avenue de Champel.
Geneva, 13th July, 1945,

To the Right Reverend the Moderator
of the Presbyterian Church of Australia,
Assembly Hall, 156 Collins Street,
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

Reverend and Dear Sir,

I write as Senior Secretary of the World Council's Department of Christian Reconstruction. I am a minister of the Church of Scotland, Senior Minister of Dunblane Cathedral, and I was Moderator, 1941-1942. I am resident in Geneva.

I send to you some of our recent papers which I trust will be of interest in enabling your Church to take its due place in this ecumenical effort on behalf of churches sorely tried and devastated, but victoriously witnessing for the truth.

I am sending a copy of this letter, with the same enclosures, to the Most Reverend Archbishop R. C. Halse, Brisbane, Queensland, and the Chairman of the Methodist Church, 139 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, New South Wales.

I hope it will be possible for you to take counsel with them as to methods of gathering funds and creating interest. In many countries, it has been found possible to create a joint board of officially appointed representatives of the various churches and religious institutions (e.g., Salvation Army, Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., S.C.M., etc.). This has been found possible in Britain, America, Canada, New Zealand among the giving Churches, and in France, Belgium, Holland, etc., among the receiving Churches. For instance, C.R.E. (Christian Reconstruction of Europe) in Britain co-ordinates policy and carries through the plans decided upon, so saving much overlapping of effort and making a valuable ecumenical witness, while at the same time each Church gathers its self-appointed quota in its own way. Funds may of course be earmarked as desired; but it is to be desired that some portion be left unapportioned and at the disposal of this Department after consultation with the giving Church, lest any Church be neglected. Also it is important that grants be given for the administration expenses of this Department, without which the task could not be adequately or orderly attempted.

But if a joint board is not possible in Australia, I am sure that the needs of the Churches in Europe will appeal strongly to the individual Churches, and that you will do everything possible to enable your Church

to take its due place in this quite remarkable endeavour of the Churches to care for their oppressed brethren of all Communion.

I shall be glad to hear from you in due course, and to answer any enquiries you may make, by letter or by cable.

With cordial greetings,

I am,

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) J. HUTCHISON COCKBURN.

J. Hutchison Cockburn,

Senior Secretary,

Department of Christian Reconstruction and Inter-Church Aid.

1 Chart of Projects.

1 Report of Dr. J. Hutchison Cockburn on his visit to Holland and Belgium.

1 Questionnaire on the needs of the Churches.*

1 Report on the Rev. R. W. Anthony.*

1 Report on humanitarian and religious reconstruction activities in Sweden.*

1 Principles of Procedure.*

* Under separate cover by ordinary mail.

XIV.—From Postmaster-General (re Commercial Radio Clubs)

Right Reverend E. H. McLean-Shugg,

Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria,

Assembly Hall,

156 Collins Street, Melbourne, C.I.

Reverend Sir,

1. The President and other members of the Executive of the Australian Teachers' Federation interviewed me in Canberra some time ago and presented the following resolutions which were adopted at the Annual Conference of the Federation held in January this year:

(a) That this Conference of the Australian Teachers' Federation views with concern the growth of commercial radio clubs for children.

(b) That the Commonwealth Government be asked to set up in each State an Advisory Committee on which the State Teachers' organization shall have representation to ensure that children's radio programmes and resultant activities are of a suitable nature.

2. During the course of discussion the members of the Federation emphasized the need for raising the standard of broadcast programmes intended for the child listener.

3. As the matter is one of considerable importance, I have come to the conclusion that, as a preliminary step, it would be advantageous to call a conference of those who are specially interested and I have invited the Australian Broadcasting Commission, the Australian Federation of Commercial Broadcasting Stations, the Education Departments in the several States, and the Australian Teachers' Federation to be represented.

4. I have now decided to extend an invitation also to the authorities responsible for denominational schools and, as the conference is to be held in Melbourne, I should be glad if you would be good enough to let me know whether you would be prepared to arrange for a representative to attend on behalf of the Presbyterian Church throughout the Commonwealth.

5. The conference will take place in the Commonwealth Offices, Treasury Gardens, at 10 a.m. on Monday, 15th October.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) D. CAMERON,

Postmaster-General.

XV.—From the Presbytery of Adelaide (re Second Advent)

To the Venerable the General Assembly:

Whereas the Session of Goodwood has reported to the Presbytery of Adelaide its concern over current popular teaching on the Second Advent of our Lord; Whereas the young people under its care are greatly confused thereby; Whereas the task of indoctrinating them is made difficult by the lack of an authoritative statement as to our Church's teaching on this doctrine; and Whereas the Session of Goodwood has appealed to the Presbytery of Adelaide to take the proper steps to secure such a statement; the Presbytery of Adelaide accordingly petitions the General Assembly to take these premises into account and take such steps as will secure the publication of an authoritative statement of the teaching of the Presby-

terian Church on our Lord's Second Advent; or otherwise deal with the matter as to its wisdom may seem best.

Your Presbytery humbly prayeth, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR T. COTTRELL,

23rd March, 1942.

Clerk of Presbytery of Adelaide.

Mr. Zelling will state the Petition, Rev. A. T. Cottrell will support.

Extracted from the Records of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of South Australia by me,

S. MARTIN,

15th September, 1945.

Clerk, South Australia Assembly.

Overtures

I.—From the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria (re Immigration)

To the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia:

WHEREAS there is every indication that Australia will soon be faced with the problem of immigration on a fairly large scale, and

WHEREAS it is of the utmost importance to the future of Australia that a wise choice of migrants be made;

NOW THEREFORE the Combined Assembly of the Presbyterian Churches of Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia humbly overtures the General Assembly of Australia to take these premises into consideration, and

(1) State its policy with regard to post-war immigration, and

(2) Form a committee to carry out that policy, or deal otherwise with the matter as the Assembly in its wisdom may deem fit.

Approved for transmission to the General Assembly of Australia by the Combined Assembly of Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia. The Rev. W. A. Fraser and the Rev. R. W. Stephens were appointed to state it when it comes before the house.

Extracted from the Minutes by me,

THOS. J. RIDDLE, Clerk.

Assembly Hall, Melbourne, 11/6/45.

II.—From the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria (re Re-Marriage of Divorced Persons)

To the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia:

WHEREAS the law of the Church anent the re-marriage of divorced persons (Rule 1, 203) states that "the innocent party who has obtained the divorce by regular procedure . . . is entitled, on request, to be re-married at the hands of the Church," and

WHEREAS this rule in many cases would prevent those who may be morally innocent from re-marriage at the hands of the Church,

NOW THEREFORE the Combined Assembly of the Presbyterian Churches of Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia humbly overtures the General Assembly of Australia to take these premises into consideration and re-cast Rule 203 so that when a minister has good and sound reason to be convinced of the moral innocence of a divorced person he or she may be re-married at the hands of the Church, or deal otherwise with the matter as the Assembly in its wisdom may deem fit.

Approved for transmission to the General Assembly of Australia by the Combined Assembly of Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia. The Rev. W. A. Fraser and the Rev. R. W. Stephens were appointed to state it when it comes before the House.

Extracted from the Minutes by me,

THOS. J. RIDDLE, Clerk.

Assembly Hall, Melbourne, 11/6/45.

III.—From the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria (re Uniformity of Marriage and Divorce Laws throughout the Commonwealth)

To the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia:

WHEREAS reports from several quarters indicate that attempts are being made to have the laws anent marriage and divorce made uniform throughout the Commonwealth, and

WHEREAS endeavours are being made and will be made to have the laws anent divorce made less stringent, .

NOW THEREFORE the Combined Assembly of the Presbyterian Churches of Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia humbly overtures the General Assembly of Australia to take these premises into consideration and state its policy in regard to this question and take what steps it may think necessary with the Federal authorities, or deal otherwise with the matter as the Assembly in its wisdom may deem fit.

Approved for transmission to the General Assembly of Australia by the Combined Assembly of Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia. The Rev. W. A. Fraser and the Rev. R. W. Stephens were appointed to state it when it comes before the House.

Extracted from the Minutes by me,

THOS. J. RIDDLE, Clerk.

Assembly Hall, Melbourne, 11/6/45.

IV.—From the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria
(re Women Candidates for the Ministry)

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

WHEREAS at its meetings in Melbourne in May, 1944, the State General Assembly of Victoria learned through the Theological Education Committee that an application had been received from a woman to be accepted as a candidate for the ministry; and

WHEREAS the granting of this application would involve a radical departure from the established practice of the Church of accepting male candidates only; and

WHEREAS a candidate for the ministry in any State is a candidate for the ministry of the Church of Australia; and

WHEREAS the acceptance of a candidate for training implies that the candidate is eligible for the ministry of the Church;

NOW THEREFORE the State General Assembly of Victoria respectfully overtures the General Assembly of Australia to take these premises into consideration and to take steps to determine the eligibility of women to be accepted as candidates for training for the ministry, or to do otherwise as the Assembly, in its wisdom, may deem best.

Approved for transmission to the General Assembly of Australia by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria on May 10th, 1944.

The Revs. R. J. Howie and J. M. Young were appointed to state the Overture when it comes before the House.

Extracted from the Minutes by me,

THOS. J. RIDDLE,

Clerk of the General Assembly of the
Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

May 26th, 1944.

V.—From the Presbytery of Melbourne East, Victoria (re the Eligibility
of Women for the Eldership)

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

WHEREAS the Presbytery of Melbourne East in the State of Victoria has learned that at a recent election for the Eldership in the congregation of Malvern certain women were nominated to this office; and

WHEREAS the Presbytery has been asked to advise the Session of Malvern as to the eligibility of women for the office of the Eldership; and

WHEREAS in the Rules of the Victorian Church provision is only made for association of women with Sessions for consultative purposes and for the discharge of certain duties of a pastoral kind, without being members of Session (Rule 64, Bk. II); and

WHEREAS the acceptance of the nomination of women for this office would be a radical departure from the established practice in Australia; and

WHEREAS in the opinion of the Presbytery the question is one which should be decided by the General Assembly of Australia;

NOW THEREFORE the Presbytery of Melbourne East respectfully overtures the General Assembly of Australia to take these premises into consideration and to give a ruling as to the eligibility of women to be elected to the Eldership, or to do otherwise as the Assembly in its wisdom may deem best.

Approved for transmission to the General Assembly of Australia by the Presbytery of Melbourne East on July 18th, 1944, when the Revs. A. C. Watson and C. T. F. Goy were appointed to state it when it comes before the House.

Extracted from the Minutes by me,

THOS. J. RIDDLE, Presbytery Clerk.

July 18th, 1944.

VI.—From the General Assembly of Western Australia (anent assistance to the Church in W.A.)

At Perth, and within the McNess Hall on Wednesday, the 16th day of May, 1945, at 2 o'clock p.m., the General Assembly of Western Australia met pursuant to adjournment and was duly constituted.

Inter alia:

The Overture anent assistance to the Church in Western Australia was called for, the same to be supported by the Rev. G. Tulloch, who was placed at the Bar of the House and heard in support.

Mr. Tulloch was removed from the Bar and moved:

"That the Overture be sustained and forwarded to the Clerk of the General Assembly of Australia and that it be supported in that Assembly by the Moderator, Rt. Rev. J. G. Thrum, and the Rev. G. Tulloch."

The motion was seconded and carried and the Overture was sustained.

Overture

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

Your Overturist, the General Assembly of Western Australia, humbly sheweth that whereas:

1. The isolation of our Western Church and our lack of resources in men and money and the clamant need of ministering to the scattered people of this State present a direct challenge to the whole Australian Church:

2. Advancement should be the order of the day, but, on the contrary, owing to the peculiar circumstances of the case we have fewer ministers in Western Australia to-day than we had twenty-one years ago. Further, we have fewer Home Missionaries than ever, and a number of places are left entirely unprovided for by resident Missionaries and are still outside the care of the Church:

3. We do not forget, but remember with gratitude, the help of the Lloyd Bequest and the Australian Inland Mission, but feel that in order to adequately meet the demands made upon us from every quarter, a special and sustained effort must be made by the whole Church, otherwise there can be only one result—decline:

4. In view also of the cessation of hostilities and of the prospect of migrants coming to this sparsely populated State, it is our bounden duty to plan for future advancement as other Churches are doing in Western Australia:

5. We feel grateful for the proposal of the Advisory Committee to make Western Australia a special sphere of work and trust there will be no delay in putting the proposals into operation and providing the necessary men and money for the task:

Now therefore this General Assembly humbly overtures the General Assembly of Australia to take these premises into consideration and:

- (a) To regard Western Australia as a first priority.
- (b) To take the earliest possible action to relieve the burden upon the Church in this State.
- (c) To endeavour to provide ministers and Missionaries to reach the need of the people with the Gospel and to provide them with reasonable sustenance to enable them to carry on the work.

Or to do otherwise as the Assembly in its wisdom may deem best.

And your Overturists will ever pray.

Extracted from the records of the General Assembly of Western Australia on this the 22nd day of June, 1945, by me,

THOMAS GIBSON, Clerk of Assembly.

VII.—From the Presbytery of Geelong (re Overturists at the Bar of the House)

To the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia:

WHEREAS Standing Orders 93, 99 and 104 either provide or assume that all Overturists shall be at the Bar of the House; and

WHEREAS this procedure—

- (a) is wrong in principle so far as it applies to members of the House; since an Overture is properly to be regarded either as virtually a bill, or as a method parallel to a Committee's Report for bringing before the House general business of concern to the whole Church, and almost always (in our Church) is presented to the House by a member thereof, and in that capacity, so that his relation to the House differs fundamentally from that of an Appellant, Complainant, or Petitioner, who, being in judicial or quasi-judicial relation with the court, is properly placed at its Bar;
- (b) is out of line with general Presbyterian practice in other countries, e.g., in the Church of Scotland, the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., and the Presbyterian Church in Canada;
- (c) is explicitly repudiated by the Rules of the New South Wales Church (Rule 67) and deliberately excluded from the Victorian Church's revised Rules re Overtures (18-30); and

WHEREAS only an Overturist who may happen to have been appointed by a Presbytery to state an Overture in a representative Assembly of which he is not a member should be placed at the Bar of the House;

NOW THEREFORE it is humbly overtured the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration and to make the following amendments in their Standing Orders, namely:

In S.O. 93 insert after the word "Overturists" the words, "who are not members of the Court."

In S.O. 99 omit the word "Overtures."

In S.O. 104, at the end of the first sentence, omit the words, "Parties are heard at the bar," and substitute the words, "the business is taken up for discussion in the House.,"

or do otherwise as the General Assembly in its wisdom may deem best.

The Rev. E. Wallace Archer and J. E. Smith were appointed to state the Overture.

Extracted from the Minutes of the Presbytery of Geelong, on the 5th day of June, 1945.

E. WALLACE ARCHER, Clerk.

VIII.—From the Presbytery of Geelong (re Associate Members of Courts)

To the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia:

WHEREAS in general Presbyterian practice (as illustrated, for example, in N.S.W. Rule 28) the act of associating a person with a Court of the Church is a courtesy extended by a Court in session to a visitor holding corresponding status in another Court of the same kind; and

WHEREAS Standing Order 107 provides for "association," but is so worded that it may be interpreted to permit of the creation of a more or less distinct order of associates attached to Courts and continuing as such even when the Court is not in session, and having their names recorded, for example, on Presbytery Rolls as "Associate Members" of Presbytery; and

WHEREAS this is a departure from the proper meaning and intention of "association";

NOW THEREFORE it is humbly overtured the General Assembly of Australia to take these premises into consideration and to amend Standing Order 107 in the following manner, namely:

Omit the closing words, "be associated with Courts," and substitute, "when present at the meeting of a Court be associated therewith.,"

or do otherwise as the General Assembly in its wisdom may deem best.

The Rev. E. Wallace Archer and J. E. Smith were appointed to state the Overture.

Extracted from the Minutes of the Presbytery of Geelong on the 5th day of June, 1945.

E. WALLACE ARCHER, Clerk.

IX.—From the Presbytery of Perth (re Amendment of the Deed of Union, Article 126, III)

Unto the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia:

This Overture of the Presbytery of Perth respectfully showeth that whereas:

1. The "Deed of Union" (126) provides that "Each State Assembly shall elect one minister and one Elder for every Sixteen Sanctioned Charges or portion thereof within its bounds" as members of the General Assembly of Australia:

2. This, in States such as Western Australia, where it is so difficult, by reason of the scarcity of Ministers, to fill vacant Charges, gives, in the view of the Presbytery of Perth, too small a representation in view of the responsibilities of a State Church Assembly:

3. Many Presbyteries throughout the Commonwealth have three or four times the number of representatives which the General Assembly of Western Australia is able to elect:

4. In view of the limited numbers W.A. can elect, it falls on the Moderator and Clerk, and two Elders, to attend as representing the Assembly, and as it sometimes happens that neither the Moderator nor Clerk is on any of the Assembly Standing Committees, the Assembly cannot be fully and advantageously represented by them:

5. In order to create a deeper interest in the Commonwealth-wide work, it is felt that there should be a fuller representation of the State Assembly in the General Assembly:

Now therefore the Presbytery of Perth humbly requests the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration and amend the "Deed of Union" (article of Agreement 126, III), so as to permit of a larger representation of the smaller State Assemblies; or to do otherwise as the General Assembly may in its wisdom determine.

This Overture is to be presented by Rev. George Tulloch and Rev. R. M. Herriman.

Extracted! from the Records of the Presbytery of Perth.

C. R. JAMES, Clerk.

X.—From the Reception of Ministers Committee (re Amendment of Regulations, Min. 179, A.B.B., 1939)

To the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia:

WHEREAS certain amendments are required in connection with the regulations for the reception of ministers of the Presbyterian Churches of Great Britain, Ireland, and New Zealand, in order to bring the regulations up to date:

NOW THEREFORE the Committee on the Reception of Ministers humbly overtures the General Assembly of Australia to amend Regulation 217 by eliminating clauses (a), (b) and (c), the paragraph to read as follows:

"A minister or a licentiate of one of the Presbyterian Churches in Great Britain, Ireland, or New Zealand, who is directly commissioned by the Overseas Department or similar Committee of his own Church shall be received at once by the Reception of Ministers Committee of the General Assembly of Australia.

"When a Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of Australia desires to transmit a call to a minister or licentiate of any such Church, a similar commission must be first received by the Presbytery.

"When a State Assembly desires to appoint a minister or licentiate of any such Church to a ministerial office within its jurisdiction, a similar commission must first be received by the State Assembly."

Or to deal otherwise as the Assembly in its wisdom may determine.

Approved for transmission to the General Assembly by the Committee on Reception of Ministers in accordance with Minute 179, A.B.B., 1939.

The Convener was appointed to state the Overture when it comes before the House.

XI.—From Deaconess Council (re Uniformity of Standards for Training Women Workers)

To the Venerable, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia:

WHEREAS the Presbyterian Church of Victoria has had an order of Deaconesses associated with its work and worship; and

WHEREAS a high standard of qualification involving a three years' course of study is required before "setting apart"; and

WHEREAS the need of trained women workers in Presbyteries, Departments, Church Institutions and Congregations becomes more clamant; and their value has been proven; and

WHEREAS other State Assemblies are commencing the training of women workers; and

WHEREAS the General Assembly has created a precedent in the uniform training and status of theological students;

NOW THEREFORE the Deaconess Council of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria humbly overtures the Venerable, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to take these premises into consideration, and

- i. AFFIRM the principle that the standards of training and status of women workers in the Church should be uniform throughout Australia; and
- ii. APPOINT a Committee consisting of

to prepare the necessary regulations and submit them to the next meeting of the General Assembly;

or to deal otherwise with the matter as the Assembly may deem fit.

The Deaconess Council at its meeting on August 7th approved the sending of the above Overture, and appointed the Right Reverend E. H. McLean Shugg and the Rev. Principal Maclean to state the Overture.

GEO. ANDERSON, Acting-Convener.

X.—From the Presbytery of the Hunter (re Method of Nominating the Moderator-General)

11/8/45.

At Kurri Kurri and within the Presbyterian Church there on Wednesday, August 8th, 1945, at which place and time the Presbytery of the Hunter met 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 the present mode of nominating the Moderator-General restricts the right of nomination to too small a number.

Whereas the nomination of the Moderator-General by such a limited number does not reflect the mind of the Church as a whole.

It is humbly overtured to the Venerable Assembly of Australia to take these premises into consideration and to enact that Rule 223, Chapter 13, Part I, in the Procedure and Practice of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, be repealed with a view to the substitution of the following rule:

"At the meetings of the several State Assemblies, following the meeting of the General Assembly of Australia, nominations shall be received for the office of Moderator-General; and nominations shall be forwarded to the Clerk of the General Assembly of Australia, who shall in turn send the total number of nominations to the Clerks of the several State Assemblies.

"At the next meeting of each State Assembly a vote will be taken to indicate the mind of the respective Assemblies with regard to the nominees submitted. The result of the vote in each State Assembly will be forwarded to the Clerk of the General Assembly of Australia not later than the 31st day of May. The nominee receiving the highest aggregate vote of the several State Assemblies will be the Moderator-General nominate, to whom intimation of the result shall forthwith be made."

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

The Revs. A. R. Mcvittie, M.A., and James Goudie were appointed to support the Overture.

Extract from the records of the Presbytery of the Hunter, this Eleventh day of August, 1945, by me,

JAMES GOUDIE,
Clerk of Presbytery.

XIII.—From the Presbytery of North Sydney (re th' Method of Electing Moderator-General)

Whereas it is desirable that there should be a wider range of nominators for the Moderator-General.

And whereas preferential voting is a method enabling the mind of the voters to be clearly and simply indicated.

And whereas the arrangements for the nomination of a Moderator seem to fall within the province of the Clerk of Assembly rather than that of the Moderator.

It is therefore humbly overtured by the Presbytery of North Sydney to the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, to take these premises into consideration and amend Rule 1: 223 to read as follows:

"The Nomination of the Moderator of the General Assembly of Australia is made by a Committee consisting of the Moderator, ex-Moderators and Clerk of the General Assembly of Australia, and the Conveners of its Standing Committees (including the A.I.M. Board), together with the Moderators of the several State Assemblies who are in office; the Clerk to be Convener."

"A circular letter is issued by the Clerk to the members of the Committee, not later than the first day of February preceding the General Assembly, asking for nominations; not later than the fifteenth day of March he submits these names to the members of the Committee asking for a preferential vote. The votes on these names must be in the hands of the Clerk for report to the Moderator by May 1st. Intimation of the result is then made to the minister nominated."

Or to deal otherwise with the Overture as the Assembly may seem fit. The Revs. F. Hanlin and J. Waugh were appointed to support the Overture in the General Assembly of Australia.

J. J. GILMORE, Presbytery Clerk.

XIV.—From the Board of Missions (re Membership of the Board)

To the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia.

WHEREAS the Constitution of the Board of Missions (Articles of Agreement, Deed of Union, Clause VII, 1. 135) lays it down that the Board of Missions shall consist of 20 members; AND WHEREAS the Board of Missions considers it necessary to have larger representation for the administration of the Church's missionary work; NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Missions humbly Overtures the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration and determine that Article VII in the Articles of Agreement 135 (1) shall read:

"The Board of Missions shall consist of 28 members, Ministers and Elders, 20 of whom shall be appointed on the nominations of the State Assemblies, 7 by Victoria (2 of whom shall represent J. G. Paton Fund), 5 by New South Wales, 3 by Queensland, 2 by South Australia, 2 by Western Australia and 1 by Tasmania; and 8 by the General Assembly itself. Should a State Assembly fail to nominate, the General Assembly shall appoint in its stead;"

or do otherwise as in its wisdom it thinks fit.

To be stated to the Assembly by the Convener (the Rev. J. McMaster) and the Secretary (the Rev. H. C. Matthew).

IPet'io 0

I.—From the Presbytery of Wagga Wagga (re Mr. Geo. McLean)

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

The Petition of the undersigned, the Presbytery of Wagga Wagga, respectfully showeth:

That Mr. George McLean, who is at present serving as Home Missionary in the Home Mission Station of Brocklesby, is now in his thirty-first year of service under the Home Mission Committee of the Church in N.S.W.

In October, 1914, he was appointed to Woy Woy-Gosford, where he served two and a half years. Rev. Thomas Morgan, then Home Mission Superintendent, wrote him officially: "You have done excellent work at Woy Woy, changing it from a forlorn hope into a live and successful Home Mission Charge."

He was transferred to Bourke in 1917 and remained there until 1925. The work of this enormous parish greatly handicapped him for study; but the Home Mission Committee had no suitable man to take his place and so was unable to move him. The price he paid for rendering outstanding service to the Church in a parish that has always been hard to supply was to delay his studies until his best years for study were past. Foreseeing what would happen, he repeatedly applied for a transfer, but could not obtain one, and in 1921 he submitted his resignation from the service. The Superintendent wrote him on 10th March, 1921, inter alia: "If you are

willing to withdraw your resignation for the time being we have strong hope of gaining the ear of the General Assembly and getting you ordained. A Petition was sent to the General Assembly which met that year, but it was considered that Mr. McLean must petition himself. He petitioned the 1924 Assembly, meantime doing three more years' service at Bourke. The Petition was not sustained, but the Home Mission Committee was instructed to give Mr. McLean facilities for the pursuit of his studies. In the year following he was appointed to Fairfield-Canley Vale, where he laboured for four years in another exceedingly difficult situation. During his time two churches were built in the Charge. He became discouraged in respect of his studies, through the meagreness of his opportunity, and gave up the effort. In 1929 he was appointed to Ungarie-Lake Cargellico, which presented another problem to the Home Mission Committee, and he gave eight years of diligent service there. The Manse building at Tullibigeal was extended during his tenure. In 1937 he was sent to Balranald, where he remained for six years, the second longest term on record. Mr. McLean's record of service compels admiration. His personal qualities have endeared him to his congregations, while as a servant of the Church at large he has been efficient and self-effacing, faithful consistently to the very considerable trust reposed in him. Possessed of spiritual gifts, sound in judgment and temper, acceptable in the pulpit, the dignity of the Church has always been safe in his keeping. He has the natural qualifications that the ministry demands. He is now 54 years of age. In our judgment it would be a fitting recognition of his sterling service if the Church granted him the full rights of the ministry. No precedent would be created, for few could, and we venture to say none would give service of such a type over such a period in hope of being granted ordination. We pray your venerable Court to authorize us to take Mr. McLean on trials for Licence or to do otherwise with our Petition as the General Assembly in its wisdom may deem fit.

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

For the Presbytery,

HAROLD PERKINS, Clerk.

Presbyterys₂ delegates to the Assembly were appointed to present the Petition.

Extract Minute of Presbytery of Wagga Wagga meeting at Holbrook on the 13th day of June, 1945:

"The Clerk submitted a Petition proposed to be presented to the General Assembly of Australia, from the Presbytery, craving authority to take Mr. George McLean on trials for Licence, in consideration of his 31 years of valuable service under the Home Mission Committee. The Petition stated that Mr. McLean had served at Woy Woy-Gosford, two and a half years, Bourke 8 years, Fairfield-Canley Vale 4 years, Ungarie-Lake Cargellico 8 years, Balranald 6 years, and Brocklesby 2 years. He was 54 years of age. The Home Mission Committee had petitioned the General Assembly to ordain him in 1921. It was ruled that he must petition himself. His Petition in 1924 was supported by the Home Mission Committee and the Presbytery of Orange, but was not sustained. His failure to pursue his studies was due to the type of service to which he had, been appointed and in which he had laboured with benefit to the Church and credit to himself."

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the Petition be presented to the General Assembly of Australia by Presbytery's delegates and that the Clerk be authorized to make any amendments found to be desirable.

Extracted from the records of the Presbytery of Wagga Wagga this twenty-sixth day of June, 1945, by me,

HAROLD PERKINS, Presbytery Clerk.

II.—From Mr. C. J. R. Price (for Ordination)

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

The Petitioner begs to submit the following considerations:

That he was born in New Zealand in the year 1898.

That he was engaged in the service of the Education Department of N.Z. from 1915 to 1927.

That at the request of the N.Z. Foreign Missions Committee he resigned from the Education Department to assume for two years the Principalship of the Christian Boys' High School at Kharar, Panjab, India.

That on the conclusion of that appointment he became Director of the Welfare of Youth Department of the Presbyterian Church of N.S.W., and held that office from October, 1929, to December, 1939.

That subsequently he was appointed by the N.S.W. Foreign Missions Committee to its staff as District Missionary in India, and has been on duty there since February, 1940.

That he holds the degrees of Master of Arts, with Honours, and Bachelor of Commerce in the University of New Zealand; was registered as a professional accountant on completing the qualifications for the A.R.A.N.Z. accountancy degree; and holds the "A" Certificate (highest) of the Education Department of N.Z.

That it would be of considerable assistance in the work of the Mission in India if the petitioner were ordained to the ministry, and able to conduct all the rites of the Church.

The Petitioner therefore prays your Venerable Court to consider the above facts and enable him to receive Ordination on passing the Bachelor¹ of Divinity examination of the Melbourne College of Divinity.

And the Petitioner will ever pray.

C. J. R. PRICE.

Sholinghur, South India,
1st August, 1942.

Approved by the Foreign Missions Committee, N.S.W., March 9, 1943*

Approved by the College Committee, G.A. of A., July 5, 1945.

III.—From Mr. A. Maclachlan

The Manse
Cronulla,
16/8/45.

At Sydney, and within St. Stephen's Church, Macquarrie Street, the Presbytery of Sydney being duly met and constituted with prayer. Inter alia:

Petition of Mr. Alan Maclachlan.

It was moved by Rev. G. Cowie, seconded by Rev. H. E. Hulme, and agreed, that the Petition be forwarded to the College Committee with the recommendation that the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that Mr. Alan Maclachlan spend one year in the Theological Hall under the guidance of the College Committee, and be recommended for Licence.

Extracted from the Presbytery Minutes this 16th day of August, 1945, by me,

J. C. MILLIKEN,

Acting Clerk of Presbytery.

To the Venerable the General Assembly of Australia through the Presbytery of Sydney and the College Committee.

The Petition of Alan Maclachlan, at present of the Lady Wakehurst Red Cross Convalescent Home, Waverley, New South Wales, humbly sheweth:

1. Your Petitioner was born at Glasgow, Scotland, in 1899, and is now 46 years of age, married, with one child.

2. During the First World War he joined the Royal Naval Air Service at the age of 17 years, served in this Service and the Royal Air Force, first on anti-submarine patrol, and later in Egypt and British Somaliland until demobilization in 1920, having served for 4 years.

3. In 1923 he migrated to Australia and worked on the land in Victoria and New South Wales for six years, finally as overseer.

4. In 1929 he felt a call to enter the work of the ministry, and was accepted by the Candidates for the Ministry Committee in Sydney as a Home Mission Student, and was directed to undergo a period of instruction under the guidance of the Reverend H. E. Hulme, at Grahame Memorial Church, Waverley.

5. As a candidate for the ministry he supplied for the Home Mission Committee in the following fields: Camden Haven, Comboyne, Cronulla.

6. After passing the Home Mission examinations, he entered St. Andrew's Theological Hall in 1933. He only completed one term, when his health broke down, and on the advice of his medical adviser, Dr. Broome, of Cronulla, he requested to be taken on the staff of the

Home Mission Committee, he then served in the following Charges as a Home Missionary, viz.: Griffith, Merrylands, and Cobar.

7. On the outbreak of the present world war he offered his services to the Y.M.C.A. in October, 1939, and was accepted for the Services overseas, with the A.I.F. He served in Australia until the end of the year.

8. He left Australia with the first contingent of the A.I.F. in January, 1940, and served with them in Palestine, Egypt, Libya and Greece. In Greece he was captured, and spent four years as a prisoner-of-war. in Germany. On first being captured he found that there, were no Chaplains among the P.O.W. in a camp of 10,000. Your Petitioner immediately organized morning and evening services on Sundays, a daily Bible class, and a daily prayer meeting, meeting with a wonderful response.

9. From September, 1942, until liberation in April, 1945, he was Acting Chaplain to the Royal Navy officers and ratings, two separate camps, of 1,700 men.

10. Your Petitioner accordingly prays that the General Assembly of Australia will take these premises into consideration, and authorize the Presbytery of Sydney to take him on trial for licence.

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

B3/139 Senior Representative Y.M.C.A.,

ALAN MACLACHLAN, Petitioner.

Testimonials in support of Mr. Maclachlan's Petition were appended from:

1. Rev. H. E. Hulme, Grahame Memorial Church, Waverley, N.S.W.
2. Rev. E. N. McKie, St. Columba's Manse, Guyra, N.S.W.
3. Mr. R. S. Byrnes, General Secretary, Presbyterian Church, Queensland.
4. Rev. R. G. Cruikshank, H.M. Superintendent, N.S.W.
5. Mr. R. W. Wilson, Y.M.C.A. Commissioner, Sydney.
6. Rev. David F. Brandt, Chalmers' Church, Sydney.
7. Rev. Louis Blanchard, St. Andrew's Church, Auburn, N.S.W.
8. Rev. H. J. Hillman, Ex-Moderator New South Wales Assembly.
9. Rev. C. A. White, Ex-Moderator New South Wales Assembly.
10. Capt. G. F. Wilson, R.N., late Senior British Officer, Morlag Nord.

Re Petition of Mr. Alan Maclachlan.

Dear Mr. Marshall,

With this I send you a Petition from Mr. Alan Maclachlan, praying that authority be given to the Presbytery of Sydney to take him on Trials for Licence.

He completed the Home Mission Course, and attended one term in the Theological Hall, but then returned to the Home Mission service through ill-health.

He served in the Forces from 1916 to 1920, and from 1939 to the present, doing remarkable religious work in the prisoner of war camps where he was confined.

The Presbytery of Sydney recommends that the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that Mr. Maclachlan spend one year in the Theological Hall under the guidance of the College Committee.

I assume that the documents, which include testimonials from the Revs. H. E. Hulme, J. Fairlie Forrest, E. Norman MacKie, R. G. Cruikshank, D. F. Brandt, Louis Blanchard, and H. J. Hillman, and from Messrs. R. S. Byrnes (General Secretary, Queensland) and R. de V. Kidson, Y.M.C.A. Commissioner, will be printed as an Assembly Paper. If this is done, I will be grateful if you would get about 20 copies of the proof, for the use of the College Committee at its meeting before the Assembly.

With every good wish,

Yours sincerely,

A. C. GRIEVE, Secretary.

Mr. Alan Maclachlan

This is to state that I have known Mr. Alan Maclachlan for a period of over 20 years and that he is a personal friend.

I understand that he is making an application for ordination as a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, and I wish to support his Petition.

I met Mr. Maclachlan when, he arrived in Australia with a view to settling here, and through my father (the late Rev. J. A. Forrest) he obtained a position on the land. In this work he gave complete satisfaction to his employers on account of his ability, keenness, and reliability. He spent several years on the land, but felt a call to enter the ministry of our Church and, encouraged by my father and other ministers, he began his course of training. He was employed as a Home Missionary of our Church when the present war broke out, and offered his services to the Y.M.C.A., and has served as one of the representatives for nearly six years.

I was associated with him in Palestine and know how completely successful he was in his work for the men. I frequently heard him spoken of in terms of high praise, not only for his ability in organizing amenities for the men, but particularly for his fine Christian character, and personal worth. We were both taken prisoner in Greece, and, although never in the same prison, I often heard of him through British prisoners whom I met.

Everyone I met picked out Mr. Maclachlan as one who had helped his fellows by his encouragement, his spoken messages at services in the prisons, and his devotion to his comrades. His term of captivity has brought great credit to himself and honour to our Church.

In my opinion Mr. Maclachlan possesses to a marked degree the qualities that we look for in our ministers, and I know that ordination, if granted, would open up for him a wide field of useful service to our Church. He is a fully consecrated Christian, whose experiences have given to him a greater desire than ever to enter the ministry, and I trust that the General Assembly will see fit to grant this Petition.

While in Germany he acted as a fully accredited Padre, and was recognized by the German authorities as such, and accepted by his fellow-prisoners as a minister of the Presbyterian Church, and it was in this capacity that he rendered quite unique and distinguished service.

J. FAIRLIE FORREST,

Former Chaplain and Ex-P.O.W. Minister.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Horsham,

31/7/45.

Returns to the

(Re Administration of Sacraments by Home Missionaries)

Approve: New South Wales: The Presbytery of Dubbo.

Approve: Victoria: The Presbytery of Western Plains.

Re Administration of Sacraments by Home Missionaries: Approve: Queensland: The Presbytery of Rockhampton.

Re Chapter on Discipline: Disapprove: Queensland: The Presbytery of Rockhampton.

iRepo 6

AUSTRALIAN INLAND MISSION (Min. 197)

In presenting this Report, covering the past three years, the Board acknowledges with grateful heart the continued goodness and guidance of our Heavenly Father in the carrying on of the work.

It is with regret we record the passing of Rev. G. Cameron Wood, a member of the Board for twelve years, and for five years Chairman of the Council in N.S.W. The Board placed on record its appreciation of Mr. Wood's services and expressed sympathy with the relatives.

The splendid spirit of sympathy and wholehearted co-operation among the Field Staff and all workers at the Home bases has been a great help and inspiration.

Owing to his transfer from Sydney on Chaplaincy duties, the Rev. R. C. Racklyeft tendered his resignation as Convener. On the advice of the Moderator-General, Mr. Racklyeft's resignation was accepted and the Board elected the Rev. J. Gray Robertson, B.A., B.D., Convener until the next meeting of the Assembly.

The Board placed on record its appreciation of Mr. Racklyeft's services.

Patrols

War conditions have made it impracticable to obtain or maintain a full staff of patrolling ministers. Early in the war several of these ministers volunteered for military service. They have ably represented our Church and the Mission in this new form of Empire service. The following became Chaplains:

Rev. K. C. W. Beckett, who was with the R.A.A.F. in the Darwin area and is now "somewhere in the Islands";

Rev. C. T. F. Goy, was Senior Chaplain in the N.T.; also O.C. Entertainments in that area;

Rev. A. W. Grant, served in the Northern Territory then went through the New Guinea campaign. He is now "somewhere in the Islands";

Rev. J. F. McKay, B.A., B.D., has had a long period of service with the R.A.A.F. in Egypt, Palestine and Italy;

Rev. F. M. Pierce, B.A., served in Libya, Syria and in various parts of Australia;

Rev. P. J. Thomas, has been attached to the Australian Armoured Regiment since its formation.

The loss of so many men naturally curtailed our field work, but on the other hand difficulties of maintaining transport and the evacuation from northern and coastal areas reduced considerably the already small white population in our field; consequently the need for patrols was not so great. Furthermore, with so many Padres serving as Chaplains in the Northern Territory and elsewhere throughout the continent, it has been possible to maintain contact with many of our people in those areas.

The Rev. K. F. Partridge, M.A., and Rev. D. W. McTaggart, B.A., B.D., have between them patrolled a large section of the field. Mr. Partridge has given constant attention to the area between Beltana and Alice Springs, with general oversight over Innamincka and Birdsville, besides occasional trips to Tennant Creek. He also transported the Superintendent to Darwin in 1943. The nurses have been most appreciative of his help and counsel.

Mr. McTaggart's field extended from Alice Springs to Birdum, east of Mt. Isa and west to Broome. He has kept in touch with the men in the many camps in this area and has supervised the work at the Tennant Creek Club. He transported the Superintendent to Darwin in 1944 and patrolled with him to Hall's Creek, Fitzroy Crossing and Mt. Isa. Although Mr. McTaggart had to withdraw temporarily from the field owing to ill-health, he has carried out deputation work in N.S.W. Under doctor's instructions he is not to live in very hot, dry climates for a few years, but this will not preclude his paying short visits to the field in the cool weather, doing some survey work and assisting State Councils by deputation to Presbyteries.

We look forward to the conclusion of the war when a full field staff will again become available.

Mission Centres and Welfare Clubs

Activities at the Club in Darwin have been maintained continuously since its inception in 1940. After the bombing, and the departure of civilians, Chaplain C. T. F. Goy carried on a temporary service, but the strategic importance of the work demanded something more permanent.

Arrangements were therefore made with the Y.M.C.A. to take over and run the Club. This they have done with enthusiasm and efficiency. Fortunately, the premises escaped damage and the Club facilities are used continuously from early morning till late at night. Chaplains from the area conduct services each Sunday, the attendance being between 400 and 500, with up to 600 on special occasions. This is a splendid congregation for a purely voluntary service.

The Board congratulated the Y.M.C.A. on its work at the Club and thanked them for the care taken of the property.

At Tennant Creek the Club has filled a very definite need. Scattered throughout the centre of the continent were many camps, and our Padre and the Welfare Officer have been able to cater for their needs. They have also extended the hand of friendship to the many men and women of the Services passing through. Sunday evening services have been well attended, many Chaplains assisting by occupying the pulpit and dispensing the ordinances of the Church. The Sunday School is flourishing, between 20 and 30 children attending regularly.

Carnarvon has prospered under difficulties. For a period the Club was under the control of the Y.M.C.A. for Army purposes, but civilians were not excluded. During the period of vacancy the local committee, first under the leadership of Mr. Gordon Ewers and then Mr. F. Wells, maintained and extended the work in the Church and Sunday School. Rev. G. W. Holmes, late of Kunmunya, has now taken up the work and the appointment of an ordained minister is appreciated by the local people. On many occasions the congregation numbers 50 and there are 70 pupils enrolled in the Sunday School.

Proposals are being considered for the erection of a hall at the rear of the church for the Sunday School and Church organizations. For various reasons the activities at the Men's Club have languished and a revival is not expected until conditions become normal.

Although Broome has been considered a forward area for several years, the Club facilities have been used continuously by men of the Services, and civilians. Church services and Bible study classes are held regularly. The Mission deeply appreciates the splendid voluntary service rendered at this centre. The manse was placed at the disposal of the Salvation Army as a Red Shield Centre. They have expressed the thanks of the thousands of lads who have benefited from the amenities provided.

During 1944 a new Club building was erected and opened at Mt. Isa. This was made possible by the co-operation of the management of Mt. Isa Mines Ltd. and the military authorities. The building was handed over to the Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Queensland for the purpose of providing amenities for troops in that area and for general Church purposes.

Assistance, by way of grants, has been rendered to Kalgoorlie and Leonora in W.A., Cloncurry in Queensland, Port Augusta in S.A., and the co-operative work of the East-West Railway Mission.

Nursing Homes

The establishment of large forces of Army and Air Force personnel throughout the Inland and large sections of the coastal areas contributed in no small measure to the considerable increase in work at the Nursing Home. Men of the Navy, Army, Air Force and C.C.C. have been nursed and cared for at the Homes. This extra burden has been willingly undertaken by the Sisters, who have been untiring in their efforts, and have won the unstinted thanks and appreciation of the authorities. In spite of the added strain of nursing, the Sisters have made the Homes centres for welfare work where hundreds of lads have been able to enjoy themselves while on short leave. Sunday School classes are held regularly where practicable, and small Fellowship Associations formed. We are proud of our nurses and congratulate them on the moral and spiritual uplift they have inspired in their centres.

Difficulties have been experienced in obtaining pairs of nurses for appointment, but they have eventually been overcome, and with the exception of Fitzroy Crossing closing for a few months all the Homes have been staffed continuously. On one occasion the Army supplied the nurses for a period while a change-over was taking place. Our thanks are due to Manpower authorities for their co-operation.

The Alice Springs Home is still in use by the Army, but its early return is expected. Arrangements are already in train for a resumption of our work at the Alice.

The opening of the coalfield at Leigh Creek, about 25 miles north of Beltana, in S.A., suggested possibilities for an extension of A.I.M. nursing services. The S.A. Government has erected the buildings and the A.I.M. is to furnish, equip, staff and run the Home. This promises to be a busy centre. It will cater for the men on the field as well as for the surrounding station homesteads.

Superintendent

The Superintendent, who will submit a separate report, has visited all States. He was able to make two separate patrols to Darwin, where he was given a most enthusiastic reception by the officers and men of the Services, to whom he conveyed the greetings of the Church on behalf of the Moderator-General.

A Co-operative Movement

In December, 1944, members of the A.I.M. Board conferred with the East-West Railway Mission Committee in Adelaide regarding an extension of the work to the North-South Railway. All present were unanimous in their desire to forward this proposal, and it was decided to form a non-profit association under the Associations Incorporation Act of South Australia with the object of:

1. Taking over responsibility for the control and maintenance of religious and general welfare work which has been carried on by the East-West Railway Mission Committee;
2. Acquiring by transfer the land, together with the buildings, erections and improvements thereon at present held, on behalf of the East-West Railway Mission, by the South Australian Baptist Union Incorporated;
3. Conducting along one or more sections of the North-South Railway regular religious and social activities similar to those of the East-West Railway Mission;
4. Promulgating the Gospel and social welfare among the people in any locality selected by the Association; and
5. The nurture of Christian unity and Church co-operation when and where opportunities arise.

The field of the Association's activities will be the area through which the East-West Railway passes extending from the confines of the Town of Port Augusta to the Town of Cook; the area through which the North-South Railway passes extending from the Town of Hookina to the Town, of Marree, both inclusive, and any other areas which are approved from time to time by the members of the Association in consultation with the Board of Management.

Membership will consist of The Congregational Union and Home Mission of South Australia Incorporated, The Methodist Church of Australasia S.A. Conference, and The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of South Australia Incorporated.

The funds of the Association will be provided by the three members in equal proportion, and there will be equal representation on the Board of Management. The A.I.M. has provided the annual subsidy, on behalf of the Presbyterian Church of South Australia, for the East-West Railway Mission, since the inception of that Mission. It has now given a similar undertaking in respect of the contribution to the new Association. This new enterprise, which is at present limited to the railway line, includes the towns of Beltana and Leigh Creek. There will be no interference with the work of the A.I.M. nurses or patrol padres in that area, but all parties will co-operate in an endeavour to make the visits to the Missioner a success. All joint properties will be held in the name of the Association. A Constitution is being prepared.

Post-War Plans

The Post-War plans of the Board are comprehensive. They include:

1. An increase, as opportunity offers, in the number of patrol districts so as to eliminate excessive travelling and allow for more intensive work.
2. The erection of additional Welfare Clubs, with special consideration to Western Australia.
3. The erection of a new ward for aborigines at Oodnadatta.

4. Provision for aged men of the Inland by the erection of an Old Men's Home.
5. Re-establishment of the work of caring for the women of the Inland at Alice Springs with the reopening of the Rest Home.
6. The enlargement of the Alice Springs Welfare Club building.
7. Enlargement of the Club buildings at Tennant Creek.
8. Re-establishment of the Church and Welfare work at Darwin in collaboration with other denominations, including the erection of a church building worthy of such a strategic centre.
9. A Dental Van to bring expert dental services to the Inland at a nominal cost.
10. Experiment with a van equipped for patrol work, to enable Padres to provide religious films, music and other amenities for small townships, homesteads, etc.
11. Participation to the fullest extent possible in the Commonwealth Co-ordinating Committee on Home Missions.

J. GRAY ROBERTSON, Convener.

A.I.M. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

During the last three years, it has been my privilege to make four excursions into northern areas, traversing lands west of Oodnadatta, Central Australia east and west of the Overland Telegraph, "Battle Areas" near Broome, in and around Darwin (twice), Mount Isa and Cloncurry (twice), towns on the Townsville line, a short visit to our Dunbar Home in York Peninsula, and a few days in Rockhampton.

I travelled long distances by car with Rev. K. F. Partridge, Rev. Dugald McTaggart, and several Padres of Army and Air Force, by air on Qantas lines, and with Doctor Alberry by courtesy of Flying Doctor Service of Australia (Queensland Section), also by railway.

The contrast between war and peace was most vividly brought out when we joined the crowded audience which listened to Marjorie Lawrence at Darwin—6,000 of us in a few square yards, more white people than existed in the whole Territory (one-sixth of Australia) before the war!

But most of the war features are irrelevant to questions of frontier life under peace conditions. These experiences will prove of great value to me, when opportunity comes to prepare a comprehensive statement, impossible in a mere report.

It was most heartening to meet with so much interest and sympathy among all ranks and both sexes of the Services of two nations, as well as among civilians whose value as producers of Army necessities saved them from evacuation. I was proud to see what a vital part was being played in the war effort by our A.I.M. Patrolling Ministers, Sisters, Welfare Officers; the Flying Doctor and wireless systems which we ourselves had originated and built into a strong, independent organization; Presbyterian Padres in the three Services; Y.M.C.A. staff temporarily serving in the large Inter-Church Club provided by ourselves in Darwin; and ministers, Home Missionaries, and congregations throughout Northern Presbyteries.

This month completes the first generation (33 years) of A.I.M. activity, and we give humble thanks to God for that measure of success which has rewarded our efforts. We pay a sincere tribute to the many thousands who have given themselves to A.I.M. service: members of the A.I.M. staff; tradesmen who have erected our buildings; carriers who have carefully transported our materials in difficult country; advocates, subscribers, and benefactors who have provided legacies; the Press; and innumerable friends who have served our Board, Councils, Office Teams, and special Committees, or as advisors thereto.

The A.I.M. began, really, as a temporary effort—something to inspire, succour, and comfort our lonely people until normal population flowed into Australia's vast, almost-empty spaces, bringing in their thousands adequate amenities of life. All these benefits were assumed in those prophecies of enthusiastic months following 1911, when the Commonwealth Government took over all responsibility for Northern Territory, and similar optimism excited those concerned in vast adjacent areas east, west and south.

But most of our A.I.M. field has remained lonely, while some is lonelier than ever. A very significant phrase has emerged: "Permanent pioneering." In fact, instead of State Home Mission Committees following increasing

populations westward and northward while the A.I.M. steadily decreased, the A.I.M. has actually advanced eastward and southward!

That is why I have advocated three things:

1. We must cease to define the A.I.M. by geographical boundaries. It is best defined by its functions. Our national job is to help in caring for people who live beyond "parish" life, i.e., where ordinary Church, social, and economic establishments cannot yet be provided, or where they have had to be abandoned as no longer practicable. We face facts as they are and carry on quietly while others argue about how many months or centuries will elapse before present economic conditions are transformed.
2. We must recognize the value of silent witness by institutions. Evangelism means infinitely more than "preaching." It includes "placarding." The A.I.M., whatever it has failed to do, has placarded Australia's bare surfaces, and also our very skies, to such an extent that people in three continents are widely interested.
3. We must recognize that "Christian Ministry" (in its narrower sense) is two-fold. There is pastoral care, and there is conduct of public worship.

Our aim, not yet attained in full, is to create helpful friendships between experienced Presbyterian ministers and isolated Presbyterian laity, or near-Presbyterians, no matter how far they may have wandered from conventional Kirk Services.

We are doing our share in conducting Public Worship as opportunities offer—and we have made our facilities available to ministers of other branches of the Church, who desire to do likewise.

To me, these two features are absolutely essential to Christian progress—personal contact, even though at long intervals, with that branch of the Church which the individual loves best; and community worship shared by available members of other branches of the Church who also love sincerely, without whose presence and praise there would be inadequate "volume" to lift souls from their private morasses.

Our experience suggests that, where these two features are provided, even once or twice a year, for dwellers in wide, silent spaces, real fellowship can be sustained. How many have realized that some such folk, who come to the Kirk "Rally" only once a year, actually travel further annually than the average suburbanite who registers 52 Church attendances per year!

Such success as we have won in creating "Fellowship without visible frequency," suggests that such links are needed by many Australians who cannot be classed as "Inlanders." Some are exiled for long periods in Pacific islands and elsewhere overseas, others are so nomadic that they do not, perhaps could not, fit into ordinary congregational life.

The needs of Overseas Australians have been brought to the notice of the Home Mission Committee, which, I understand, will submit proposals to this Assembly.

If a successful effort is made to maintain fellowship with our people overseas, and others almost permanently in motion, an experiment would seem to be called for in at least one main Australian port: Could all these apparently vague contacts be strengthened by establishing a "Church of the Wanderers" where nomads could join with overseas folk, and Inlanders on furlough, to "sit under" a pulpit served by rotating Padres of Navy, Army and Air Force, A.I.M. and others?

Paul himself pioneered evangelism per post, and many of us have been impressed by similar effective use of the pen by our A.I.M. ministers. Some valuable work has been done with literature, lantern slides, moving pictures, wireless broadcasting, and gramophone records. Recent advances in quality production encourage us to hope for additional use of all these factors.

Such aids are needed elsewhere, less acutely, perhaps, but in greater quantity than in the A.I.M. It is my hope that, if the Commonwealth Co-ordinating Committee of Home Missions is strongly established, it will facilitate importation, and local preparation of more and better aids of all kinds for Church extension far beyond parish fences. And technique developed especially for the extremities of the ecclesiastical body may provide solutions for many serious problems which still exist within a few miles of our Assembly Halls.

JOHN FLYNN, Superintendent.

AIDS TO DEVOTION COMMITTEE (Min. 69)

Since its appointment in 1914, this Committee has been at work on the preparation of a Book of Common Order (G.A.A.B.B., 1914, Min. 81).

In September, 1920, Part II, dealing with "The Sacraments and Other Offices of the Church," was published by Messrs. Angus and Robertson of Sydney, with the authority of the G.A.A., and a second edition, revised with additions, was issued in February, 1929. The General Assembly of 1936 instructed the Committee to complete the preparation of Part I, and to revise Part II. The Report of the Committee to the 1939 Assembly explains the advisability of postponing the preparation of Part I, on which some work had already been done, and the apparent necessity of continuing the revision of Part II (G.A.A.B.B., 1939, p. 159), and the Assembly accepted the Committee's advice (*ibid.*, Min. 52). Further explanation of the wisdom of postponing the revision of Part II was given in the Report of 1942 (G.A.A.B.B., 1942, pp. 74 and 75), and this advice was also accepted, but the Committee was instructed to consider future procedure and report (*ibid.*, Min. 54 (4)).

These decisions of Assembly, together with the pressure of wartime conditions, have given your Committee cause to review the whole situation, while the remitting of the Hamilton Overture re Subjects of Baptism to the Committee for consideration and report (*ibid.*, Min. 45) seems to give further definite indication of the Assembly's conception of the range and character of the Committee's activities. With a view to strengthening the Executive, it was agreed, on the suggestion of the Convener, that the Rev. Alan Watson be appointed Co-Convener. At the request of the Moderator-General, a service suitable for use on Anzac Sunday, 1943, which was also Easter Sunday, was prepared, and copies were sent to all ministers and Missionaries of the Church.

With regard to future procedure (G.A.A.B.B., 1942, Min. 45 (4)), the following decisions were made: I. That, inasmuch as some guidance in the preparation of Special Services is appreciated, and in view of the fact that the devotional life of our people covers a wider field than is dealt with in the Book of Common Order, the G.A.A. be requested to change the name of this Committee to "Aids to Devotion Committee," and give it responsibility for such devotional help as from time to time may seem desirable.

II. That in view of the facts (a) that "the setting of a norm for the orderly and reverent conduct of the various public services in which ministers have to lead their people," has been found necessary by branch after branch of the Presbyterian Church throughout the world (see, e.g., the prefaces to the U.F. Church of Scotland (1928) B. of C.O., and to that of the re-united Church of Scotland (1940)); (b) that the G.A.A. has authorized Part II of the B. of C.O., and instructed its Committee to revise the orders contained therein; (c) that the G.A.A. has also recommended as a reliable guide to the Conduct of Public Worship the Church of Scotland's B. of C.O. (1940); it is desirable that the G.A.A. should now instruct the B. of C.O. Committee to reconsider the question of policy raised by these facts and report to next Assembly.

It will, of course, be kept in mind that the Committee has already carefully prepared a Draft of the Revised Baptismal Service "in order to show the possibilities of such a revision" (G.A.A.B.B., 1939, pp. 159-161). Correspondence has revealed the fact that misunderstanding still exists as to the purpose of each and all of these Presbyterian Books of Common Order. Such misunderstanding is explicitly removed by the Preface to the Scottish Book of Common Order (1940), which states that "the General Assembly, by authorizing these books, has recognized that the provision of such forms implies no desire to supersede free prayer," and then gives a clear explanation of what is meant by "setting the norm for the orderly and reverent conduct of such services."

Instructions were finally given to the Committee to consider and report to the next meeting of Assembly on the Hamilton Overture re Subjects of Baptism (G.A.A.B.B., Min. 46 and pp. 116-117). After careful consideration and consultation with members of Committee in other States, the Executive came to the unanimous conclusion that in this Overture a real and vital need is indicated, but in terms not well chosen to serve the end in view.

The Overture ought, therefore, to be sustained in so far as it indicates an existing need. The proposals of the Overture, on the other hand, should be disapproved because they are inadequate to meet the need, and seem to emphasize unduly the manward aspects of the Sacrament. To meet the existing need something is being done already by the Board of Religious

Education at the request of the Victorian Assembly (V.B.B., 1941, Min. 373). A copy of the Board's "Leaflet on Baptism for parents presenting their child to be baptized" was submitted to the B. of C.O. Committee by the courtesy of the Convener and Secretary. The problem was discussed, and suggestions for strengthening the statement contained in the leaflet were graciously received by Messrs. Waters and McNaughton. While this leaflet will, we hope, help to meet the need emphasized in the Overture, it is not a full solution of the problem, which, in the view of this Committee, can be secured only by the well-directed personal presentation of the Church's doctrine and practice in the ministry of a Sacrament, not only instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ, but vital to the achievement of His purpose in the Holy Gospel.

Your Committee, therefore, respectfully submits the following proposals: (a) that the B. of C.O. Committee be directed to consider and report to next Assembly how the existing need may best be met; (b) that, meanwhile, powers be given to the Committee to revise, in the light of Gospel Truth and Spiritual Experience, and to publish, with such simple explanation as may best serve the purpose, the Baptismal Order already approved by this Assembly, and in part revised by the Committee; (c) that meanwhile ministers be recommended to use the Church of Scotland's booklet on the Sacrament of Baptism.

Addendum

The full Committee met on September 13th, 1944, in conference with the G.A.A. Advisory Committee, heard the above Report, approved its proposals, and instructed the Executive to proceed to develop these proposals, also to prepare and submit an alternative adequate Form to that proposed in the Hamilton Overture (G.A.A.B.B., 1942, pp. 116 and 117).

W. BORLAND,
ALAN C. WATSON,
Co-Conveners.

BENEFICIARY FUND (Min. 218)

While travel restrictions have prevented your Committee from meeting, and at this stage correspondence does not avail much, it is reported that so far only one State Assembly has raised any objection to the formation of an Australian Fund based on the scheme tentatively adopted in 1926 (i.e., Western Australia—"rates too high for ministers and Charges."). Some New South Wales officials anticipate difficulty in getting acceptance of the scheme there, but as yet the New South Wales Assembly has not expressed its mind as requested in Minute 81, clause 4, G.A.A., 1939.

A conference with non-accepting States may help to remove objections and lead to the re-submission of the 1926 proposal. This should lead to a possible acceptance, or at least alternative suggestions.

The main objections appear to be twofold:

- (1) The higher rates required in keeping with the greater benefits of the proposed new Fund.
- (2) The ability of present State Funds to meet annuities to the youngest members on the Funds, from resources available when such Funds eventually close.

In the latter case actuarial advice could be supplied and consideration given to the problem. Your Committee should have opportunity of continuing investigations along those lines.

A. M. CLARK, Convener.

BOARD OF MISSIONS (Min. 187)

General

Of the members of the Board, the Rev. A. E. C. Collins has been, and still is, on Chaplaincy duty. The Board co-opted to the Executive the Rev. J. C. Jones and Dr. L. J. Balfour, and to the full Board the Rev. V. W. Coombes.

The Board deeply regrets the loss by death of the Rev. T. Watt Leggatt on 29/8/1944, who, as a member and Convener of the Board for many years, rendered great service to the Church and the cause of Missions. Though he retired in 1939, to the end of his life he took a keen interest in the work amongst the Aborigines.

In 1944 the Board of Missions became a member of the National Missionary Council of Australia.

Frazer Scholarship

For two years, 1943 and 1944, Miss Margaret Cranstoun, a missionary volunteer for China and a student at Rolland House, was given a scholarship of £15 per annum.

The Staff

War conditions have caused many movements amongst the staff. The Rev. G. W. Holmes succeeded the Rev. J. R. B. Love as Superintendent at Kunmunya in 1940, and left at the end of 1944, after a period of faithful service during a trying period. Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Paton acted for a term as missionary assistants and gave valuable help. At the end of 1944 the Rev. A. J. Heggie, with Mrs. Heggie, was appointed Superintendent, and Mr. and Mrs. K. L. Drew took up the work as missionary assistants. It is hoped their period of service will be long and fruitful.

At Ernabella the staff is now the Rev. J. R. B. Love, Superintendent, and Mrs. Love; Teacher: Mr. R. M. Trudinger; Missionary Assistants: Mr. and Mrs. W. B. MacDougall and Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Henderson.

Mr. L. B. Young left, hoping to be accepted for military service. Mr. and Mrs. S. Ward gave four years of fine service at Ernabella. Mr. S. Brown helped splendidly in a temporary capacity. Mr. W. B. MacDougall was given leave of absence to serve in the Army. Mr. Love has intimated to the Board that in February, 1947, the beginning of his long furlough, he plans to retire from the mission field. By that time he will have spent 30 years in work amongst the Aborigines, and his wife 23 years. The Board contemplates this retirement with very deep regret.

For two periods, one at Kunmunya and one at Ernabella, the P.W.M.U. of Victoria gave the services of Dr. Jean Davies, which proved very acceptable to the missionaries and the natives. In 1944 Dr. R. Trudinger spent some weeks on medical patrol at Ernabella, and gave a full report of his work.

After 15 years' connection with the Board of Missions, giving valuable assistance to the Secretary, Miss E. M. Woodward left for Sydney in 1944 to take up the position of Associate Secretary in the National Missionary Council of Australia.

The Board is concerned about the increased cost of living, and is examining the position as it affects its missionaries. In the three-year period it has raised the amount allowed for children's allowance, but it is not satisfied that the missionaries are receiving sufficient salary.

Reports from State Committees

Reports are appended from Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, Western Australia, and South Australia.

Committee on Missionary Education and Publications

Following upon a Conference, held in 1943, which was attended by representatives of Missionary Committees of the Victorian Church, a request came before the Board of Missions for the establishing, under its auspices, of a Committee to foster missionary education. This Committee was set up and sought the co-operation of the State Foreign Mission Committees. It began by co-operating with the Mission Band Committee in Victoria. It took the responsibility of publishing the Mission Bank Text-book in 1944 and 1945. These books were of general missionary interest and were adapted for use as Mission study books. These are: "Brown Folk and Coral Isles," a study with stories of the Pacific Islands; and "What we saw in India," a study of India, with stories of Indian life.

The Committee is at present at work on a Missionary book on East Africa, which will be used as the study text-book for 1946.

Besides these, the Committee has issued as Burning Bush Publications: "Spring in the Heart," the story of the Rev. Yaksin Lee of Korea; "Fred Paton of Malekula," New Hebrides; and "When the Light Came," the stories of two Hindus, one a High Caste and the other a Low Caste, by the Rev. G. B. Ogden.

This venture was made possible by the very generous assistance rendered to the Committee by the P.W.M.U. of Victoria, which has made two contributions of £100 each, and by the Foreign Mission Committee of Victoria, which gave £100.

There is a steady sale for all of these publications, especially in Victoria. The Presbyterian Bookroom has throughout given the Committee very generous co-operation.

Prayer Fellowship

The Prayer Fellowship has not been issued since 1942. The Board of Missions asked the Committee on Missionary Education and Publications to take up the matter of issuing a Missionary Cycle of Prayer or a Prayer Fellowship for 1946. It has a sub-committee working upon an enlarged Prayer Fellowship, and hopes to issue one for 1946 on the basis of a monthly Cycle of Prayer.

Co-operation with the Church of Christ in China

The General Assembly of Victoria passed the following resolution, and, as it seeks for the approval of the General Assembly of Australia, it is here reported upon. The resolution is:

"After consultation with the Budget Committee, approve the recommendation of the Foreign Mission Committee, that the Church co-operate with the Church of Christ in China by sending missionaries, by guaranteeing their support, and by making such other contribution as may be deemed necessary; and, inasmuch as this decision means the originating of a new Mission, authorize the Foreign Mission Committee to bring the matter to the General Assembly of Australia for its approval."

The Board cordially recommends the approval of this opening up of new work in China, and prays that God's richest blessing may rest upon its labours and labourers.

Co-ordination of the Missionary Work of the Presbyterian Church of Australia

Whilst this is a matter which is being reported upon by a special Committee of the General Assembly of Australia, it has come before the Board, and the Board prepared and issued to its members a statement upon it.

Resolutions have come to the Board on this subject. First, the Women's Missionary Association of N.S.W. forwarded the following motion, which was passed at its Annual Meeting on 15/3/1945:

"In view of the fact that the Church's missionary work should be its first concern, and that the urgency of it demands that it must be done with the greatest efficiency, we plead that the missionary work of the Presbyterian Church of Australia be brought under one control at the earliest opportunity; that, in the meantime, the State Foreign Mission Committees be invited to work in as close co-operation as possible; that there be interchange of missionary news between the States; that publicity be given to all the missionary work of the States in the Church's official organs; that the Church's urgent need of missionaries be made known in all the States; and that the names of vacant missionary stations or fields be kept constantly before the whole Church in Australia."

Further, there came to the Board messages from the Assemblies of New South Wales and Victoria. From New South Wales the intimation was:

"The General Assembly, at its recent session (May, 1945) gave general approval to the principle that the Foreign Mission work of the Presbyterian Church of Australia should be co-ordinated under one Federal Board."

The Foreign Mission Committee of the N.S.W. Church was instructed to confer further with the General Assembly of Australia Special Committee on Closer Co-operation in Missionary Work, and with the Board of Missions, with a view to making the whole missionary work of the whole Church of Australia the responsibility of all States. From the Assembly of Victoria came the resolution:

"Authorize the Foreign Mission Committee to confer with the Co-ordinating Committee of the General Assembly of Australia and with the Board of Missions with a view to making the whole missionary work of the Church of Australia the responsibility of all States."

The statement issued to members of the Board is attached.

At the General Assembly of 1936, the Board of Missions accepted a motion submitted by the Rev. E. H. Vines as follows:

"Direct the Board of Missions, in consultation with the Foreign Mission Committees of the various States, to consider the advisability of bringing the Foreign Mission work of the various States under some single control, or at least into closer co-operation, with a view to securing a wider missionary outlook and an increased missionary enthusiasm, and report to next Assembly."

In 1939 the Assembly approved of a motion for the appointment of "a Special Committee, consisting of two representatives from each State Foreign Mission Committee to investigate the possibility of securing closer co-operation in the Missionary work of the Churches within the Presbyterian Church of Australia."

At the same time, the Assembly agreed to "refer Article VII of the Articles of Agreement to the Committee on the Code for an interpretation of and a report on the meaning of Rules 137 and 138, bearing upon the powers of the Board of Missions."

So far the Board has received no report from the Committee on the Code; nor has it heard from the Law Agent of the Church to whom it addressed two letters asking for an interpretation of the rules governing the Constitution of the Board of Missions. At the same time most of those who have given consideration to it are of opinion that the Board of Missions, as at present constituted, is the "one control" under which the Missionary operations of the various State Foreign Mission Committees can be carried out.

At the 1939 Assembly the Special Committee sought for was appointed and instructed to draw up a scheme and put it into effect, subject to the approval of all the State Assemblies. The Committee is as follows: Revs. C. E. Turnbull (Convener), T. McDougall, J. E. Owen, G. Anderson, D. A. Brown, D. Galloway, J. E. Lloyd, H. Scott, R. V. Merritt, R. T. White, J. A. Adamson, and G. Tulloch.

This Committee reported to the Assembly of 1942 that it was of opinion that "it was virtually asked to fulfil the intention of the Deed of Union (I, 134-139) in constituting the Board of Missions to the Heathen." It went on to say that "it now considers that the purpose of the Deed of Union should be carried out and seeks the co-operation and consent of all State Foreign Mission Committees for that object."

It then made these recommendations:

1. The establishment of an All-Australian Presbyterian Missionary Magazine.
2. Interchange of Missionary News between the States.
3. Make the New Hebrides Synod an effective Field Council.
4. Interchange between the States of Missionaries on furlough.

On 8/3/1944 a joint meeting of the Board of Missions and this Special Committee on Co-operation was held in Sydney. This joint meeting agreed to the following proposals:

1. That the ultimate goal of the Church is that all Missionary work should be brought under a single control, and that this should be achieved as early as possible.
2. That the immediate objective should be to secure increasingly closer co-operation amongst the States in the Missionary Enterprises and with the Board of Missions.

The joint meeting reviewed the co-operation which was already being negotiated in the New Hebrides; between Western Australia and New South Wales; and between Victoria and New South Wales in literature and propaganda material and in Deputation Work. It further considered possibilities of still closer co-operation:

1. In combined Missionary Demonstrations.
2. In regular exchange of Deputationists.
3. In an All-Australia Missionary Magazine.
4. In Australia-wide planning of young people's Mission Bands.
5. In wider use of films.
6. In recruitment of Missionaries.

In August, 1944, the Moderator-General, the Rt. Rev. R. W. Macaulay, sent a letter to Moderators of State Assemblies and to Conveners of Assembly Committees calling for a forward movement and inviting Committees and Boards to meet with the Advisory Committee of the General Assembly of Australia.

In association with others, the Board of Missions met on the 12th and 14th September, 1944. At this meeting, the following motion was unanimously adopted:

"Having regard to the material submitted by the Moderator-General from the State Foreign Mission Committees and following the recommendations of the General Assembly's Committee on Closer Co-operation, the Board of Missions resolves:

"1. That further steps be taken to secure the co-ordination of all Foreign Mission work being done by the Presbyterian Church of Australia, so that all the State Churches, through their Foreign Mission Committees, take part in the missionary witness of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

"(i) That an adequate share in the evangelization of the aborigines of Australia be accepted as a primary task of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

"(ii) That all the States be invited to participate in the completion of the evangelization of the natives of the New Hebrides.

"(iii) That all the States be invited to co-operate with the Church in New South Wales in its mission in India, and in any extension of such missionary work.

"(iv) That all the States be invited to co-operate with the Foreign Mission Committee of Victoria in its plans for missionary work in the Far-East, (a) in the reopening of its work in Korea; (b) in sharing in mission work in any other field.

"2. That the Board of Missions invite the State Foreign Mission Committees to co-operate with it with a view to:

"(i) Surveying and reporting on their present missionary responsibility in missionary work and in moneys.

"(ii) Examining the financial response for missionary work in each State.

"(iii) Estimating from these surveys the work which should be undertaken by the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

"(iv) Arranging that all States should be informed of all missionary operations and plans, so that they may have an opportunity to share.

"3. That the Board investigate the possibility of issuing an All-Australia Missionary Magazine.

"4. That in view of the possibility that such surveys may lead to the opening of new fields or to the sending of missionaries to other fields than those already opened by the States, and in view of clause 138 (4) in the Deed of Union, the Board approach the Advisory Committee on the matter of any such extension as the Board may decide upon."

Following upon the adoption of this resolution the Board sent a letter to all State Foreign Mission Committees asking for the material which would enable it to make a survey of the Missionary situation, and the possibilities of expansion, within the Church of Australia. So far only New South Wales and South Australia have sent replies.

Further, a questionnaire about an All-Australia Missionary Magazine was sent out to about 100 interested people. Replies received were considered by a sub-committee. With the exception of two, all who replied favoured the establishment of such a magazine with a view to helping in the closer co-operation of Missionary Work throughout the Church of Australia. No sub-committee made certain recommendations about the editing of such a magazine.

A sub-committee is also at work on the production of a Prayer Fellowship or a Cycle of Prayer covering all the Church's Missionary Operations as a means of securing closer co-operation. This sub-committee hopes to report in the course of a few weeks.

Kunmunya

The missionaries were seriously handicapped by the loss of a boatman when Alfred Brown left at a critical period in 1942. For many months the Rev. G. W. Holmes had to take charge of the running of the boat. Only towards the end of 1944 was the Mission able to secure, in Walter Busch, 3 boatman from Mapoon, able to take charge of the boat. Unfortunately, on November 1st, 1944, when the boat ran into Augustus Island to get water, it was thrown on the rocks and wrecked. At first it was thought that the Watt Leggatt was a total wreck, but Mr. Heggie was able to have the boat refloated, the engine salvaged, and the boat repaired. At the time

of writing the Board is awaiting the report of the experts on the boat, as to whether it will prove to be seaworthy. It has made one journey to Broome under sail, but the experts are subjecting the boat to certain further tests. At once, when the news came through that the boat was a total wreck, an appeal was sent throughout the Church for funds to cover the heavy costs involved in the disaster. At the same time reports were issued from time to time as to the real state of affairs. Transport by boat between Broome and Kunmunya is absolutely necessary for the maintenance of the work of the Mission, and boats had to be hired, repairs had to be paid for, and the Board still awaits the final statement of costs.

Landing Ground

At Kunmunya there is a landing ground large enough for the smaller planes to land, but too small for the larger planes now in use. The Board has been in consultation with the Civil Aviation authorities with a view to providing a landing ground which could be approved by and registered with the Civil Aviation Department, which would be capable of receiving the larger planes. Much of the ground around the Mission is of a rocky character. At present Mr. Heggie awaits the coming of an inspector of the Civil Aviation Department, who will decide upon certain areas which might be used for the purposes of a landing ground. There is an aeroplane service once a fortnight, which would serve Kunmunya with mails and lighter stores if the landing ground were large enough.

Utility Truck

Kunmunya Mission is three miles away from the launch landing place and all goods have to be carried by the natives and the missionaries over this distance. It is hoped to secure a utility truck for this purpose, and for use within the station.

Mr. Heggie and Mr. Drew have been for too short a time at Kunmunya to be able to give a full report of the work, but both indicate that the station property is in good repair, that the health of the natives is good, and that they are working happily together. The situation revealed in the latest report (1944) shows that an average of 77 natives were around the Mission station; that there was only one death during the year, and there were no births. One of the greatest problems is that of marriageable young men and women who have no prospect of marriage from the tribal point of view. The younger natives under 30 no longer put much emphasis on old tribal customs.

The Government Medical Officer visited Kunmunya and examined 104 natives for leprosy. He found one leper. In the past two years six natives have been sent from the station to the Derby Leprosarium, three have returned cured.

There were 14 children on the school roll, but six of them were from Sunday Island and were half-caste.

Ernabella

The Superintendent's Report for the year ending June 30th, 1945, gives a full account of all that is being done at Ernabella. But the Board desires to make acknowledgments of very generous help and co-operation given by warm friends of the Mission.

First, the Board acknowledges the fine generosity of the P.W.M.U. of Victoria in donating £800 towards the cost of erecting a cottage at Ernabella. This cottage will be used as the home of a nurse, and of a relieving teacher. The P.W.M.U. is further co-operating in providing the salary of the nurse when a nurse can be found.

Also, the Aborigines Auxiliary Group, which is affiliated with the P.W.M.U. of Victoria, has given generous assistance in providing the money to furnish the cottage. The cottage, is now being erected.

Throughout the years the Aborigines Protection Board has given ready assistance in all matters affecting the well-being of the natives.

The Board also records its great indebtedness to Mr. L. A. Borgelt of Adelaide. Mr. Borgelt has willingly put his expert knowledge at the disposal of the Mission and has attended to the many motor repairs made necessary in such a country. He purchased, and delivered at Ernabella, the new motor truck. Besides all this Mr. Borgelt, having his own coloured moving films of Ernabella, has on many occasions lectured on Ernabella and made his films available to the Board.

The Rev. J. E. Owen visited Ernabella in 1943 at the desire of the

Board, and his account of his visit, "A Visitor's Diary," has had a wide circulation, and has interested many people in Ernabella.

Four times a year an Ernabella News Letter is issued. 2,000 copies are circulated to a wide constituency of friends.

The Adelaide sub-committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. Duguid, has continued to give effective co-operation with the Board.

The Financial Statement for the three-year period to 30/6/1945 is appended.

Financial

In the balance which is shown in the statement of receipts and payments to 30/6/1945 there are certain sums which are earmarked for certain purposes. There is the sum of £1,000, a legacy from Miss C. G. Balfour, which is set aside for the erection of the church at Ernabella. There are also sums amounting to £40 for the furnishings of the church. There is the sum of £800 from the P.W.M.U. of Victoria, given for the erection of the cottage at Ernabella which is now being erected.

There is, further, the money received for Child Endowment, £502/15/-, which has to be used in the interest of the children at Ernabella, probably for the erection of a new school. These sums account for £2,342 of the credit balance shown.

On the expenditure side, salaries have been slightly increased and must certainly increase still more. The yearly grant for maintenance at Ernabella has had to be increased owing to the increased cost of freight. It now stands at £760 per annum.

When the cottage is erected, there will be four residences on Ernabella: a school, a hospital-dispensary, a wool-shed and a store. There remain to be built the church, a new school and a craft-school. A gratifying feature of the situation is the excellent returns from the wool-clip each year. This with the donations from a large number of interested friends has enabled the Board to carry out its building programme.

Staff

Rev. and Mrs. J. R. B. Love, Superintendent; Mr. and Mrs. W. B. MacDougall, Missionary Assistant; Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Henderson, Missionary Assistant; Mr. R. M. Trudinger, School Teacher.

During the twelve months under review Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Young left Ernabella, in July last, after rendering valuable work in the care of the sheep and industrial work of the Station. Their place has been taken by Mr. and Mrs. MacDougall, who have returned to Ernabella after two years of Army service by Mr. MacDougall.

Mr. S. Brown left Ernabella in October last, after completing an excellent new woolshed, among other good services. His place has been taken by Mr. and Mrs. Henderson.

In addition to the teaching and industrial life of the Station each of the men takes a service in the church once per month, while the ladies share in the conduct of a women's Bible class. Thus all the members of the staff have a direct share in the religious instruction of our native people.

Vital Statistics

The average attendance at the Mission on Sunday afternoons for the last three months of 1944 was 166. The highest attendance on one day was 291, and the lowest 49 for 2 months.

7 births and 7 deaths were recorded, all full-blooded aboriginals.

Medical

About 450 medical treatments were given in the dispensary.

Diseases treated were coughs and influenza, frost-cracked feet, burns, spear wounds, heads cut in fighting, suppurating ears, sore eyes, septic sores, ear-ache, stomach ache, diarrhoea, boils, injuries from falls from trees, staked feet, mammitis, ringworm, carbuncle, sprains, thrush, and a recent epidemic of what seems to be like "dobie itch" or mange, scabies.

In the case of internal pains it is not easy to ascertain the cause of illness, as the patients just say "Mamutja," i.e., possessed of a devil, a reply that covers all causes of illness. They want medicine to drink, and are not very helpful in finding out what is wrong.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to Dr. Charles Duguid, of Adelaide, for his ready advice on medical matters and his choosing and having forwarded medical supplies; also to the Secretary of the South Australian Aborigines Protection Board, Mr. W. R. Penhall, for his generous help in supplying our medical needs.

There are few days when there are no patients at the morning sick parade, and though the majority of these are minor complaints, this fine building is continually proving its value to the work of the Mission. The savage life is shown in the number of spear wounds and cut heads to be treated: the spear wounds are usually the injuries of the men, and the cut heads are received by the women in their differences. One poor old woman was badly burnt by a man in a fit of rage, throwing fire over her. She made a good recovery. A young man who was speared twice through the leg in punishment for a moral offence was not so fortunate, as he died in Alice Springs Hospital.

Industrial

The main industry of Ernabella is sheep raising, for wool.

Gardening is also carried on, to produce food; and the usual carpentry and blacksmithing incidental to the working of a Station, handling of stock—sheep, goats, horses and camels—and maintenance of the motor truck, are all industrial occupations that find employment and training.

Each man of the staff will present to the Board of Missions his own share of the work of Ernabella, so I need only summarize.

Sheep: 2,768 were shorn, producing 81 bales of wool. The sheep are kept in flocks of five or six hundred each, in the care of a native couple, who take them each day to feed, and water, yarding them at night. Each couple serve for three months, then resume their bush life, hunting for their food in their own bush country.

Two hundred goats supply the station with milk and meat.

Forty horses do part of the station work.

Eight camels are kept for patrols into the West country among the bush people.

The year 1944 was a year of drought, only 2.19 inches of rain falling between the 1933 and 1944 shearing seasons. In spite of this low rainfall, the wool clip was better than might have been expected. There were heavy losses of young sheep among the weaners, but the older sheep came through quite well.

Regarding the food of the native people in the drought—at first there was a remarkable influx of kangaroos, and the people had abundant meat. As the drought went on, the kangaroos became poor and native food became scarce. We are greatly indebted to the Aborigines Protection Board of South Australia for making special rations available to the people till the rains came. For a couple of months free food was issued to all men, women and children. This was a temporary measure only, to help them through the drought. With the first rains the people scattered to hunt for bush foods, and the free feeding was discontinued. The native people know that in time of need they will find help at Ernabella, and I think they appreciate this fact.

Mr. MacDougall took over the charge of the livestock from Mr. Young.

Mr. Henderson has taken over what is the most important part of the Mission, no doubt, in the eyes of the native people, viz., the store. Daily rations are cooked and supplied to workers, school children and old and infirm.

On Saturday mornings the store is open for purchase of goods.

The main source of income for the people is dingo scalps. The people kill dingoes and bring the scalps to Ernabella, where they receive the bonus of 12/6 for the scalp of a grown dog and 10/- for that of a pup. Scalps of 252 dogs and 415 pups were sent to Adelaide for total receipts of £370/5/-. Most of this money is spent on flour, tea, sugar, jam, preserved fruits, billy-cans and quart pots. Clothes are much desired, but are not easy to get at present.

Mr. Henderson is now completing the building of a cookhouse and bake oven, in which it is intended to bake yeast bread for the people.

School, under the care of Mr. Trudinger, is held in the mornings, and the older boys have been working under his teaching in gardening in the school garden, producing part of their food. Owing to the low rainfall only hand-watered crops can be grown. The number of children attending school varies from about 20 to 60 or more, at one time even reaching 110 (for one day, in a former year). The average is about 50.

Instruction is given in the usual subjects in the native language and in English.

A new school building is needed, and has been under favourable consideration, pending the completion of building now in hand.

The following improvements have been completed:

A woolshed was built by Mr. Brown, and is in use most satisfactorily.

A windmill and 5,000-gallon tank, donated by the Adelaide Ernabella Mission Committee, on raised stand, has been erected, and water laid on to manse and garden and the house occupied by Mr. Henderson.

A windmill, with 1,000-gallon tank and troughs, has been erected at Donald Well, for sheep.

A windmill, with tank and troughs, has been erected at Tjaljaritj or Young's Well, the well sunk by Mr. Young, for sheep.

A well has been sunk four miles from Ernabella by Mr. F. Quinn, getting good water at 45 feet.

A well has been sunk for the native people's camp use, getting good water at 14 feet. This well is the gift of the S.A. Government, through the good offices of the Secretary of the Aborigines Protection Board, a total of £100 being granted—the balance to be spent in equipping the well with washing facilities for the people.

A study, of locally made cement bricks, has been built for the use of the Superintendent, by Mr. W. Marsland.

Material for a four-roomed house for the use of a nurse and relieving lady teacher has been donated by the P.W.M.U. of Victoria. The material is assembled and building is to start at once.

A class of "Brownies" for the girls has been conducted by Mrs. MacDougall. This is much enjoyed by the girls and will be a great factor for good.

A great deal of work for an aeroplane landing ground has been done. Mr. Young grubbed the trees; Mr. F. Quinn's camels were employed to drag a heavy grader over three runways; and a drag has been pulled by the motor truck, using a special issue of petrol. In spite, of all this, the ground is not fit for licence as a landing ground. The soil is soft. Each rain brings up grass and herbage, and each strong wind blows the surface into ridges and lumps. I think a satisfactory ground can be prepared, but it will be a long and costly job, and it will need much constant work to keep the ground fit for use.

Finance

From July 1st, 1944, to June 1st, 1945, total receipts were £1,633/17/4, expenditure £1,624/3/3, leaving a credit balance of £9/14/1.

Principal sources of income were grant from Board of Missions, receipts from dingo scalps, freights earned by motor truck, and donations.

Principal expenses were goods (groceries), cost of petrol, maintenance of truck, rations and clothes to shepherds and workers, and telegrams.

Visitors to Ernabella were Dr. R. Trudinger, who made a medical patrol out to the west at the end of last twelve months; Rev. W. H. Rainy, of the Bible Society; and Rev. K. F. Partridge, of the A.I.M.; as well as a number of casual visitors who came out in the mail truck to see the Mission.

Religious Instruction

Daily morning prayers are held for workers, staff, children and pensioners. Morning and evening services on Sundays. It is not easy to assess results. I think there may not be much to point to as results till we have a generation of young people grown up largely under the influence of the Mission. Relations between natives and the missionaries have been, on the whole, very happy.

To my fellow-workers, to the Board of Missions, the Committee in Adelaide, naming particularly Mr. H. M. Caire, our Honorary Treasurer, and Mrs. Rogers, Secretary to the Aborigines Protection Board, I offer thanks, under the good hand of God, for another year's work safely completed.

(Signed) J. R. B. LOVE.

N.B.: Mr. Trudinger and Mr. Love are engaged in working over the translation of the Gospel according to St. Mark in the native tongue. A lady has already given a sum towards the cost of printing this, when it shall be ready to present to The British and Foreign Bible Society.

All of this is reported on behalf of the Board of Missions.

JAS. McMASTER, Convener.

ABORIGINAL MISSIONS, QUEENSLAND, 1942-1944

For practically the whole period under review, the work at each station has been carried on solely by one missionary and his wife. The impossibility of securing an adequate staff has imposed a very heavy burden on all missionaries, and in most cases there has only been the Superintendent and his wife on each station. The exigencies of the war situation imposed further heavy responsibilities on all superintendents, and at Aurukun and Mornington Island there was not only an establishment of service personnel for more than two years, but also a constant coming and going of officers and men of the Forces. This had its effect on the people, but it is good to know that the conduct of servicemen on all occasions was exemplary, and the natives suffered nothing by their association with them. Indeed, their horizons were widened, and their contacts with large numbers of white men has given them more than a glimpse of the wider world, and many of them are reaching out for a larger life than the old tribal ways could give them.

Many of the men enlisted in the A.I.F. and have acquitted themselves well, while so many were employed on C.C.C. jobs that sometimes there were hardly enough men to carry on the work of the stations. The employment of so many of the men far from the influence of the Missions has not always produced the best results. They received high wages which were often spent foolishly and recklessly, and were under constant temptation to gamble and drink. Returning to the Missions when this work ceased, many of the men missed the high wages to which they had become accustomed, and were greatly unsettled for some time. A further effect of the temporary prosperity caused by such wages was shown in the attitude of the women. Formerly they were glad to make fans and fancy work, payment for which added to their income. With comparatively large sums coming in from allotments, they no longer felt the urge to work, and these two promising industries have been, for the time being, in eclipse.

Our chief concern for the period has centred around the personnel of the Mission staff. When permission was given for the return of the evacuated missionaries, several of them decided not to return, or resigned because of increasing age. Mr. and Mrs. J. Dougherty took up a position in Brisbane, and Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Miller, after twenty years of devoted service, felt that they could no longer continue. Mr. and Mrs. Byron, who had been helping at Mapoon, did not return after the evacuation, and Miss Galbraith also did not return to Mornington Island. At the end of 1944 Rev. R. E. Braunholz resigned, and thus the staff has been considerably depleted. The only accessions to the staff were Mr. and Mrs. Bentley, early in 1944, and Miss M. Winn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Winn of Weipa, who is employed as teacher at that station. At present Rev. W. and Mrs. MacKenzie are at Aurukun, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Cane and Mr. and Mrs. H. Bentley at Mapoon, Mr. and Mrs. Winn and Miss M. Winn at Weipa, and Mr. and Mrs. J. B. McCarthy at Mornington Island. All efforts to secure helpers were vain, and the work has been carried on by the greatly overburdened missionaries who remain. Recently several enquiries have been received from candidates, and it is expected that help will soon be available for most, if not all, stations.

Fortunately the health of missionaries and people has been, on the whole, good, and if we can secure helpers now a much-needed rest will be afforded. There have been epidemics of measles and influenza, which carried off some of the old people, who will not depart from the old tribal customs of treating illness and fall an easy prey to sickness.

The population has not greatly increased. At December 31st, 1941, it was estimated at 1,458, of whom 351 were children under 16 years. During the three years there were 95 births, of which about 60 were full-blooded Aborigines. It is not possible to give the numbers on stations as at the end of 1944 with any degree of accuracy, as so many of the men are temporarily employed on defence and C.C.C. work. But births have greatly outnumbered deaths, and the number of children under 16 is now 373. Our stations are amongst the very few places where the full-blooded population is increasing, and this can be attributed to the care and interest of the missionaries at Aurukun and Weipa, both of which are full-blooded communities.

Buildings: The condition of the buildings has deteriorated owing to the dearth of paint and materials for repairs, and a considerable outlay will be involved. The manse and assistant's cottage at Aurukun will both need to be replaced. Mrs. H. Wyper, a consistent friend of Aurukun, is

providing £1,000 for the new manse—a splendid contribution which is greatly appreciated. On other stations lesser repairs are needed on buildings, and it will be necessary to erect some new buildings, including hospitals and workshops, to cope with new conditions. The new church at Aurukun is still uncompleted for lack of materials, but is in use, and a new church is being erected at Weipa. Friends from many parts have made donations to the Church building funds.

Boats: The condition of the boats also is cause for concern. Both luggers—the “J. G. Ward” and “Morning Star”—were extensively used in the early stages of defence preparations in the North, by the military authorities, and suffered much damage and deterioration. Immediate repairs were imperative if they were to be maintained efficiently, but again material and men were lacking. In consequence the “J. G. Ward” became quite unseaworthy and needs very extensive repairs. The “Morning Star” was repaired sufficiently to enable her to service the mainland stations, but word has just been received that she is wrecked and likely to be a total loss. To replace these luggers it is proposed to secure a large launch to service all stations. It will also be necessary to secure smaller launches for each station, and dinghies also. The outlay for all this will be very large, but the work cannot be carried on efficiently without adequate water transport.

Industries: The principal industries at present are cattle raising, timber and firewood. At both Aurukun and Mapoon there are over 1,000 cattle of all ages, and the breed has been improved. There is a large surplus after providing for the needs of the people, but great difficulty is experienced in marketing them, which is strange when one considers the meat shortage in the world to-day. Industries which were operating before the war may be re-established later, but it will be some time before they are on a sound basis.

The Future: Plans are in hand for future development, which mostly centre round the training of the children. It is proposed to establish a rural school on one station, to which promising children from each station may go to learn trades and household accomplishments. The cattle business will be further developed. A hospital will be established on each station and a nurse or nurses appointed to care for the health of the people. Salaries of all missionaries have been increased and living conditions will be improved. Each station now has a good landing ground for planes, and efforts will be made to establish a service for mails and urgent requirements. It is expected to make the Kendall River, now under the care of Rev. W. MacKenzie, of Aurukun, a separate station, and to open up work at Bentinck Island, where it is thought there are at least 400 people.

Financial: The financial position is satisfactory, but is largely due to the smaller salary list consequent on shortage of staff. With a full staff, expenditure will be considerably increased. Child endowment receipts have been large, but have no relation to Mission funds, and can only be used for the social needs of the children. The maintenance and extension of our Mission work is still the responsibility of the Church, and demands our prayerful help.

The spiritual and moral condition of the people continues to improve, though naturally there are disappointments. There is a steady accession to Church membership and many evil tribal customs have disappeared, while the people are encouraged to retain all that was good in their former way of life. The Spirit of God is moving in the hearts of the people, and life for them to-day is a vastly better thing than their fathers ever dreamed of.

The Minister for Health and Home Affairs and the Director of Native Affairs have shown great interest in our Missions and helped us splendidly. We thank them sincerely.

DAVID GALLOWAY, Convener.

Summary of Receipts and Payments of Aboriginal Mission Fund
for three years, 1942-43-44

Receipts		Payments	
>Cr. Balance,	21/12/41	£119 12 10	
1942 ....	.. .. .	3,005 17 11	1942 £2,407 10 5
1943 ....	.. .. .	2,948 3 7	1943 1,748 8 1
1944 ....	.. .. .	2,887 17 11	1944 2,122 6 9
Cr. Balance,	31/12/44	361 18 2	
Reserve for	Repairs		
and Post-War Work		2,321 8 10	
Interest, etc.	.. .. .	178 11 2	

FOREIGN MISSIONS
New South Wales

The Home Base

A programme of education by organized deputations covering the whole State has been a feature of the work during the past three years. Special attention has been given to the preparation and distribution of appropriate missionary literature and the response from congregations has been most gratifying and reassuring. The cost of the publications has been more than covered by the added financial return, and by this means many annual subscribers to our Foreign Mission funds have been enrolled. Much use has been made of films and their exhibition in conjunction with missionary talks has proved of great assistance and has been very well received.

In 1942 the Rev. C. E. Turnbull, Secretary for Foreign Missions, resigned office in order to accept a call to the Wollongong Charge. The General Assembly of 1943 appointed the Rev. V. W. Coombes Organizing Secretary for one year. Mr. Coombes brought to his task a long experience of missionary work in the Indian Field, and by his ability, application and devotion made an outstanding contribution to the Foreign Mission cause in this State. In 1944 the General Assembly appointed Mr. Coombes Secretary for Foreign Missions for a term of three years.

The financial position during the three-year period 1942-1944 is as follows:

	Expenditure	Income	Deficit	Surplus
1942 ..	£8,163	£6,928	£1,235	£1,567
1943 ..	8,624	10,191		3,277
1944 ..	8,673	11,950		

At the close of 1942 the accumulated deficit was £4,789; by the end of 1944 the deficit had been wiped out and the Foreign Mission account was in credit to the extent of £55.

Aborigines

The New South Wales Church has met her obligations to the Board of Missions and has contributed her quota for the maintenance and extension of the work among the Aborigines. The visits to this State in 1944 of the Rev. J. R. B. Love and Mr. H. R. Balfour were of decided benefit to the work of the Committee and were much appreciated by the Church at large. Thankful acknowledgment is made of the service they rendered to the missionary cause, particularly to that section of the work that is being carried on for the benefit of the Australian Aborigines.

Chinese

The work among the Chinese in Sydney has been well maintained and extended. Under the wise guidance of the Chinese Pastor, Rev. Lo Shui Kwong, the work is growing in importance and scope.

Pastor Lo started his ministry in November, 1942, under a reciprocal arrangement with the Methodist Overseas Mission Board, and this has proved beneficial to both parties. Pastor Lo has the oversight of two centres: St. Luke's Church, Redfern, where he conducts morning services and Sunday School, and at the Chinese Church, Campbell Street, where he conducts afternoon Sunday School and evening services. The Pastor also conducts Chinese language classes during the week for the benefit of Chinese nationals connected with the Church.

New Hebrides

Rev. E. L. and Mrs. Sykes continue their work at Malo and, with native assistance, on the West Coast of Santo. At Malo there are three "school villages" with a population of 250. Six trained teachers assist as well as Samuel, recently ordained Pastor in succession to the late Pastor Winli, who died in 1942 after serving the Church and Mission for a period of 21 years. The Church at Malo is well organized with a Session of five Elders.

Early in 1944 a new launch, built in Sydney, was despatched to Malo for use of the Missionary. Mr. Sykes visits the West Coast of Santo as often as is practicable. There are twelve "school villages" in this area on the coast and two in the mountains. The population is approximately 500. The outstanding native worker on Santo is Ian, of Malo, who is stationed at the mountain village of Wunapion.

With the help of qualified native workers, Mr. Sykes has practically completed the preparation of a revised and enlarged Malo Hymnary, which

will contain over 230 hymns and 50 choruses as well as some psalms and paraphrases. Arrangements are being made for 1,000 copies of the Hymnary to be printed in Sydney. A gift of £80 was received from the American's Chaplains' Fund towards the cost of publishing.

Events in the Pacific through the past three years have wrought changes in the New Hebrides. As elsewhere, some have been good; some have been bad. New problems, not experienced hitherto, have now arisen. Some old ones have been solved. Out of it a new era is emerging, with a challenge to a more aggressive programme of advance. Missionaries and Boards are seriously facing the issue, studying every known opportunity, need and hazard of the coming years, and preparing a blue-print from which to work with unity and determination.

As colleagues to the Rev. E. L. and Mrs. Sykes, the New South Wales Church has appointed the Rev. R. T. C. Williamson, B.A. It is anticipated that Mr. and Mrs. Williamson will leave for the New Hebrides early in 1946 to open a new centre of work. The location will be determined after Synod has given the matter the fullest consideration.

In June last the Foreign Missions Secretary, Rev. V. W. Coombes, proceeded to the New Hebrides to attend the meetings of Synod, to confer with missionaries and leaders and to generally survey the field—its present needs and the prospects of future development.

India

The Indian Church

The policy of the Mission has been to make all work Church-centred. This is being increasingly appreciated by the local Sessions and congregations—a definite growth in Church-consciousness.

Christian congregations have been established in 45 villages, as well as the parent groups at the main centres of Sholinghur, Pallipat and Ramakrishnarajupet. Most have village schools with resident-trained Christian teachers. Members and adherents are growing in Christian stature, a fact which is evidenced by the increasing numbers engaging in voluntary service for the cause. Village evangelism holds the attention and employs the best talents of many. More and more do our people realize that Christian truth and experience are theirs, not only to enjoy, but also to share, and share actively.

The Indian Church has maintained its high standard of liberality. Session members wait on all wage-earners and receive willing renewal of title pledges, in many cases for increased amounts. In this way the congregations have been enabled to undertake a programme of improved church building, and several important centres have already benefited. Harvest Festivals are always well supported, record offerings being received throughout both pastorates of Sholinghur and Pallipat.

Schools

In June, 1944, the Middle School in Sholinghur was elevated to the status of a High School by the introduction of the 4th form. The 5th form was added this year and the 6th will be added in 1946. Such an achievement after many years of constant endeavour has met an oft-repeated request of the people of the district, and has still further entrenched the Mission in their esteem. The enrolment of the High School has reached 500. The Pallipat Higher Elementary School has an enrolment of 245. The teaching is to middle school standard. Plans are under way to make this a High School as soon as the shortage of missionaries has been overcome. In the Sholinghur pastorate there are eight elementary schools, and in the Pallipat pastorate ten. Most of these elementary schools are in the outcaste villages, but some provide for both caste and outcaste children.

Boarding Homes

There are 36 Christian boys in residence at the Boys' Boarding Home, Pallipat, who study in the Higher Elementary School. The Superintendent as a boy trained in the same home, one of the first to enter when it was first established. As with the Girls' Home at Sholinghur, all the boys are supported by friends in Australia, the cost for each being approximately £10 per annum.

The Girls' Boarding Home at Sholinghur also has 36 in residence. These girls are carefully selected from the village schools. The girls are trained to use their hands as well as their minds. There is an industrial section, also "family" gardens and a farm where the rearing and care of

livestock are taught by selected teachers. Neither the Boys' nor Girls' Homes are being used to capacity. Missionaries and girls and boys wait longingly for the time when more supporters in Australia will enable the institutions to have their full complement of resident boarders. There is room for more trainees and India greatly needs them.

Medical Work

At the end of 1943 the hospital at Sholinghur was taken over by the military authorities for the duration of the war and the greater part of our medical work ceased. The close of the hospital was a serious blow to the Mission. Urgent cases have now to be transported to the American-Dutch Reformed Mission Hospital at Ranipet, a distance of 16 miles. On the closing of the hospital, Dr. and Mrs. Macdonald Smith retired from the Field after a very valuable period of service to the cause of Christ in India. We look forward to the reopening of the hospital as soon as conditions are favourable.

Staff

Miss A. Hope Goldie was due to come home on furlough at the end of 1944, but she decided to remain at her post till such time as travelling conditions are more favourable. Mr. and Mrs. C. J. R. Price made arrangements to come on furlough early in the present year, but at the last moment the Indian National Service regulations were applied and Mr. Price was called up for duty in the amenities section of the Services. Mrs. Price with the two children arrived in Australia in May and proceeded to New Zealand to visit her people.

Miss McCredie and Miss Goldie are carrying on the work with the able and devoted assistance of the Indian members of the staff.

The Rev. C. S. Boyall—taken by enemy action in mid-ocean in April, 1942, when on his way back to India—has been located as a civil internee in a concentration camp in Japan. Long delayed letters have been received by his family in Australia as well as an official communication from the Red Cross Bureau. Mr. Boyall's absence left a continuing vacancy at Pallipat and threw a heavy burden on Miss Goldie and Miss McCredie, who have shared this additional work.

Western Australian Co-operation

The Church in Western Australia has gladly entered into partnership with New South Wales in the work of the Indian Field. Literature is being shared and a lasting organization has been set up in the West to make this new work a living reality throughout the Church. The W.A. financial support in 1944 was £300—a splendid effort.

Closer Co-operation

Closer co-operation with Foreign Mission Committees in Victoria and Queensland has been developed and continues to grow. The Secretary for Foreign Missions visited Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia for conference with the Church Committees in those States with very satisfactory results. Closer co-operation in publicity, publications, recruiting of workers, and exchange of visits, is in active progress. This all tends towards the development of a Commonwealth-wide missionary programme, and the results so far achieved are most encouraging.

J. A. MORRISON, Convener.

FOREIGN MISSIONS COMMITTEE OF VICTORIA

YEARS 1942, 1943, 1944

Missions in War Time

When the Assembly met in 1942 our few remaining Korea missionaries were on their way home after some months of internment. They arrived in good health and have taken their place in the life of the Church at home. Dr. C. I. McLaren set forth some of his experiences in a small book, "Eleven Weeks in a Japanese Prison Cell," which has had a wide circulation.

Any news of Korea that has come has been to the effect that Christian services were being maintained by the Church and that other Christian work had not ceased. We plan to return to this Field as soon as the door reopens. We shall do this in co-operation with Missionary Committees in the U.S.A. and Canada, and with the Korean Church.

A continuance of war-time conditions has hampered work considerably. Our policy has been to carry on existing work to the fullest extent possible and at the same time to prepare for new developments. While the expenditure has necessarily been less than usual, gifts and contributions have come in generously, as well as a number of substantial legacies. As a result, a deficit, which at one time ran well into five figures, has been changed into a reserve of more than £20,000. We therefore have some financial preparation for new work. It may be added that the P.W.M.U., which will henceforth be part of the regular Foreign Mission organization of the Assembly, has also substantial reserves for the same purpose.

Several war-time tasks emerged. Regular work was done among internees; visits were made to Korean prisoners of war; contributions through the National Missionary Council were made to Orphaned Missions.

In accordance with the policy indicated above, a short report on work done is first given.

The Aborigines

While the Committee is not directly responsible for this work, several of its members have given service on the Board of Missions Executive; it has helped in giving publicity to the work and in stimulating interest; the assessment of £1,400 has been paid annually as well as a certain amount of other financial assistance.

Chinese in Australia

In Ballarat the Rev. J. Tong Way, in spite of what might ordinarily be regarded as the burden of four-score years, has most faithfully ministered to his slowly diminishing flock at Ballarat. He has also regularly visited his compatriots in Geelong. The work of the Melbourne congregation has been well maintained in spite of the absence of a Pastor. A very fine band of voluntary workers has kept going the full programme of work and has added a weekly open-air meeting for Chinese. With the ordination of two Elders a Session has been constituted.

There are several prospective candidates for missionary service.

The future of work for Chinese in Australia is uncertain. If the official policy of the exclusion of immigrants from Asia is maintained, there is no future. Without entering here on a discussion of the White Australia Policy, it can be affirmed that the quality of a community such as the Melbourne congregation is an indication of the rich contribution that Chinese are capable of giving. To determine that all Chinese nationals shall be excluded from our life is deliberately to impoverish it.

Korea

No missionary work has been done by any Church except the Roman Catholic. The R.C. Missions (French, German, Irish and American) were largely from countries not at war with Japan. In addition, the Vatican has been in diplomatic affiliation with the Government of Japan. Almost certainly all their work has been strictly supervised and "rationalized."

The New Hebrides

In the early stages of the Pacific war the New Hebrides were very definitely threatened with invasion. Acting on the strong urging of the British Resident Commissioner, some of the women with their families came to Australia. The other missionaries remained on the stations. A Japanese occupation was forestalled by an American occupation. These allies came in very large numbers and established several important bases. There have also been numbers of New Zealanders and a few Australians. As the areas of combat have moved northward some of these bases have been evacuated. From the hospitals established by the Forces valuable medical and surgical aid was given freely on occasions. Chaplains and others also helped missionaries as they had opportunity. On the other hand, missionaries also were able to do many acts of service. Every Mission Home has had contacts with the allies; some were in almost daily touch.

The presence of such a large force of occupation, composed of very diverse elements, with what seemed to the natives unlimited supplies of equipment and money, could not but have a disturbing influence on the simple island people. The reports of the missionaries indicate that though

there have been difficulties and some unsettlement the native people have kept their balance very well. The recruiting of islanders for unaccustomed sustained labour in strange places has caused some sickness and casualties. The death rate, for instance, among the Tannese, of whom many hundreds were taken North in 1942 and 1943, increased alarmingly.

The glimpses of the great outside world which have come to so many young men and women, with all the distracting emotions thus stimulated, have had disturbing effects on their thought life. The importance of an adequate educational programme is obvious.

On Tanna the strange nationalistic movement associated with the name of Jon Frum continued to disrupt the work of the missionaries and teachers. Nearly all the village schools ceased to function; many were forbidden to go to the hospital; attendances at Church services fell away; at times, particularly in October, 1943, there was real danger for missionaries and other white people. At that time some of the fanatical leaders were predicting that the Americans would come, drive out the whites, and hand Tanna to the Tannese. Numbers were arrested by a special force of police on the site of an airstrip which they were preparing for the landing of American planes! While it is too early to say that this disturbance has passed, many have come back to worship. Mrs. Armstrong was requested to help with a school at Lenakel. The missionaries had longed to do this and were overjoyed when the request came from the people who, to show their earnestness, erected a new building.

Evangelistic work has gone on all the time. The loss of the Rev. F. J. Paton by death, and the Rev. E. A. Wale from illness, left two Stations vacant on Malekula. These have not yet been filled. The Rev. H. M. Bell (J. G. Paton Fund) retired from Paama. The Rev. C. W. McLeod (J. G. Paton Fund) was appointed to White Sands on Tanna.

The work of the Tangoa Training Institute was maintained. Through war conditions the Principal was obliged to send home numbers of the students so that the number in residence was reduced from 50 to 25. The latest news is that the numbers have risen again to 47.

The Foreign Mission Secretary visited the Group in 1943. In the following year Miss Skinner and Miss Ritchie made an inspection as representatives of the P.W.M.U., with the special object of seeing the possibilities for women's work.

The Educational programme of Village Schools has continued. In some places war conditions, in other islands local disturbances, have caused the closing of some schools. It is more than ever evident that for the training of leaders and to help young people to make the best reaction to the things and ideas of the new world that has burst upon them, Christian education must be taken further. On two New Zealand stations there are encouraging responses to attempts to meet the need. At Vila an advanced school, formerly carried on by the missionary's wife, has been revived. A young man was sent to Fiji for special training. He has returned and with Miss Skinner is to be in charge. American servicemen, through Church parade collections, contributed \$1,000. The people of the five villages in the area have promised a similar amount in cash and kind for the building of the school. The Government, though sympathetic to the extent of helping in the expense of the teacher's training in Fiji, has no educational programme for the New Hebrides. It is in a real sense a government responsibility, but in the absence of any programme and because the need is urgent, the Synod asks that something be done.

On the medical side, Dr. Armstrong on Tanna has now a colleague in Sister Janet Brown. All three nurses of the Paton Memorial Hospital at Vila left in the evacuation. The native staff carried on splendidly, even when Dr. Frater himself had to travel to Australia for furlough. The doctor is very keen to have a local staff with a matron from Australia, with a housekeeper who shall have charge of the domestic side and also some of the training. Miss Hilda C. Foster, formerly A.I.M. Sister, is doing fine service. Since the beginning of the year Miss Marjorie Alexander has gone down to assist her.

Dr. E. J. Davies went out during 1944. With her long record of missionary service in Korea and among the Aborigines, Dr. Davies is able to make a special contribution.

The Synod in 1943 asked that a special effort be made to strengthen the medical services by establishing eight dispensaries and by training and using forty native medical dressers to extend the benefits of the hospitals to all the villages of the group. The Victorian Assembly has approved the Committee's recommendation that the State take a full share.

Finance

Receipts			Expenditure		
1942			1942		
F.M.C. ...	£14,935	19 4	F.M.C. ...	£14,828	8 7
P.W.M.U.	6,480	18 11	P.W.M.U.	3,491	1 6
	<u>£21,416</u>	<u>18 3</u>		<u>£18,319</u>	<u>10 1</u>
1943			1943		
F.M.C. ...	£12,068	7 3	F.M.C. ...	£8,291	16 9
P.W.M.U. .	5,665	16 5	P.W.M.U.	3,626	10 1
	<u>£17,734</u>	<u>3 8</u>		<u>£11,918</u>	<u>6 10</u>
1944			1944		
F.M.C. ...	£10,460	2 5	F.M.C. ...	£10,460	2 5
P.W.M.U. .	5,809	10 11	P.W.M.U.	3,275	18 0
	<u>£16,269</u>	<u>13 4</u>		<u>£13,736</u>	<u>0 5</u>

The Future

New Hebrides

As a result of discussions following much correspondence and thought, several lines of advance have become plain. The work in the New Hebrides has been strengthened and will be strengthened still more. Following on the visits of the F.M.C. Secretary and the P.W.M.U. delegates, the Victorian Church has decided to support the request of the New Hebrides Synod that Women Workers (Deaconesses, teachers and nurses) be sent out. Dr. E. J. Davies, Miss A. G. M. Skinner, Miss M. C. Alexander and Miss E. V. Hildebrand have gone. Several others have volunteered, of whom three have up to date been accepted. We are concerned about the political set-up and the uncertainty about future control. But our policy is to go ahead whatever the future may be.

China

The Assembly has decided to send missionaries to China. Four young women have volunteered and have been accepted. The General Assembly of Australia will be asked to ratify the decision. This new venture is something different from anything done hitherto by the Presbyterian Church in Australia. It means that missionaries are to be sent out as our representatives to co-operate with the Church of Christ in China. They must be accepted by that Church, and in the Mission field will be under its direction and control. The C.C.C. is a united Church formed by the union of a number of Missions and Churches in China. Among others, the Church of Scotland, the Presbyterian Church of the U.S.A., the Presbyterian Churches of England and New Zealand are represented.

Korea

The proposal to enter this new Field does not mean that Korea has been abandoned. The Committee does not know what the political future of Korea will be nor when the door will open again. It is determined, however, to return as early as possible. When the time comes, a small delegation will join with a few representatives from the U.S.A. and Canada to visit Korea and decide on the plan of campaign.

P.W.M.U.

A decision of far-reaching importance is that the control of all missionary work shall be under a reconstituted Foreign Mission Committee. The significance is that the F.M.C., the P.W.M.U. and the Fellowships have come together in a real unity. The representation of women on the F.M.C. will be larger than formerly.

A further proposal that all finances be co-ordinated is of wide significance than foreign mission policy. The principle has been agreed on by all concerned; the details are being worked out by the Budget Committee.

Volunteers

The Committee have been encouraged by the number of young people who are coming forward. We expect that after demobilization several of the younger ministers should be available.

Another encouraging thing is the progress made by the National Missionary Council in the preparation of a Training Scheme for prospective missionaries.

Co-operation and Co-ordination

The National Missionary Council is increasing in importance. The Council is drawing the Missions together in united effort. In the advance to a Secretariat this Committee made a contribution when Miss E. M* Woodward, the Secretarial Assistant, became Associate Secretary of the N.M.C.

The Committee is behind the Co-ordination Committee of the G.A.A. in its endeavours to unify all the missionary work of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. Particularly do we desire that the whole of the missionary work of the Presbyterian Church of Australia shall be the definite concern of each State and Committee.

The present is a time of great challenge to the Church really to face its missionary task, for the world needs the Gospel more than anything else.

Tasmanian Foreign Mission Committee

Since their return to Ambrym the Rev. and Mrs. W. F. Paton have been engaged in arduous and constructive work. "We found signs of steadiness," writes Mr. Paton, "in the work and life of our people, with teachers nearly all quietly carrying on their share of the Evangel."

The new Catechism—Hymnary,—1,000 copies—provided by the Tasmanian Foreign Mission Committee, has been a notable blessing in the native church. So, likewise, has been the Gospel of St. John, translated by Mr. Paton in 1942.

A new launch has to be provided, and a Launch Fund, which has been inaugurated, shows a credit of £105/15/-. The printing fund has a credit of £122/6/10.

The Rev. R. V. Merritt, B.D.Se., has been in the New Hebrides several months and, in addition to attending personally to the dental needs of many of the natives, is training two boys in advanced dental work.

The Rev. R. V. Merritt, before he left for the New Hebrides, forwarded statements of Receipts and payments for the past three years, of which the following is a summary:

1942	£856 5 4	£785 5 6
1943	£834 19 10	£564 16 5
1944	£1,281 13 10	£942 18 2

MISSIONARY COUNCIL—WESTERN AUSTRALIA

During the last three years there has been considerable activity and awakened interest. In addition to continued support of the Board of Missions' field amongst the aborigines at Kunmunya, a supporting share has now been commenced in the New South Wales field in India.

To co-ordinate these two main W.A. interests and to provide more effective administration in missionary enterprise generally, the Foreign and Aborigines' Committee has been replaced by a Missionary Council, representative of the P.W.M.U., the Fellowships and Sunday Schools, in addition to Assembly members.

The W.A. Church is proud to have supplied the successor to the Rev* G. W. Holmes at Kunmunya, in the Rev. A. J. Heggie, the only 1944. Exit man, who was ordained by the Presbytery of Perth on the 20th October of that year and proceeded almost immediately to Kunmunya. He and Mrs. Heggie, with the assistance of Mr. and Mrs. K. L. Drew, have faced a very trying period through the "Watt Leggatt's" mishap.

The liaison work of the W.A. Church between the Board of Missions and Kunmunya continues and, it is hoped, will be increased. In addition thereto, it is expected that Perth will become an important base en route for our missionaries in India.

There is much interest in the prospect of having all the foreign missionary interests of the various States placed upon a closer All-Australia basis. It is felt in W.A. that such a development would be a great gain to all.

DONALD M. BAIRD, Convener.

Summary of Receipts and Expenditure

	Receipts	Expenditure
1942	£169 8 10	£213 5 1
1943	£187 0 3	£166 4 11
1944	£180 17 1	£215 7 4

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE

Report to the Australian Board of Missions of the G.A.A. for the
Three-year Period, 1943-1945

The first part of this period was virtually one of stalemate owing to the conditions produced by the war. But by the end of 1943 consideration had been given to planning for the future. A policy to guide future action was drawn up. This was submitted to the General Assembly in March, 1944, and approved. The main points of this policy are as follows:

1. To support completely at least one full-time missionary as soon as such missionary is available, ultimately to support two missionaries. To work steadily towards this by accumulating finance, educating our people and working up enthusiasm.

2. The fields of labour to be the Pacific Islands, with special emphasis on the New Hebrides and ultimately Korea. At the following Assembly, 1945, the Victorian Assembly's decision was anticipated to the extent of adding China to the fields of labour.

3. The Foreign Mission Committee to be enlarged to include two representatives from the P.W.M.U., two from the P.F.A., and two from the Welfare of Youth Committee specially representing the Sunday Schools,

Since the adoption of this policy, the following steps have been taken:

(a) Steps have been taken to accumulate sufficient funds in order to be able to support a full-time missionary. N.B.: The P.W.M.U. has also decided to pay the salary of a woman worker. But so far no candidate has offered either to the P.W.M.U. or to the F.M.C.

(b) A Committee has been appointed to act as a Selection Committee to deal with applications. The members of the Committee are the Moderator, the Convener of the F.M.C., the Rev. J. R. Blanchard and Dr. Charles Duguid.

(c) The education and enthusing of the people has been done by the means of deputation. We have been much indebted to the Victorian F.M.C. for making available the Rev. George Anderson and Dr. C. I. McLaren. In conjunction with the Welfare of Youth Committee a Missionary Pageant was presented during the 1945 Assembly to stimulate interest, particularly among Sunday School children. Consideration has been given to the possibility of setting up Mission Bands, but at present there appears to be neither room nor leadership for another organization in the congregations in this State. However, the P.W.M.U. has appointed a Mission Band Secretary in the hope of arousing interest.

(d) Funds have, been built up to £648. Of this amount £100 is the Jane Rankine Bequest, and £100 has been set aside in a Reserve Account towards the travelling expenses of any missionary appointed, from Australia to his Field. Of the remainder of the £648, £250 is earmarked towards salary of a married worker, £134 towards salary of woman worker. This leaves a balance of £64 to meet the Committee's expenses. N.B.: The annual amount paid to the Board of Missions does not pass through the Committee's books, but is paid direct from the Schemes of the Church Committee.

General

We have been well represented on the National Missionary Council in this State during the last two years, and have gained much from associations made and information received there. We have also been able to contribute considerably through the chairmanship of the Council by the Rev. J. R. Blanchard, and by the fine educational work being done for the Council by Mrs. Blanchard.

Conclusion

We earnestly hope and pray that during the next three years we shall be enabled to take a more active part in the missionary work of the Australian Church. We pray that workers will come forward from amongst the membership of the South Australian Church. Until that happens the work of our Committee and the interest of this Church must remain largely static.

On behalf of the Committee,

FRANK G. ENGEL, Convener.

Finance Statement for the Three Years to 31/12/1944

Income	
Balance.....	£117 13 4
P.F.A.....	70 0 0
P.W.M.U.....	439 12 6
Donations and Collections.....	58 17 3
League of Four Hundred.....	20 0 0
Schemes of the Church.....	230 0 0
Interest.....	6 10 0
	£942 13 1
Expenditure	
Reserve A/c.....	£50 0 0
Victorian Church.....	250 0 0
Compensation for loss of furniture, Korea .. .	50 0 0
Office Charge.....	107 10 0
Banner Levy.....	26 14 0
Postages and Petties.....	4 1 8
Travelling Expenses .. .	4 8 6
National Missionary Council.....	1 10 0
Balance on hand, 31/12/1944	448 8 11
	£942 13 1

Note: In addition to this balance of £448/8/11 there is a Reserve A/c of £200 treated as capital for the present.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE (Min. 4)

At the 1942 meeting the General Assembly received the resignation of the Rev. Dr. R. G. Macintyre as Convener of the Business Committee, after his having served in that capacity for thirty-seven years, and carried a resolution of hearty appreciation of Dr. Macintyre's distinguished service to the Church (Minute 66).

A Business Committee was appointed "to act as from the close of this sederunt till the next meeting of the Assembly," with the Rev. T. McDougall as Convener. In view of the special circumstances of the time, the Assembly gave this committee extended powers, as set forth in Minute 66: 2. Fortunately, there has been no occasion for the Committee to exercise the special function entrusted to it by this Minute.

The Assembly of 1942 further resolved "that the Assembly adjourn to a date and a place to be fixed by the Moderator in consultation with the Business Committee."

This matter has had the full attention of the Business Committee and also of the Law Officers of the Church. It was also very carefully discussed at the meeting of the Federal Advisory Committee held in Melbourne on September 15th, 1944, when a resolution was carried that "the matter of calling the Assembly be left in the hands of the Moderator and the Business Committee after consultation with the legal advisers."

The Moderator conferred with the Business Committee in Sydney in March and April of this year. Other meetings have been held, and there was also much correspondence and conference with the transport authorities.

The Committee decided to report to the General Assembly, and now does so, that a meeting of the adjourned Assembly, as set forth in Minute 94, had been impracticable.

The Moderator, on the advice of the Business Committee, decided to summon the Twenty-third Session of the General Assembly to meet in Melbourne on Wednesday, 12th September, 1945, at 7.30 p.m., and notified all State Assemblies and Presbyteries to that effect.

T. McDUGALL, Convener.

CANBERRA EXECUTIVE (Min. 164)

Minister and Pastorate

By resolution of the G.A. of A. the pastorate at Canberra is of limited tenure. The Rev. Hector Harrison, M.A., B.D., has completed five years since his induction. This was the tenure of office agreed upon. Twelve

months ago the Executive formed the opinion that it would be inadvisable for a change of minister to take place at Canberra during war time. The Convener visited Canberra and conferred with the members of the Session and the Committee of Management. It was unanimously agreed that the Rev. Hector Harrison should be invited to remain till the cessation of hostilities and one year thereafter, with the proviso that during the final year he should be free to seek and accept a call elsewhere. This was acceptable to Mr. Harrison, and the arrangement was completed. This does not preclude the possibility of a further call, as provided for in clause (d) of the Regulations for filling vacancies, hereinafter submitted. He has laboured diligently and faithfully, and as a consequence appreciable progress has been made in all branches of parish life and work. The following figures may be taken as indicating some features of the advance:

Year	Members Enrolled	Present at Communion	Income for the Year
1934....	117	38	£704
1941....	270	186	1,268
1944....	330	208	1,938

The terms of settlement, viz., £450, plus living allowance of £40 per annum, with manse, are considered to be inadequate for Canberra. Representations to this effect were made to a combined meeting of Session and Committee of Management, when the Convener again visited Canberra. A sub-committee was appointed to give consideration to the proposal for an increase in stipend, and to report to the Committee of Management and the Canberra Executive thereon. It is believed that this will be taken up sympathetically. The minister provides his own car, and £104 is allowed for running expenses.

Services have been conducted twice each Sabbath, both at St. Andrew's and Braddon. In addition, services have been held at the Royal Military College, Harman Naval Wireless Station, and the historic St. Ninian's Church. The minister of the parish has also acted on occasions as liaison officer between the Church and the Legations, Government Departments, and other official bodies.

A feature of the present pastorate has been the recovery and restoration of St. Ninian's Church, 73 years old. This church, our first in what is now known as the Australian Capital Territory, should be regarded by the General Assembly of Australia as worthy of preservation and jealous care. Because of its historic significance an attempt should be made to retain and maintain it in its present state. Happily, it is advantageously situated, being in the centre of an area planned for building extension.

It is worthy of record that a photograph of the pioneer minister of the area, the Rev. W. Hamilton, now hangs in the Session Room of the Church of St. Andrew. This was the gift of his granddaughter, Miss Mary Hamilton, and was unveiled by ex-Moderator-General, the Very Rev. Dr. G. R. S. Reid.

Canberra Building Fund

To enable the contractor for the buildings to be paid, and the Church of St. Andrew to be opened for worship, the N.S.W. Church advanced £13,063/11/9. This capital indebtedness has grown from year to year by the addition of the annual interest, unpaid—till, at the end of 1944 the total for interest accumulated was £7,393/1/3. The Executive was of opinion that some measures should be found to prevent the further aggregation of interest. It was, therefore, determined that the following proposal should be submitted to the Federal Advisory Committee, which had been summoned to meet in Melbourne:

The inclusive indebtedness at the end of 1944 was £20,456/13/- per annum.

The proposal was that the annual interest charge be shared by State Assemblies, in the proportions of the annual assessments for the General Assembly of Australia. If this proved agreeable to State Assemblies, the allocation to each Assembly would be:

	Assessment	Interest
Victoria.....	£400	£337 3 11
New South Wales ..	350	295 0 11
Queensland.....	90	75 17 4
South Australia ..	25	21 1 6
Western Australia ..	25	21 1 6
Tasmania.....	20	16 17 3

The proposal commended itself to the Advisory Committee, and the Moderator-General was requested to submit it to State Assemblies, and invite their acceptance of it. This he did. At the same time he asked that the decisions of State Assemblies should be communicated direct to the Convener of the Canberra Executive. The Clerk of the N.S.W. Assembly has intimated his Assembly's willingness to accept responsibility for the N.S.W. proportion of the annual interest, subject to the agreeableness of the other State Assemblies to accept their respective shares. The Executive hopes to hear from the other States of the adoption of the proposal by all, to put an end to an ever-growing annual interest bill.

St. Andrew's Church

The Warriors' Chapel remains unfurnished. The congregation is desirous of completing' this, and proposes:

1. A Screen, to be erected between the church proper and the chapel. £100 is already in hand for this. Another £100 will be required, according to the estimate. It is thought that this can be raised without any difficulty by the parish.
2. A Communion Table: It is suggested that this should be the gift of the ministers of the Church, and to the memory of those ministers who gave their lives in the Boer War, and the First and Second World Wars.
3. 16 Pews, at an approximate cost of £25 each. Four pews have already been offered. It is suggested that these should commemorate groups, rather than individuals, and, as the number of pews is limited, that each group should be as inclusive as possible.
4. Stained Glass Window: Col. M. J. Holmes, D.S.O., Session Clerk, St. Andrew's, has graciously offered £500 towards the cost of this window. It is thought that the cost might reach £800. A committee has been appointed by the Canberra Session to obtain an estimate, and to suggest an appropriate theme for the design.
5. There is a small one-light window in the chapel. It is recommended that this be replaced by stained glass, and made a memorial to the memory of the three sons of the late Very Rev. John Walker, D.D., who gave their lives in the First World War.

Braddon

The Australian Capital Territory has been cared for by the minister at St. Andrew's and an Assistant stationed at Braddon. Sometimes the Assistant has been a Licentiate; at other times a Home Missionary studying for the ministry. With the expansion of the Australian Capital Territory this arrangement is no longer considered to be satisfactory. Approximately half the population of Canberra is situated at Braddon, where there are 6,000 people. The congregation at Braddon has (with the help of St. Andrew's) liquidated the debt on the church hall, and developed the organizations of the Church. They are confident that, with the continued assistance of the Executive (from the C. D. Lloyd Bequest) they can support a minister, and are desirous of having a minister of their own. This desire arises out of no dissatisfaction with the minister of St. Andrew's. It is rightly viewed only when it is seen as a natural phase in the evolution of an expanding community. The congregation of Braddon is petitioning the General Assembly of Australia, through the Goulburn Presbytery, for authorization to create a second Charge within the Australian Capital Territory, at Braddon: the said second Charge, at Braddon, to remain (like St. Andrew's) in special relationship with the General Assembly of Australia. As Canberra continues to develop it is probable that other congregations will move towards a like measure of independence on reaching maturity. The Canberra Executive considers that it is extremely important that the nexus between Charges within the Australian Capital Territory and the General Assembly of Australia should be retained, so that, as circumstances may from time to time demand, the G.A. of A. should be free to determine what policy shall be pursued with respect to the Australian Capital Territory as a whole. It will be appreciated that there are good reasons why the minister of St. Andrew's should be regarded as the senior minister of the Territory and recognized as the channel of approach to official, diplomatic and governmental circles or persons.

The regulations approved by the General Assembly of Australia for the appointment of the minister of Canberra (St. Andrew's) should apply also to the minister of Braddon, and to the minister of any other Charge which may be established hereafter in the Australian Capital Territory.

The Braddon congregation is budgeting for an annual income of £600 and the Committee of Management is confident that a stipend of £325 per annum, with manse, or an allowance for a manse, can be provided, together with such incidentals as the required contribution to the Beneficiary Funds, the payment of telephone charges, and an allowance for removal expenses.

The Canberra Executive recommends the General Assembly of Australia to approve of the formation of another Charge within the Australian Capital Territory, to be known as the Braddon Charge, and to retain connection with the G.A. of A. And that the Presbytery of Goulburn be advised accordingly, and be asked to define the boundaries of the proposed Charge, in consultation with the Canberra Executive.

The Canberra Executive

It is desirable that the powers of the Canberra Executive be more clearly defined, and it is recommended:

That an Executive be appointed, to act for the General Assembly of Australia, between Assemblies, in relation to the interests of the G.A. of A. in the Australian Capital Territory: and more particularly:

1. To confer with the local Church authorities (Parochial and Presbyterial), as may be necessary from time to time, to ensure:
 - (a) The maintenance of all Church properties in good order and condition;
 - (b) the extension of religious ordinances to fresh or growing centres of population;
 - (c) The de-limiting of parish boundaries to make room for the creation of additional parishes;
 - (d) the authorization of new building projects;
 - (e) the furtherance, where practicable, of the Assembly's policy of co-operation with other denominations.
2. To set in operation the following regulations, with regard to the procedure to be adopted in the filling of vacancies in pastorates within the Australian Capital Territory.
 - (a) When a vacancy occurs in a pastorate within the Australian Capital Territory, the Canberra Executive shall appoint four representatives to meet with four representatives of the vacant parish (to be appointed by the congregation concerned): and the Interim Moderator, or a representative of the Presbytery of Goulburn; such meeting to be empowered to nominate one or more ministers who shall be eligible for call by the vacant congregation. The Chairman of the Canberra Executive to be the Convener.
 - (b) The pastorate shall be limited to five years.
 - (c) The minister, prior to his induction, shall be required to give an undertaking to the congregation that he will resign the Charge at the end of the five-year period.
 - (d) The minister shall be eligible to receive a further call to the Charge.
 - (e) The minister shall be free during the fifth year of the settlement to accept a call to another sphere of labour.

D. J. FLOCKHART, Convener.

CHRISTIAN UNITY (Min. 105)

It is with regret that the Committee reports that the Convener, the Very Rev. Dr. John Mackenzie, has been compelled, through ill-health, to relinquish his office. This Committee knows, and the whole Church knows, that no one is so fully informed on this important subject or so zealous in the promotion of true unity amongst the Christian forces of the Commonwealth as is our Convener. We therefore place on record our sense of the abiding worth of the services given this cause by Dr. Mackenzie, and assure him that we will seek to conserve the gains already made through his painstaking and statesmanlike work.

We think it wise to confine the attention of the Assembly to two matters, both of vital importance:

1. A Conference has been called by the General Synod of the Church of England to discuss with representatives of all the Churches in Australia, except the Church of Rome, the formation of a Commonwealth (National) Council of Churches. Your Executive appointed five members of the

Committee to represent the Presbyterian Church of Australia at the conference, and a copy of the draft Constitution is appended herewith.

2. FEDERAL UNION.

For the first time in five years a meeting of the Committee was held in September, 1944., in Melbourne. The State Sections of the Committee had met in advance and given careful consideration to the questions remitted to them by the last Assembly. Dr. Mackenzie laid before the Committee the recommendations of a conference between representatives of the Methodist, Congregational and Presbyterian Churches held in Sydney in December, 1942. The recommendations were, in general, approved by the Committee. Their substance is as follows:

That in view of the spiritual union that already exists between the three Churches, negotiations be reopened with a view to ultimate union, that an engagement be entered into to continue such negotiations until that end has been achieved; that, in the meantime, negotiations be opened with a view to the establishment of a Federal Union.

It appears to the Committee that our Church is at a place of decision. There are several possible courses of action, and at this meeting of the General Assembly a definite choice will have to be made.

(a) The Church may decide to continue its policy of inactivity.

Who can be satisfied with this? At a time when the Church is emphasizing the need for unity among the nations how can it continue to live indefinitely in a spirit of disunity and make no effort to cure its own ills? Marked progress has been made by Churches in other countries, notably in India, where the famous South India Scheme has every prospect of being put into effect; in the United States, where important negotiations are going on between the Episcopal (Anglican) and Presbyterian Churches; and in France, where a complete union has been effected amongst all Protestants to form the Reformed Church.

(b) The Church may proceed directly to an incorporating union.

This was done in Canada. Such an act is at present beyond the power of the Assembly, constitutionally.

(c) The Church may seek to open negotiations with the Church of England.

This has been done in the United States. There are, however, two special difficulties which, in our judgment, would long delay such a union, namely, the lack of a Constitution for the Anglican General Synod, and the real divergence that exists on the matter of Orders.

(d) The Church may turn aside altogether from Union negotiations of any kind, and concentrate its efforts on the promotion of actual Unity.

There are some members of the Church who favour this course of action, believing that a long period of working together by members of different Communion is necessary before any further step can be taken. For this reason they would favour any co-operative activities which may be agreed upon by the different Churches.

(e) The Church may seek to form and enter a Federal Union.

Owing to previous negotiations this would be, in the first instance, with the Methodist and Congregational Churches. The advantages would be that it could be established in defined spheres without raising constitutional issues and without delay; that it would give liberty to State Assemblies to institute immediate plans for co-operation and united action in defined spheres within each State; and that it would facilitate the establishment of regional committees of the World Council of Churches, now in process of formation.

This fifth form of inter-Church action would require the setting up of a federal authority to which departments of Church activity would be committed, with the consent of the constituent Churches. Some of the spheres where united action might take place are: training for the ministry, youth work, inland missions, public questions, home missions and evangelism.

The Committee, through its Executive, has been engaged in long and earnest consideration of these and related matters and is now of the opinion that Federal Union represents a possible and hopeful line of advance. What is needed, if the proposal is acceptable, is good understanding of its implications, a plan of action, and the wholehearted expression of the co-operative spirit. We believe that the national community in which we live requires the united witness of the Christian Church. We also believe that the Churches need one another. We therefore recommend the adoption of the Principle of Federal Union as a step in the right direction.

ALAN C. WATSON, Acting-Convener.

CHURCH'S ATTITUDE TO ITS CREED (Min. 48)

At the 1939 meeting of the G.A.A., this Committee was directed to report to next General Assembly on the Church's attitude to its Subordinate Standard.

At a meeting of the Executive it was agreed to accept the following definition of the task entrusted to it by the Assembly, viz., "The Assembly has not authorized this Committee to prepare a new Subordinate Standard or to formulate a new Short Creed, but to define and simplify the relationship of this Church to its Subordinate Standard, so that causes of misunderstanding and dissension may be removed, emphasis given to the positive message the Church has been commissioned to proclaim, and an effectual instrument of discipline created."

The present Declaratory Act was carefully examined and analysed. It was found, so far as most of its clauses are concerned, to be a composite document compiled from similar Acts adopted many years ago by the Free and United Presbyterian Churches of Scotland to meet difficulties that for the most part are no longer felt to be acute. After careful discussion and consideration it was agreed by the Executive that the later document of the Church of Scotland upon which the union with the United Free Church had been consummated in 1929 should be recommended to the full Committee as the most recent and appropriate basis for a new Declaratory Statement of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Various drafts were considered by the Executive and necessary alterations in the text were made to bring the statement into line with the Australian situation.

At a meeting of the Committee held in Melbourne in September, 1944, the suggested revision of the Basis of Union and Declaratory Statement was submitted in printed form by the Executive. Communications were received from State Sections, all of which had accepted the Revised Statement as the basis of their discussions. Various amendments as printed herewith were received from State Sections, and these were forwarded to State Conveners in preparation for the full Committee which will meet before the Assembly commences in September, 1945.

The Relationship of Reformed Churches to their Subordinate Standards.

The Reformed Churches do not regard Creeds and Confessions as full and final expressions or expositions of divine truth. On the contrary, they recognize that in all of these symbols there are human and imperfect elements. The final authority is declared to be the Word of God interpreted to believing souls and to a believing Church by the Holy Spirit. Our Lord, before He parted with the Apostles, said, "I have many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit, when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He shall guide you into all the truth. . . . He shall glorify Me, for He shall take of mine and shall declare it unto you." (St. John 16: 13-14.) Creeds and Confessions, therefore, are of value just in so far as they witness faithfully to the divine Sonship of Christ, and to the work of redemption accomplished by Him through His life, death, resurrection, and abiding presence with His Church. Creeds and Confessions do not and cannot exhaust the contents of the divine revelation given in Christ. Consequently, as "further light breaks forth from God's word," the Church must be prepared to review and revise the statement of its faith, always remembering that the central article of the Christian Faith is the confession that in Jesus Christ God Himself has entered our human life and history, and that in Christ we see God at work saving men from the guilt and power of sin and preparing the way for the consummation of His own Kingdom of righteousness, peace and joy. It has been one of the functions of Creeds and Confessions at specific times and in view of specific denials and perversions of this central article of the Faith to reassert its truth and its unchanging validity in the doctrine and witness of the Church Catholic. In this sense a creed is a barrier against perversions and mere rationalizations of the central mystery of the Christian Faith, viz., "that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself."

In the early years of the Church, in seeking to explain the divine revelation in terms of the prevailing philosophy or theosophy, human speculation failed to allow for the distinctive elements of the Christian faith. The Church, rightly interpreting the Scriptures and its own experience, erected a barrier against this danger by asserting that God is to be worshipped in the Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, "the glory equal,

the majesty co-eternal," and that in Jesus Christ is to be found not ari imperfect revelation of the nature and purpose of God, but an incarnation of God the Son Himself.

In the 16th century the Reformers were confronted with the same challenge in another form. Then a powerful ecclesiastical system and organization claiming to be the sole channel of saving grace asserted its right to be the final and authoritative interpreter of the divine revelation, and to interpret it in terms of its own contemporary thought and practice. The Reformers contended that all this amounted to a denial of the supremacy of Christ in His Church, and to the repudiation of His Word as the supreme and abiding standard of faith and duty. Out of this reaction came the great Confessions of the Reformation. Again, these symbols do not claim to be infallible or to exhaust the content of the divine revelation. At most they are "subordinate standards." They reassert the central doctrine of the Christian faith, viz., that sinful man is saved by faith in Christ alone, and that the doctrine, worship and practice of the Church must find their final authority in the Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. The Confessions of the Reformed Church have asserted that Principle, once for all, and so they and the Creeds of the early Church serve (positively) to reassert the truth that "God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself," while (negatively) they serve as barriers against any human system or opinion which would obscure the truth that man is saved by faith in Jesus Christ, as that truth is set forth in Holy Scripture.

In this 20th century, the Church faces the same challenge in another form. The distinctive feature of this modern age is the rise, the spread and the temporary triumph over wide areas of the spirit of secularism.

Scientific discovery and invention have made such advances that there has been an increasing tendency to claim that man alone is sufficiently equipped to deal with all the spiritual needs and practical tasks of our time. Religion has been given some place as a subjective influence in the life of man, but the facts upon which it is based are challenged, and the validity of its doctrines, as testifying to a real revelation of the nature and purpose of God, is denied. It is true that the alarming breakdown of the secular civilization of our day and the havoc wrought by two world wars in a single generation have revealed the weakness of secularism as a basis for the good life. This doctrine has been weighed in the balance and found wanting. Doubtless the time is not yet ripe for a new Confession of Faith which will interpret the mind of Christ with special reference to the problems and doubts of our time, and to those tremendous experiences through which the world is now passing. That this will yet be done in terms of God's word and of Christ's life and Cross and promised Kingdom need not be doubted. But it is essential that here and now the Church should accept the challenge of secularism and repudiate any conception of the Christian message which does not regard Christ Himself as the authentic Word of God to a generation which has so long forgotten and disregarded Him as the sphere of its thought and purpose. We must reassert the fact that in Jesus Christ God Himself is speaking in mercy and judgment to the men and nations of our time. In Christ alone is the hope of the world's redemption and of that kingdom in which righteousness, peace and goodwill shall prevail over the self-will and selfishness of the human heart.

In recommending that the Presbyterian Church of Australia should accept in its main outlines the Scottish Declaratory Statement, your Committee does not maintain that any statement is exhaustive and final and that it will be regarded as adequate either in content or expression by those who will come after us, and who will have to re-interpret in terms of their own thought and life "the truth as it is in Jesus." It is, however, asserted that this Declaration both proclaims and defends effectively the foundation truths of our Christian faith, namely, that in Jesus Christ God Himself came into our human history, broke once for all the power of sin and death, and made it possible for His Church to cherish the confident hope that "the Kingdoms of this world shall become the Kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ and He shall reign for ever and ever."

If the Church in this or any other age is to have "an anchor within the veil, sure and steadfast," then it must be fully persuaded that in Jesus Christ the whole counsel of God is revealed, and the creative and redemptive power of the Holy Spirit is made available to faith.

PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO THE BASIS OF UNION
AND DECLARATORY STATEMENT

together with proposed Preamble, Questions and Formula

BASIS OF UNION

(The figures in the margin refer to the numbered paragraphs in the General Assembly's Book of Rules and Forms)

1. The Supreme Standard of the Presbyterian Church of Australia is the Word of God contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. Supreme Standard (par. 112).
2. The Subordinate Standard of the Presbyterian Church of Australia is the Westminster Confession of Faith, containing the sum and substance of the Faith of the Reformed Church, as amended from time to time by the General Assembly of Australia,¹ and read in the light of the following Declaratory Statement: Subordinate Standard (Par. 113).

STATEMENT OF ARTICLES DECLARATORY OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA IN MATTERS SPIRITUAL (Par. 114).

I. The Presbyterian Church of Australia is part of the Holy Catholic or Universal Church; worshipping one God, almighty, all-wise, and all-loving, in the Trinity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the same in substance, equal in power and glory; adoring the Father, infinite in majesty, of Whom are all things; confessing our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal Son made very man for our salvation; glorying in His life, death, and resurrection, and owning obedience to Him as the Head over all things to His Church; trusting in the promised renewal and guidance of the Holy Spirit; proclaiming the forgiveness of sins and acceptance with God through faith in Christ, and the gift of eternal life; and labouring for the advancement of the Kingdom of God throughout the world.

The Presbyterian Church of Australia receives the Word of God which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as its supreme rule of faith and life; and avows the fundamental doctrines of the Catholic faith founded thereupon.

II. This Church, as part of the Universal Church wherein the Lord Jesus Christ has appointed a government in the hands of Church office-bearers, receives from Him, its Divine King and Head, and from Him alone, the right and power subject to no civil authority to legislate, and to adjudicate finally, in all matters of doctrine, worship, government and discipline in the Church, including the right to determine all questions concerning membership and office in the Church, the constitution and membership of its Courts and the mode of election of its office-bearers, and to define the boundaries of the spheres of labour of its ministers and other office-bearers. Recognition by civil authority of the separate and independent government and jurisdiction of this Church in matters spiritual in whatever manner such recognition be expressed, does not in any way affect the character of this government, and jurisdiction as derived from the Divine Head of the Church alone, or give to the civil authority any right of interference with the proceedings or judgments of the Church within the sphere of its spiritual government and jurisdiction.

III. This Church has the inherent right, free from interference by civil authority, but under the safeguards for deliberate action and legislation provided by the Church its If to frame or adopt its subordinate standards, to declare the sense in which it understands its Confession of Faith, to modify the forms of expression therein, or to formulate other doctrinal statements, and to define the relation thereto of its office-bearers and members, but always in agreement with the Word of God and the fundamental doctrines of the Christian Faith contained in the said Confession, of which agreement the Church shall be sole judge, and with due regard to liberty of opinion in points which do not enter into the substance of the Faith.

IV. This Church acknowledges the divine appointment and authority of the civil magistrate within his own sphere and maintains its historic testimony to the duty of the nation acting in its corporate capacity to render homage to God, to acknowledge the Lord Jesus Christ to be King over the nations, to obey His laws, to reverence His ordinances, to honour His Church, and to promote in all appropriate ways the Kingdom of God.

1. For amendments on the Confession of Faith, see Chapter VI, pars. 194 and 195, Code of the G.A.A.

The Church and the State owe mutual duties to each other, and acting within their respective spheres may signally promote each other's welfare. The Church and the State have the right to determine each for itself all questions concerning the extent and continuance of their mutual relations in the discharge of these duties and the obligations arising therefrom.

V. The Presbyterian Church of Australia, as part of the one Holy Catholic Church, acknowledges it to be the will of Christ that His disciples should be all one in the Faith and in Him, that the world may believe that the Father has sent Him; recognizes its responsibility to seek and promote union with other Churches in which it finds the Word to be purely preached, the Sacraments administered according to Christ's ordinance, and discipline rightly exercised; and it has the right to unite with any such Church without loss of its identity; provided always that the terms and conditions of any such union are agreed to in the manner specified in Article VII hereof.

VI. The Presbyterian Church of Australia has the right to interpret these Articles, and, subject to the safeguards for deliberate action and legislation provided by the Church itself, to modify or add to them, but always consistently with the Supreme Standard, adherence to which, as interpreted by the Church, is essential to its continuity and corporate life.

(par. 120,
III).

VII. Any proposed revision, or abridgment of the Subordinate Standard of the Church, or restatement of its doctrine, or of these Articles or change of the Formulas to be signed by Ministers and Elders, or proposed terms and conditions of union between the Presbyterian Church of Australia and any other Church or Churches shall, before being adopted, be remitted to State Assemblies and through them to Presbyteries, and no change shall be made without the consent of a majority of State Assemblies, the consent of three-fifths of the Presbyteries of the whole Church, and the consent of three-fifths of the members present when the final vote of the General Assembly is taken.

(par. 121, IV).

VIII. On any alteration being made in accordance with Section VII, if any congregation refuses to agree to such alteration, and determines to adhere to the original or amended Basis of Union, the General Assembly is empowered to deal with the whole or part of the property of such congregation in whatever manner such General Assembly shall determine to be just and equitable, provided that the refusal of any congregation to agree to any alteration shall be affirmed by the vote of at least three-fifths of those communicant members whose names are entered on the last duly attested roll of the said congregation.

(par. 122, V).

IX. Any proposed change in either of the two preceding Sections VII and VIII shall be made only under the provisions contained in Section VII.

Preamble, Questions and Formula for Use at Ordination and Induction of a Minister

PREAMBLE

The narrative shall be read, and the Ordinand or Minister to be inducted having taken his place before the Presbytery, the Moderator shall declare as follows:

"In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the King and Head of the Church, Who being ascended on high, hath given gifts unto men for the edifying of the body of Christ, we are here met as a Presbytery [to ordain A.B. to the office of the Holy Ministry by prayer and the laying on of hands by the Presbyters to whom it doth belong, and]¹ to induct A.B. into the pastoral charge of..... In this act of [ordination and]¹ induction the Presbyterian Church of Australia, as part of the Holy Catholic or Universal Church worshipping one God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—affirms anew its belief in the Gospel of the Sovereign grace and love of God, wherein through Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Incarnate, Crucified, and Risen, He freely offers to all men, upon repentance and faith, the forgiveness of sins, renewal by the Holy Spirit, and eternal life, and calls them to labour in the fellowship of faith for the advancement of the Kingdom of God throughout the world.

The Presbyterian Church of Australia acknowledges the Word of God which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the supreme rule of faith and life.

The Presbyterian Church of Australia holds as its subordinate standard the Westminster Confession of Faith, recognizing liberty of opinion on such points of doctrine as do not enter into the substance of the Faith, and claiming the right, in dependence on the promised guidance of the Holy

1. The words in brackets to be omitted if there be no ordination.

Spirit, to formulate, interpret, or modify its subordinate standards; always in agreement with the Word of God and the fundamental doctrines of the Christian Faith contained in the said Confession—of which agreement the Church itself shall be sole judge.”

Then the Moderator, addressing the Ordinand or Minister to be inducted, who is to stand and make answer to the questions put to him, shall say:

“A.B., in view of this Declaration, you are now required to answer these questions:

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO MINISTERS BEFORE THEIR ORDINATION OR INDUCTION TO A CHARGE

1. Do you believe in one God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit; and do you confess anew the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord?

2. Do you believe the Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, to be the supreme rule of faith and life?

3. Do you believe the fundamental doctrines of the Christian faith contained in the Subordinate Standard of this Church, read in the light of the Declaratory Statement adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia on.....?

4. Do you acknowledge the Presbyterian Government of this Church to be agreeable to the Word of God; and do you promise to be subject in the Lord to this Presbytery and to the superior Courts of the Church, and to take your due part in the administration of its affairs?

5. Do you promise to seek the unity and peace of this Church; to uphold the doctrine, worship, government, and discipline thereof; and to cherish a spirit of brotherhood towards all the followers of the Lord?

6. Are not zeal for the glory of God, love to the Lord Jesus Christ, and a desire for the salvation of men, so far as you know your own heart, your great motives and chief inducements to enter into the office of the Holy Ministry?

7. Do you engage in the strength of the Lord Jesus Christ to live a godly and circumspect life; and faithfully, diligently, and cheerfully to discharge the duties of your ministry, seeking in all things the advancement of the Kingdom of God?

8. Do you accept and close with the call to be Pastor of this Charge, and promise through grace to study to approve yourself a faithful Minister of the Gospel among this people?

9. And these things you profess and promise through grace, as you shall be answerable at the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ?”

The questions having been answered to the satisfaction of the Presbytery, and the Formula having been signed, the Ordinand shall kneel, and the Moderator, by prayer with laying on of hands, in which all the ministers present join, shall ordain him to the office of the Holy Ministry.

Thereafter, the Moderator, except in cases in which there is no induction to a pastoral Charge, shall add these words:

["I now declare you to have been ordained to the office of the Holy Ministry, and]¹ in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ the King and Head of the Church, and by authority of this Presbytery, I induct you to this Charge, in token whereof we give you the right hand of fellowship.”

The following question shall then be addressed to the congregation, who are asked to signify assent by rising and standing in their places:

“Do you, the members and adherents of this congregation, receive A.B., whom you have called to be your minister, promising him all due honour and support in the Lord, and will you give of your means as the Lord shall prosper you, for the maintenance of the Christian Ministry and the furtherance of the Gospel?”²

FORMULA

(To be signed by ministers at their ordination or induction, and by Probationers on receiving license)

I believe the fundamental doctrines of the Christian faith contained in the Subordinate Standard of this Church, read in the light of the Declaratory Statement adopted by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia on.....

I acknowledge the Presbyterian government¹ of this Church to be

1. The words in brackets to be omitted if there be no ordination.

2. Question 8 and the question to the congregation are to be omitted when there is no induction to a pastoral Charge—e.g., in the case of a Presbytery ordaining an assistant or admitting one who has been received by the General Assembly with the status of a minister, or in the case of ordination of a Foreign Missionary.

agreeable to the Word of God, and promise that I will submit thereto and concur therewith.

I promise to observe the order of worship and the administration of all public ordinances as the same are or may be allowed in this Church.

ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT

The following addition is proposed to Article XI (155) which, if amended, would read as follows:

"The State General Assemblies shall retain their present names, and their autonomy shall not be further interfered with than is needful to give effect to the Basis of Union and the Articles of Agreement, but all decisions of the General Assembly of Australia, made under the provisions of the Basis of Union and Articles of Agreement, in so far as they involve action by State Assemblies and by Presbyteries shall be given effect to by these Courts without modification or delay.

CONSEQUENTIAL ALTERATIONS TO THE CODE

It is proposed to recommend to the General Assembly of Australia that, should the above new Declaratory Statement be adopted, the Declaratory Statement assented to and signed in Sydney on July 24, 1901, be retained in the Code and held in honour as an historical document setting out the sense in which the Presbyterian Church of Australia interpreted its Confession of Faith, and that the questions set out in paragraphs 187-189 of the Code be not altered except in so far as would be necessary to bring them into line with the new Formula.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS

1. Victoria: None.
2. New South Wales:

Basis of Union

(I) The Supreme Standard of the United Church shall be the revelation of God recorded in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, fulfilled for us in our Lord Jesus Christ, and apprehended and interpreted by the light of the Holy Spirit bearing witness in our hearts.

Declaratory Statement

(I) The Presbyterian Church of Australia, as part of the Holy Catholic or Universal Church, worships one God, Almighty, all-wise, and all-loving, in the Trinity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit: adores the Father, infinite in majesty, of whom are all things: confesses our Lord Jesus Christ, glories in His life, death, and resurrection: trusts in the promised renewal and guidance of life by the Holy Spirit: proclaims the forgiveness of sins and acceptance with God through faith and repentance, and the gift of Eternal Life: and labours for the advancement of the Kingdom of God throughout the world.

(II) Liberty of Opinion is allowed on matters in the Subordinate Standard which do not enter into the Substance of the Faith, the Church guarding against the abuse of this liberty to the injury of its unity and peace.

(III) Line 8 . . . "but always in agreement with the Supreme Standard of the United Church" . . .

(IV) Omit "The Church and the State have the right . . ."

(V) The Presbyterian Church of Australia, believing it to be God's Will in Christ that His disciples should all be one in the Faith and in Him, that the world may believe that the Father has sent Him, recognizes the obligation to seek and promote union with other Churches in . . . which it finds the Word to be purely preached, the Sacraments administered according to Christ's Ordinance, and Discipline rightly exercised, and, it has the right to unite with any such Church without loss of its identity on terms which this Church finds to be consistent with these Articles.

(VI) The Church has the right to interpret these Articles, and, subject to the safeguards for deliberate action and legislation provided by the Church itself, to modify or add to them, but always consistently with the Supreme Standard, adherence to which, as interpreted by the Church, is essential to its continuity and corporate life.

(VII) . . . "or restatement of its Doctrine or change of the Formula, shall before being adopted" . . .

(VIII) On any change being made in the Basis of Union in accordance

with Section VII, if any congregation thereupon refuses to acquiesce in the change, and determines to adhere to the original Basis of Union, the General Assembly is empowered (1) to allow such congregation to retain all its congregational property, or (2) to deal in such other way with the said property as to the Assembly may seem just and equitable.

In the Preamble, Questions and Formula there are suggested amendments consequent upon the modifications of the Declaratory Statement proposed by the N.S.W. Section.

3. Queensland:

(V) Omit "Without loss of its identity."

Questions:

(VII) Insert "to rule well your own! house."

Before (VIII) insert the old question, "Have you used any undue influence, etc.?"

4. Tasmania:

Articles Declaratory

(I) Insert "all holy" after "all wise." After "very Man" insert "dying." It was felt that "glorying in His Cross" held no doctrinal significance.

(II) and (IV) In both paragraphs the word "divine" is regarded as unsatisfactory.

Questions: (6) Eliminate "not."

5. South Australia: None.

6. Western Australia:

Minutes of meeting held by the W.A. State Section on 23rd February, 1944:

"After consideration it was proposed and agreed that approval be given to the proposed revised Basis provided that no alteration is proposed in the Declaratory Statement of the G.A.A. 114, 115, 116, 117, and, further, that in Section II (of the Articles Declaratory) it should be understood that the statement in line two, 'The Lord Jesus Christ hath appointed a government in the hands of Church office-bearers,' applies to the Presbyterian Constitution as we understand it, and does not allow the exclusive claims of Rome on such an issue."

(Signed) JOHN MACKENZIE, Convener.

NORMAN MACLEISH, Vice-Convener.

COMMITTEE ON THE CODE (Min. 160)

Chapter on Discipline: The returns to Remits on this subject were considered.

It was decided to recommend to the Assembly that the Clerk be instructed to send down this Remit de novo to all Assemblies and Presbyteries of the Church under the Barrier Act with instructions to report their decision by the 30th June, 1946.

The Committee adopted the Rev. W. H. Steele's suggestions about the numbering of the material in the proposed Chapter on Discipline.

Re Standing Order 36, B.B. 1942, Min. 47, referred to the Code Committee by the G.A.A.: It was decided to recommend the General Assembly to approve the deletion of the last six words of this Standing Order; to give the Standing Order as amended interim authority and send it down to Assemblies and Presbyteries for report under the Barrier Act.

Board of Missions, B.B. 1939, Min. 204, Section 9: The Committee recommends to the General Assembly for adoption the following interpretation called for under this Minute: "Declare that, having regard to Article VII, the Board of Missions has absolute control of the management and administration of all Missions to Heathens conducted by any State Assembly with the exception of Missions which, pursuant to any Trust, must be controlled by a State Assembly."

A. G. PROUDFOOT,

. McDougall,

Co-Conveners.

Supplementary Report (Min. 322)

The Code Committee has considered the revision of Chapter VIII of the Rule Book to "Marriage and Divorce" and, after careful consideration, recommends that it be recast as follows:

Para. 201: No alteration is recommended.

Para. 202: That this paragraph be restated as follows:

"With reference to the marriage of divorced persons, the Assembly expresses the opinion that it is undesirable and dangerous to the public welfare that divorce on the grounds of desertion, adultery or any other ground should be too easily obtained."

Para. 203: That this paragraph be restated as follows:

"In every case where a divorced person has obtained such divorce by regular legal procedure and presents himself or herself for re-marriage, the minister may use his own discretion as to whether he shall accede to such request."

Para. 204: That this paragraph be restated as follows:

"Where in the considered opinion of any minister licensed to perform marriages, the interests of morality, Christian nurture of children and good citizenship would be best served by the re-marriage of a person divorced under State laws upon grounds other than those recognized by the subordinate standard of the Church he may perform the marriage, but in every such case he must report his actions promptly to his Presbytery."

The proposed reason of this paragraph is based on the motion submitted to the Assembly in 1939, by the Rev. Dr. R. W. Macaulay, which we recommend be sent down to State Assemblies and Presbyteries for approval or otherwise.

The point has been raised that paragraph 204 as recommended for revision involves a reconsideration and possible amendment of the Confession of Faith, Chapter XXIV.

If the Assembly favours the view, it will be necessary to have a suitable amendment for submission to the Assembly and remission to State Assemblies and Presbyteries.

The proposals recommended are set out in the Deliverance. (Min. 324.)

A. G. PROUDFOOT
. McDougall

Co-Conveners.

COLLEGE COMMITTEE (Min. 149)

The College Committee presents this Report of its activities since the 1942 Session of the General Assembly.

1. The Committee records its sense of the loss sustained by the death on November 16, 1943, of the Rev. Dr. Samuel Angus, M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt., D.D., in the thirtieth year of his occupancy of the Chair of New Testament in the Theological Hall, St. Andrew's College. In virtue of this office he was a member of the College Committee, and since 1940 he was an active member of the Executive. He rendered eminent service to the cause of Theological Education in Australia, and his reputation as an author and lecturer was world-wide. The Committee expresses its sorrow at the passing of two of its honoured members, the Rev. Dr. William Borland, a former Convener, and the Rev. Karl Forster, who served for many years as Secretary. Regret is also expressed at the illness of the Convener, Rev. D. J. Flockhart, whose recovery the Committee hopes will not be long delayed.

2. During the three-year period since last Assembly, 31 students completed the Home Mission course: 12 from Queensland, 9 from New South Wales, 9 from Victoria, and 1 from South Australia. Eighteen passed the Entrance Examination to the Theological Hall: 7 from New South Wales and 11 from Victoria. Exit Certificates were issued to 44 men: 11 from Queensland, 8 from New South Wales, 22 from Victoria, and 3 from Western Australia. Two men, D. U. G. Mack and D. W. Mathews, are no longer candidates for the ministry; K. L. Drew has retired from the course; D. H. McKay has taken a teaching appointment and lost his status as a student.

The General Assembly in 1939 (Min. 115 (4)) requested Theological Education Committees in each State to send to the College Committee the names of all candidates accepted or rejected. This is not generally observed, and in many cases the first intimation received by the Committee is in the form of an entry for the Entrance of First-Year Home Mission Examina-

tion. It is thus impossible to present a complete return of the men in training. Fifteen men qualified for entrance to the Theological Hall for this year and three are repeating First Year; there are 22 in Second Year and 19 in Third Year. So far 11 are known to be doing the First Year of the Home Mission Course, there are 7 in Second Year and 11 in Third Year.

Mr. R. M. Trudinger, B.A., of Ernabella Mission, who has served under the Board of Missions since 1940, has applied through the Board to be recognized as a candidate for the ministry, and to be admitted to the Entrance Examination. The Board has granted him up to three years' leave of absence to enable him to take the course in the Theological Hall. In view of the scope of his Arts course, and his work towards the Diploma of Education, he will need to take for Entrance: Bible and Catechism, Greek, and Hebrew only. He is working at these subjects and hopes to qualify for next Session.

The T. E. Committee, Victoria, submitted an application by Miss E. A. Kerr, B.A., for acceptance as a candidate for the ministry. The question of the admission of women students to the course of training for the ministry was before the General Assembly in 1933 (Min. 166), but was not decided. The College Committee was thus unable to receive Miss Kerr as a candidate, but gave her permission to sit for the Entrance Examination, and to attend lectures in the Theological Hall, in each case as a private student, should she so desire. Miss Kerr passed the Entrance Examination in Bible and Catechism, Hebrew, and Greek, with an average of 84 per cent., and has completed the first year in the Hall at Ormond College.

Mr. D. Claude Robertson, B.A., A.I.C.A., barrister and accountant, was accepted by the T.E. Committee, Victoria, as a candidate for the ministry, in furtherance of his desire to attain to the status of the ministry, and to engage in preaching and other service of the Church rather than the work of a parish. It was decided that Mr. Robertson be admitted to the Hall on passing the Entrance Examination in Bible and Catechism only, and that he be required thereafter to take the normal course with exemption from Hebrew and Greek. He qualified for Entrance under these conditions.

3. The Committee was interested in representations made to the Military Authorities through the Moderator-General, to secure the release of the following students from active service, for the resumption of their studies for the ministry: N. C. Bell, T. J. Patterson, T. J. Diggins,

J. C. Allan, R. M. Thomas, A. W. E. Seal, N. Monsen, D. G. Cole, R. R. Hunt, W. A. Walker, J. R. Bovard, C. G. Dane, W. Roberts, S. B. Halford, E. H. Thorpe, D. G. Ritchie, J. V. Mills, J. R. Thorburn, D. M. Hodges, M. G. Mackay, T. E. Pollard, J. A. Richardson, R. B. Sparke, J. H. S. Hurse, G. G. Sloane, W. M. Speirs, T. G. McGregor, A. Priddle, R. T. Joughin.

4. Under authority given by the Assembly in 1942, the Committee determined the courses of study for men returning from active service, receiving valuable help and guidance from the knowledge of the circumstances of each case possessed by State Committees on Theological Education. The following men were dealt with:

Home Mission Course: J. C. Allan, N. C. Bell, P. E. Lucock, J. Mallyon,

K. C. Stevens, C. G. Dane, T. J. Diggins, A. E. Grylls.

Entrance Examination: D. G. Cole, T. E. Pollard.

Theological Hall: A. W. E. Seal, N. Monsen, J. V. Mills.

In order that this important matter might be put on a sound basis, the Committee sent the following six proposals anent servicemen and the ministry to State Committees on Theological Education, for consideration and report:

(a) That students for the ministry who had begun a year of their course before joining the Forces be conceded the completion of such year where this is recommended by the Theological Education Committee of the State concerned.

That Third-Year Home Mission Students, granted such concession be required to undergo a special course of training in Greek with a view to entrance to the Theological Hall.

That the case of each student in the University course be considered by the College Committee¹ on its merits.

(b) To enable the College Committee to give consideration to the introduction of a suitable course for men who desire to be trained for a special form of teaching service, that Theological Education Committees in the various States be invited to make suggestions and recommendations.

(c) That an approach be made through the Chaplains Committee to men serving with the Forces, with a view to enlisting candidates for the ministry.

(d) That action be taken to have the Home Mission course registered as a course of training for the ministry under the Government's Rehabilitation Scheme.

That students in the Home Mission course be advised that the grant should be accepted not during their H.M. service, but during their course in the Theological Hall.

(e) That, on the question of granting concessions in their course to men now in the Forces who may become candidates for the ministry, the Theological Education Committees be invited to submit suggestions and recommendations as to how this may be done without impairing the efficiency of men so trained.

Further, that Theological Education Committees be asked if they favour a re-arrangement by which portions of the University and Theological Hall courses would be made concurrent, and the duration of training reduced to five years.

(f) That the Executive seek the release from the Forces of men received as candidates for the ministry after enlisting, who have served not less than two years in the Forces.

The Executive suggests that State Committees, before accepting such men as candidates, should secure from a Chaplain a report as to their probable suitability.

Reports indicate that proposals (a), (c), (d) and (f) meet with general approval; proposal (b) is welcomed, but requires further elucidation, South Australia suggesting that the course should be Arts, Dip.Ed., and one or two years in the Hall; proposal (e) is approved, but there is agreement that the minimum course should be two years (six subjects) Arts and the full Hall course. South Australia directs attention to the course in "Method of Religious Education" now available at the University of Melbourne, and suggests that such a course might be prescribed for all students.

5. The Executive suggested that Theological and Candidates Committees should consider the advisability of securing additional medical certificates from students returning from active service. This suggestion was generally accepted, but the Queensland Committee did not favour it, and reported that it does not require a medical certificate at any time. This Committee is definitely of the opinion that a satisfactory medical certificate should be forthcoming before any man is accepted as a candidate for the ministry.

6. Special courses ordered by the Assembly were dealt with as follows:

The Committee was given discretionary powers to finalize the course prescribed for the Rev. G. F. Buckley. He completed a third year in the Hall and was given an Exit Certificate.

A course was arranged for the Rev. A. C. Karmouche, who completed it, and was certified to the Presbytery of Melbourne North as an Exit Student qualified to apply to be taken on Trials for Licence.

The Rev. E. M. Kippax was provided with a further course of one year in the Theological Hall, Ormond College. He passed the prescribed examinations and was certified to the Home Mission Committee, Victoria, to serve under its direction for one year.

The Rev. C. E. Bowles attended University classes in philosophy, psychology and history, and obtained very good results. He was then certified to pass under the direction of the Home Mission Committee, New South Wales, for one year.

7. State Committees were asked to report on the proposed alteration of the Rules of Entrance and modification of the Home Mission course (B.B., 1939, Min. 117). Queensland Home Mission Committee disapproves of any changes during the war, in view of the difficulty in securing men. New South Wales Theological Hall Committee disapproves of the deletion of Rule 7 from the rules, and of the subject "Old Testament without Hebrew" from the syllabus; approves the addition of Stout and Mackenzie; approves the substitution of two "Leaving" subjects for three "Intermediate" subjects as entrance to the Home Mission course; and approves the deletion of the rule re spheres of service of Exit men who have passed through the Home Mission course. Western Australia Theological Hall Committee approves of the proposed changes. No other reports were received. In view of these returns, the Committee is of opinion that no changes should be made at present.

The existing rules of the Home Mission course provide, in certain circumstances, for examinations set by approved public examiners as alternatives for the Intermediate Examinations required for entrance to

the Home Mission course. The College Committee when approached has in some cases granted and arranged such examinations, and in other cases has instructed the candidate to sit for the Public Examination. The Queensland Committee, however, relies almost entirely on a special Preliminary Home Mission Examination conducted by itself under a concession said to have been made by the General Assembly in 1928, which does not appear to have been recorded in the Minutes of the Assembly. The College Committee considers that all such special Entrance Examinations should be granted or otherwise dealt with by it, as representing the G.A. of A.

8. State Committees were also asked to report on the Rules of Exit (B.B., 1939, Min. 120). The only report received before the Assembly of 1942 was a suggestion from the Theological Hall Committee, New South Wales, that in view of the establishment of the B.D. course at the University of Sydney, Rule 3 should be amended so as to read: "Passes at the same standard in subjects for the B.D. Degree at the University of Sydney or the Melbourne College of Divinity may be accepted as passes in the corresponding subjects of the Exit Examination." No action was taken on this proposal in 1942, but the Committee reports that it has in fact acted upon it. It is suggested that the rule be so amended. No further reports on the Rules of Exit have been received, and the Committee does not advise any other change at present.

The Committee reports, however, that it has received notice from Dr. W. Cumming Thom that, at the meeting of the full Committee before the Assembly, he will move that the following clause be added to the Deliverance:

1. That the Rules of Entrance, par. 4, should read:

"The subjects of the Entrance Examination shall be: Scripture Knowledge and Shorter Catechism, English, Greek, Hebrew, or History of Israel, British History, Psychology, Logic, Ethics, and History of Philosophy."

2. That the Rules of Exit, par. 2, should read:

"The subjects of the Exit Examination shall be: Old Testament without Hebrew, New Testament, Theology including Christian Ethics, Philosophy of Religion, Church History, and two of Hebrew, Comparative Religion, Religious Education, and History of Missions."

The method now followed under which the Exit Examinations are arranged by the Committees in the States is sufficiently flexible to provide for the natural and inevitable modifications made necessary by the differing circumstances of the various Halls. The College Committee's part in endorsing Second Examiners, receiving their reports, and promulgating results, should ensure a uniform standard throughout the Church. It is generally agreed that while one paper provides a sufficient test in the majority of subjects, two are required in Old Testament and New Testament; a general paper for all candidates, and a second one, on Text, Translation, and Exegesis, for those studying the language, and on English Bible and Exegesis for non-language students.

9. The General Assembly in 1942 received a Petition requesting it to prepare and issue a statement on the attitude of the Church to British Israelism, Prediction Prophecy, Spiritualism, and Christian Science, which Petition was remitted to the College Committee with authority to deal with it. The attention of State Committee was directed to the necessity of making clear to the students in training the Church's position on the matters referred to in the Petition. One Committee suggested in reply that the College Committee and the Board of Religious Education should issue such a statement, but the College Committee considers that the subject could best be dealt with in the Theological Halls under Apologetics or Philosophy of Religion.

10. The period under review has been remarkable for the increase in the number of Home Missionaries recommended by Presbyteries and Home Mission Committees for examination on The Doctrine of the Sacraments, with a view to their authorization to celebrate them. In 1940-42, four were examined and two passed. In 1943-45, 20 sat and passed, 5 were granted an examination but did not sit, two were declined, and three are under consideration. Those who passed, and the Presbyteries recommending them, are: W. R. Cowan (Brisbane); A. K. Harris (Goulburn); J. A. J. Mitchell, E. M. Merton (The Hastings); G. G. Eddie, A. B. L. Bailey (The Hawkesbury); A. Barr, J. P. Baillie, J. D. Penman, F. E. Ezzy, J. H. McDougall (The Hunter); G. W. Mann (Maryborough); C. Egan, P. E. Luccock (New England); H. R. P. Lockett (Onkaparinga); H. McAndrew

(Perth); W. H. Buttsworth (The Richmond); R. H. Vickers, K. A. Fox, W. C. Palmer (Young).

The General Assembly in 1942 (Min. 48) remitted an Overture anent the Ordination of Home Missionaries working amongst the Aborigines in Queensland to the College Committee, with power to authorize the administration of the Sacraments meantime, without Ordination. The Aboriginal Missions Committee recommended two missionaries, and the College Committee arranged the examination. The Missions Committee then asked that the conditions laid down by the G.A. of A. as to an examination should be suspended for the time being, as the missionaries were so isolated that a Supervisor could not be secured, and so overburdened with work that they could not give sufficient time to study for the examination. The Committee declined to adopt this course.

The Committee declined to provide an examination for a Home Missionary acting as assistant to the minister of a large town; also for a lady acting as a temporary Home Mission agent, in view of the dual lack of permanence in the appointment and of recognition by the G.A. of A. of the eligibility of women to celebrate the Sacraments.

A Presbytery conducted an examination on The Doctrine of the Sacraments for a Home Missionary within its bounds, and thereafter resolved to allow him to celebrate baptism in his Station. The Committee informed the Presbytery that the G.A. of A. enactment gives no authority to Presbyteries to conduct such examinations; that the College Committee declined to recognize the examination; and that there existed no valid authority under the enactment for the Home Missionary to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism.

The College Committee has been asked to hold this examination in circumstances which appear to be far beyond the scope contemplated by the G.A. of A. in framing the regulation that "the Presbytery shall satisfy itself that no ordained Minister of the Word is ordinarily available" to celebrate the Sacraments. The basis of the enactment is "the fact that in many parts of the Commonwealth it is not meantime possible to obtain the services of an ordained Minister of the Word." The enactment was made "as a temporary administrative arrangement to meet such need, and until such need be supplied." It should be remembered that the G.A. of A. in 1933 (Min. 109 (13)) gave these rules interim authority, which has not yet been made absolute; and "instructed State Home Mission Committees and Presbyteries to see that only those so authorized are permitted to dispense the Sacraments of the Church; and further instruct Presbyteries to grant such permission only after careful consideration of the merits of each case."

It would now appear that a large proportion of the Home Missionaries are being put forward for examination and subsequent authorization, though they are near to their Interim Moderators or are even assistants to ministers. The Committee therefore raises the question as to whether the "temporary arrangement" made in 1933 should be withdrawn, or should be continued in a modified form; and has resolved:

"In view of the varying interpretations of the enactment of the G.A. of A. on the administration of the Sacraments by Home Missionaries, particularly of the phrase 'that no ordained Minister of the Word is ordinarily available for such purpose,' the Committee request the G.A. of A. to define its attitude to this matter."

ii. The Committee forwards a Petition by Mr. C. J. R. Price, M.A., B.Com. (N.Z.), formerly Director of Welfare of Youth, N.S.W., and now Missionary of the New South Wales Church in India, praying for ordination on passing the Bachelor of Divinity Examination of the Melbourne College of Divinity. The Petition was submitted, with a favourable recommendation, by the Foreign Missions Committee, New South Wales, in March, 1943.

The Committee recommends that the prayer of the Petition for ordination be granted and that the Committee be given discretionary power to prescribe the studies to be required.

D. J. FLOCKHART, Convener.

DEFENCE FORCES CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE (Min. 76)

The main portion of the Chaplaincy Committee's Report consists of the statements by the Chaplain-General and Staff-Chaplain set out fully below, but it is also necessary that there should be some account of the work of the Committee during the past three years of war.

Three special difficulties have burdened the Committee during the whole of this period, i.e., the lack of a Constitution for wartime conditions; the impossibility of arranging for adequate representation of the various Statq Committees at the General Assembly of Australia's committee meetings, because there was no fund to draw upon for expenses of delegates; and the acute shortage of Chaplains for both Army and Air Force.

The draft Constitution, and regulations for the appointment of Chaplain-General and Staff-Chaplain have been prepared and are presented to the Assembly for its approval.

The Committee asks the Assembly to make provision for the expenses of representatives of State Committees attending the half-yearly meetings of its Committee.

The Assembly in 1942 authorized the Moderator, the Convener of the Committee, and the Acting-Clerk, to make representations to the Minister for the Army, seeking such alterations in the conditions pertaining to the appointment of the Chaplain-General as would enable him to devote his full time to the office—and in the event of the existing conditions being varied, delegated to the Committee power to nominate a successor to the Chaplain-General. (B.B., 1942, Min. 62.)

Accordingly, when this was implemented in December, 1942, the Executive called for nominations for the position of a full-time Chaplain-General, and an election was carried out in accordance with regulations then approved by the full Committee, and now recommended to the Assembly for approval and adoption.

The election resulted in the submission of the name of the Rev. A. M. Stevenson, M.C., M.A., to the Moderator-General for nomination to the military authorities as Presbyterian Chaplain-General, and Chaplain-General Stevenson took up his office on December 15, 1943.

The Committee then decided that since the office of Chaplain-General was now a full-time appointment, he should be relieved of the position of Convener of the Committee, and with the approval of the Chaplain-General, the Rev. A. S. Houston (Senior Chaplain, Victorian L. of C., and Convener of the State Chaplaincy Committee), was appointed Acting-Convener until the next meeting of the Assembly.

The proposed regulations are set out in the Deliverance.

Chaplain-General Stevenson succeeded Chaplain-General A. Irving Davidson, E.D., M.A. Mr. Davidson, who was a Chaplain in the last war, had served the Church in Chaplaincy work for a long number of years. He was appointed Senior Chaplain in 1933, and still held that position at the outbreak of war. Thereafter he acted as Deputy for Chaplain-General W. Floyd Shannon, at his request, until 1941, when he was appointed the first Presbyterian Staff-Chaplain of the R.A.A.F. In this position he had a great deal to do with the forming of the Air Force Chaplaincy Constitution and Regulations. After a short period of service, Mr. Davidson resigned from this position on the ground that it should be held by a younger man. The General Assembly of Australia in 1942 nominated him as Chaplain-General, an office that was at that time practically full-time, but without emolument. It will thus be seen that Mr. Davidson has served in each of the senior positions in the Army and Air Force through more than ten years, for all but a fraction of the period without emolument. The whole Church owes Mr. Davidson a debt of gratitude for his long and distinguished service in Chaplaincy work."

"The Church is represented in the Royal Australian Navy by four Chaplains and the Chaplain-General acts as Presbyterian representative on the Protestant Naval Chaplains' Nominating Committee. It is difficult for the Church to maintain the same contact with its representatives in the Navy as with its representatives in the Army and Air Force, but the Committee through available channels has heard of the good work being done by Presbyterian Naval Chaplains."

"Grateful acknowledgment must be made of the many Auxiliary Organizations that have done such notable work in caring for the welfare of the men and women in the Forces, both at home and overseas. These loyal groups of voluntary workers have devoted long hours to tasks that must have been wearying steadfastly and continuously over the six years of the war, and are still carrying on with vigour unabated. Special mention might be made of the Hospitality Centres for service personnel in New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria. What these organizations in the various States have done and are doing is beyond praise."

Chaplain-General's Report

I took over my duties on December 16, 1943, and would like to pay a tribute to the help I received in the early stages from my predecessor, the Rev. A. Irving Davidson, who placed freely at my disposal his extensive knowledge of Army administration.

During the period under review in this Report the following were accepted for Chaplaincy service in the Army: New South Wales: G. W. Brown, T. P. McEvoy; Victoria: F. P. Strickland, S. E. Yarnold; South Australia: J. S. Smith (full-time duty), P. M. Roberts; Tasmania: A. E. Giles (full-time duty), J. S. Tanner.

During the same period the following have been released from Chaplaincy Service: New South Wales: G. W. Brown, H. W. Deall, R. C. Racklyeft, A. Watson, A. Balmer, W. Young, M. A. McAlpine; Victoria: A. A. Bell, D. E. Sprigg, F. W. Rankin, J. F. Forrest, N. W. Paul; Queensland: S. Dodds, E. L. Thompson; Western Australia: G. Tulloch.

At the time when this Report was written the Presbyterian Church had on service: 56 Chaplains on full-time duty; 5 Chaplains on part-time duty.

During the same period I have had three relationships:

1. With the Chaplains in the formations. Many of these were unknown to me at the outset, but in due course I made personal contact with them all, and formed the opinion that so far as quality goes the Presbyterian Church is admirably represented in the Army. In operational areas, base camps, and hospitals, our padres are doing splendid work, which is highly appreciated by all ranks.

Unfortunately, as is well known, the quantity has not been as well maintained as the quality, and at no stage has our Church provided its entitlement. At the time of writing this Report we fall short of that by ten or a dozen Chaplains. The postings we have failed to fill have been taken over by the Methodist and United Churches (Congregational, Baptist, Church of Christ, Salvation Army). This unsatisfactory and discreditable position has been brought before the State Assemblies in my reports to them, and appeals have been made by me through our denominational papers to ministers of military age, but the response has been disappointing, and at the present time I have no knowledge of any likely recruit. The Committees have given every co-operation, but their efforts also have been unavailing. Meanwhile some of our padres have now had over five years' service, and the Committee feels that men so placed must be given the opportunity of release from military service if they so desire. In this I wholeheartedly concur.

It is recognized that the absence of so many ministers on Chaplaincy duty is inevitably for the time being a source of embarrassment to the Home Church, but the experience these men are gaining is invaluable, and will enhance their standing immeasurably with the younger generation in the days to come. In addition to this, while in the Army they have an unparalleled opportunity of influencing for good the young men and women with whom they are serving.

It is gratifying to know that most of the States, if not all, have drawn up regulations which guarantee employment to Chaplains for a period after their discharge from the Army or until settlement in a parish.

Our Chaplains would wish me in this Report to acknowledge their indebtedness to the Church for the literature provided for distribution among the troops, particularly the "Pocket Companion," and also to the welfare associations in the various States for comforts and amenities supplied.

It would be invidious in a report such as this to mention individual Chaplains when all have been so loyal and co-operative, but I cannot refrain from paying a tribute to the generous help I have received as Chaplain-General from the Seniors with field formations—Chaplains W. L. Collins, A. H. Stewart, B. Galloway, D. Drennan—and from the Seniors in the various States—Chaplains G. Cranston, A. S. Houston, W. C. R. Moore, J. R. Blanchard and R. M. Herriman. The same applies to Senior Chaplain G. Tulloch, who recently retired from the position of State Senior in Western Australia after thirty-one years' service.

2. With the other Chaplains-General. The Chaplaincy Department of the Army is unique in that, in place of the customary single "head," it has five "heads." The Chaplains-General (C. of E., R.C., Pres., Meth, and U.C.) in conference are the Commanding Officer. This arrangement, to meet the

denominational situation, is obviously only workable when there is close co-operation and a spirit of give-and-take. These are forthcoming to a remarkable degree, and I have no hesitation in claiming that within the Department there is being carried on the most striking piece of Church co-operation being attempted in Australia at the present time.

This five-fold set-up is confined to L.H.Q. and L. of C. Areas. In the field formations the set-up is three-fold. In each large formation, such as a brigade, there are three padres: C. of E., R.C.S., P.D. (Protestant Denominations). The third of these may be either a Presbyterian, Methodist, or a representative of one of the United Churches, and whatever his denomination his duty is to minister to all personnel of the P.D. Group. Where Senior positions are concerned the same principle applies. In armies, corps and divisions there are three Seniors (C. of E., R.C., P.D.). The P.D. man, again, will be either a Pres., Meth., or the representative of one of the United Churches, and whatever his denomination he acts as Senior for all padres within the group.

To the readers of my Report this may sound rather involved, but in actual practice the arrangement works well and is now firmly established within the Army, and my tribute is that all our Chaplains profit from this close association with ministers of other Churches. Of course, difficulties and misunderstandings sometimes arise, but these are few and far between, and there prevails a fine brotherly spirit among the representatives of the various denominations which will be carried over with profit to all concerned into the post-war world.

The Chaplains-General are responsible to the Adjutant-General and through him have access to the Commander-in-Chief. My own personal view is that the three-fold set-up might well be extended to L.H.Q., and one Chaplain-General have the oversight of all Presbyterian, Methodist and United Churches Chaplains, but this view at present is not shared by my colleagues.

The Chaplains-General interest themselves in the moral and spiritual life of the Army as a whole, and a typical example of their activities is a recent anti-V.D. campaign which they instituted in conjunction with the Army medical authorities, in the course of which each formation in every L. of C. area throughout the Commonwealth was visited by a padre and a doctor, the former addressing the troops on the moral and religious aspect of this great evil.

Attached to the Department there is a Liaison Officer for the Women's Services, Major Kathleen Deasey, and an Assistant Liaison Officer, Captain Molly Burns, a daughter of a well-beloved former minister of our Church in Victoria. The work of these two officers has led to a great deal being done to meet the religious needs of the members of the Women's Services and to a more effective work in that sphere by our Chaplains. A Book of Readings and Prayers has recently been prepared and issued for the use of A.W.A.S., A.M.W.A.S., and A.A.N.S., which will meet a long-felt need, particularly in units where it is customary to hold morning and evening prayers.

3. With the various Committees. It has been my constant endeavour to work in close co-operation with the State Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committees, the Federal Committee, which meets every six months, and the Executive.

It is very difficult for the Chaplain-General to keep in close touch with so many committees, and it would certainly make things easier for him if there was one Federal Committee to which he was solely responsible, and the Chaplaincy work within the Church organized on a Commonwealth basis.

Members of the General Assembly will note the regulations which have been prepared defining the relationship of the Chaplain-General to the Committee. I would draw the attention of the members to the regulation requiring the Chaplain-General on certain matters to consult with the Committee, and would ask for clarification as to the position should there be a disagreement between the Chaplain-General and the Committee on any particular matter after consultation. Is the Chaplain-General required to accept the decision of the Committee or, having consulted them, has he fulfilled his part of the contract, and is he at liberty to take the action he thinks best in the light of his total responsibilities as Chaplain-General? A ruling on this would remove a possible source of misunderstanding in the future.

In conclusion I would say that I am deeply sensible of the honour conferred on me by my present appointment, and of the responsibility

involved. It is my earnest desire, with God's help, to represent the Church worthily in the Army and to direct wisely the work of the Chaplains serving under me.

STAFF CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

This Report of the R.A.A.F. Chaplaincy work covers the period from the end of August, 1942, to 30th June, 1945. In August, 1942, there were in addition to the Staff Chaplain eleven full-time and fourteen part-time Chaplains. At the present time there are twenty full-time and seventeen part-time Chaplains.

The Presbyterian total Establishment is twenty-six full-time and twenty part-time.

Full-time Chaplains: (a) Those serving before the end of August, 1942, and still serving are: A. E. C. Collins (Vic.), J. F. McKay (Q.), A. H. Michell (Vic.), E. W. C. New (W.A.), R. C. Russell (N.S.W.), N. R. Scott (S.A.).

(b) Those enlisted since August, 1942, and still serving are: J. C. Alexander (Vic.), K. C. W. Beckett (W.A.), A. T. Cottrell (S.A.), S. A. Goddard (Vic.), H. A. Harris (Vic.), W. G. Johnstone (Vic.), J. E. Lloyd (Vic.), who had previously served as an Army Chaplain in the Middle East, A. J. W. McAllister (N.S.W.), J. C. McDiarmid (Q.), R. A. Miller (Tas.), G. G. Powell (Vic.), M. W. Roberts (N.S.W.), E. B. Robinson (Vic.), J. R. Sweet (Q.). All these Chaplains except two have served overseas or in operational areas. Of the two exceptions one is debarred on medical grounds (from such service) and the other has not yet completed one year's service in the R.A.A.F. Owing to a shortage of Chaplains, a number of men are being called on to do a second tour in tropical and operational areas.

(c) Those released from the Service are A. A. Adam (N.S.W.), W. F. Gilmour (Tas.), after four years' service; and A. A. Dougan (N.S.W.), E. E. Fabb (Q.), D. M. Harper (N.S.W.), and M. C. Mayes (N.S.W.), on medical and compassionate grounds.

Part-time Chaplains now serving are: K. W. Burton (3 R.A.A.F. Hospital, N.S.W.), R. H. C. Crowe (Q.), C. W. Dron (S.A.), S. J. Higginbotham (Vic.), K. N. R. Innes (Q.), D. McK. Jones (Vic.), S. E. McKay (Q.), C. J. V. McKeown (Vic.), A. McMillan (Vic.), A. R. McVittie (N.S.W.), G. Nesbitt (N.S.W.), J. Perkins (N.S.W.), I. W. Ross (W.A.), R. G. Sherman (Q.), A. T. Walker (N.S.W.), N. L. D. Webster (Q.), and G. A. McC. Wood (Vic.).

Those released from the Service are: H. M. Coutts (N.S.W.), R. C. Foyster (Vic.), A. T. P. North (Q.), owing to change of parish: C. V. McLeod (S.A.), for F.M. duties: W. H. Waters on medical grounds: W. A. Alston, pressure of Church duties; and R. T. White, owing to a change in Establishment.

Sphere of Service: It is interesting to note the disposal of the twenty full-time field Chaplains comprising the Presbyterian team. One is in the Middle East with a very wide sweep of operations from Jerusalem, Cairo, the Western Desert, Italy and Austria: one is in London with an itinerating job to the squadrons throughout the U.K.: seven are in the New Guinea and Netherlands East Indies areas, five of them being right up in the present front line: three are in the Darwin area and another is in a tropical area. That is, thirteen are on operational or tropical areas, and seven are on Southern units. Of these seven, there are six who have already served in the North and are willing to go again. If the five vacancies in full-time Chaplains were filled, not only would we be able to meet our full obligation, but there would be a better balance in the whole team, enabling replacements to go to the northern areas without leaving home units vacant. My thanks are tendered to the Committees for their efforts to find suitable men and the challenge of the vacant chaplaincies is commended to young men who are willing and able to serve.

The Church has not been able to provide the full quota of Chaplains allotted to it by the Air Force. This has created problems of administration requiring careful adjustment. There is a spirit of co-operation and comradeship in chaplaincy work and the R.A.A.F. has provided facilities for the spiritual ministrations which the Church have demanded. Experience has shown that there are three groups of spiritual ministry: Church of England, Roman Catholic, and the third group, comprising Methodist, Presbyterian and other Protestant denominations.

It is often claimed that a Chaplain is merely a welfare worker, and a Chaplain sometimes feels that the worth of his work depends on the amount of comforts he can distribute. But the records have shown that many Chaplains who have been tireless in welfare work have also been able to wield a powerful spiritual influence. It depends largely on the man. This can be said, that many commanding officers have greatly appreciated the help of the Padre who did not restrict his activities to Church services, but who cheerfully went the second mile with the practical helpfulness that brings a bit of comfort to the boy or girl away from home. Our Church realizes the value of such activity, for, apart from the many congregations which provide the "social hour" for personnel of the Services, it has established Hospitality Centres in the capital cities, such as in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne, and has provided huts for recreational purposes in numerous Army camps. Let us be thankful for such organizations as the Soldiers' (Services) Welfare Association of Victoria, to whose funds many congregations have subscribed and in whose activities many loyal and devoted men and women of the Church have laboured untiringly to provide comforts which the Chaplain can distribute among the men. To all who have worked in Hospitality Centres, and to those who have been¹ instrumental in making comforts available to troops, I extend my heartiest thanks and appreciation.

Suitable literature has been made available and no praise is too high for the "Pocket Companion," which has been distributed in thousands to the troops and is still very popular and in great demand. In addition, suitable pamphlets, written generally by Padres, have been distributed through the Padres. Libraries of good literature have been sent to Chaplains in forward areas and have greatly enhanced the value of their ministry. A special parcel of books donated by the P.G.F.U. was forwarded for the use of W.A.A.A.F. personnel in the Charters Towers district and have been greatly appreciated. My thanks are tendered to the Rev. Dr. John Mackenzie and his Committee for this important work, and again to the S.W.A. and P.G.F.U. for the gift of libraries.

Ground transport for Chaplains, especially in forward areas, has always been difficult. In 1943 generous donations made it possible to provide two panel vans for the use of Presbyterian Chaplains in the Darwin area. The Staff Chaplain was able to travel in them from Alice Springs to Darwin, and it is gratifying to be able to report that, owing to the careful driving of the Padres and to the excellent servicing of the R.A.A.F., these two vehicles are still doing very good work and running very smoothly. This gift, and similar gifts by the Church of England, led to a definite establishment of vehicles for Chaplains in all forward areas and the problem of transport has been greatly improved.

Wherever our Chaplains have gone, they have built chapels, so that to-day in Darwin and in many parts of New Guinea there are chapels which bear testimony to the zeal of the Chaplains and, happily enough, to the willing co-operation of commanding officers and other members of the unit. For one, of these an organ was donated and despatched by boat, and, after some wandering, came into the use of a Chaplain, though, it must be confessed, not of the Chaplain for whom it was first intended!

The Staff Chaplain has occupied his position for 4 years, and has thus been able to preserve a continuity in the work of administration which is not confined to Headquarters in Melbourne, but necessitates visits to Chaplains in operational areas and in home units. His aim has been to develop a spirit of comradeship among all Chaplains who, as servants of Christ, are representing the Church and carrying its strengthening gospel to companies of men who live in unusual conditions and who go out on the hazardous ventures of war. He has endeavoured by personal sympathy and understanding to hold the team together and to give a steadying influence when home and family considerations sometimes made it difficult for a Chaplain to carry on. It is gratifying to be able to report my pride and satisfaction in the work that has been accomplished and the standard set by the men who have served with me. Air Board has also recognized the work of the chaplaincy by upgrading 25 per cent, of all full-time Chaplains. The present recipients of this recognition are K. C. W. Beckett, J. F. McKay, A. H. Mitchell, E. W. C. New and R. C. Russell, who have been upgraded to Class 3. A. A. Adam and W. F. Gilmour had also been upgraded before their release. My thanks are tendered to all full-time and part-time Chaplains for a job well done. I would give a special recognition to part-time Chaplains, who in the midst of parish duties have spared no effort to carry on their Air Force work. I would also add a special word of thanks to the wives of full-time Chaplains who have

patiently and uncomplainingly accepted the loneliness of separation from their husbands, who have been away for long periods.

In completing this record of my stewardship I would stress two things:

1. Chaplaincy work must have a prominent place in the Church's programme of work until the very end of the war. More Chaplains are still needed.
2. Charges now vacant should keep in mind the claims of the returned Chaplain, who will be able to bring a wealth of experience to his work in the parish. He is worth waiting for.

The Committee wishes to inform the Assembly that in its judgment, and in view of the end of the war, the positions of Chaplain-General and Staff-Chaplain must soon cease to be on a full-time basis, and that when this situation arises the Committee will take appropriate action in terms of the regulations.

A. S. HOUSTON,

Acting-Convener, Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee
of G.A. of A.

FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (Min. 143)

Minute 32 of the Blue Book, G.A. of A, 1942, reappointed this Committee, as it did all other Standing and Special Committees. It was assumed (not without objection) that this Committee's instructions were also continued. Accordingly, meetings were held in September, 1943 and 1944. The Minutes of the 1943 meeting show that many subjects of interest were discussed and opinions recorded by the Advisory Committee which strengthened the hand of various Committees which consulted it. One advantage not so clearly recorded in the Minutes was that opportunity was taken of the fact that delegates were present from all States and that meetings of several Committees could be held. In the years prior to the formation of the Federal Advisory Committee full Committee meetings were held only in the few hours immediately preceding the Assembly itself. Unless members of Committee were also members of the following Assembly they never could attend any meeting of the Committee. This difficulty in working a federal organization still exists; but its drawbacks have been somewhat minimized by this new possibility of meeting when the Advisory Committee meets.

In 1944 the work done assumed a new importance. The Moderator submitted some requests for guidance as to his actions on behalf of the Church. The Canberra Committee took action in the hope that some settlement of a long-standing financial problem might be effected. The Chaplaincy Defence Forces Committee submitted recommendations for new Regulations which are the basis of draft Regulations proposed to be submitted to this Assembly. Perhaps the most important, piece of business was found in the decision to set up a Commonwealth Co-ordinating Committee to handle Home Mission and A.I.M. relationships. Separate report on this matter is being made elsewhere.

A suggestion was made to the Board of Religious Education approving the formation of a scheme of Adult Christian Education and recommending that this Assembly be asked to set up a Department of Adult Christian Education.

Papers relating to the status of women in the work of the Church were submitted and recommended to be sent on to this Assembly. The matter of the authority of the Board of Missions to permit the opening of new fields of missionary activity was submitted to the Committee and recommendations were made.

Proposals as to the formation of some form of National Christian Council were reported and are now incorporated in the Report of the Committee on Christian Unity. Some motions of sympathy were passed.

Other matters discussed were the establishment of U.N.R.R.A., vacancies in Western Australia, a letter from the Rev. Dr. Waldoock on evangelism, the Trust Deed, Group Nomination for Immigrants, and the proper Committees to be consulted by the Moderator in matters of doubt.

The Standing Committees which were enabled to meet because of the meeting of the Advisory Committee included the Board of Missions, Board of Education, Year Book Committee, Defence Forces Chaplaincy, Book of Common Order, Church and Creed, Christian Unity, Colledge and Christian

Social Order Committees. The A.I.M. Board also met in the same week.

Reported on behalf of the Committee,

R. WILSON MACAULAY,

Moderator and Chairman.

FINANCE COMMITTEE OF G.A. OF A. (Min. 173)

A full statement of Income and Expenditure appears in the White Book. All current liabilities have been met and all contributions due by States have been paid.

The Federal Advisory Committee travelling expenses cost the Fund £141/6/3.

In addition to the Assessments levied on State Assemblies, there is a proposed Assessment for payment of interest on Canberra debt, which matter was the subject of a communication from the Moderator-General to State Assemblies. The communication set forth that the original debt was:

	£13,063 11 9
Accrued interest to 31st December, 1944	7,393 1 3
	Total £20,456 13 0

Interest on this sum for 1945 at 31% would be £767/2/5, which, on quota basis, would work out as follows:

State	Assessment	Canberra Interest
Victoria..... ..	£400	£337 3 11
New South Wales	350	295 0 11
Queensland..... ..	90	75 17 4
South Australia..... ..	25	21 1 6
Western Australia..... ..	25	21 1 6
Tasmania..... ..	20	16 17 3
	£910	£767 2 5

The attention of the Assembly is drawn to the imperative necessity for action as to interest charges on the Canberra Building Account, which account continues to increase, and the present position is not only alarming, but unsatisfactory.

Travelling Expenses of G.A. of A.

It is recommended that the payment towards the travelling expenses of members to this Assembly be:

- (a) Those paying less than £2, nothing.
- (b) Those paying £2 to £4, one half.
- (c) Those paying £4 upward, three-quarters.
- (d) Railway fares from South Australia, New South Wales, and within Victoria, to be calculated at second class railway rates.
- (e) Members who require two or more nights in the train on the journey to Melbourne may claim a proportion calculated on first class railway fares.

If the Assembly should decide to meet every two years, it will be necessary to reduce the subsidy towards travelling expenses, or to increase the assessment of the State Assemblies. The Committee recommends the latter course, considering that any further restrictions on representation, especially from the distant States, is inadvisable, and recommends the following assessment on the State Assemblies, if the two-year period be approved, or if the Assembly decides on any other substantial addition to the present commitments on the Expenses Account:

Victoria..... ..	£500
New South Wales..... ..	450
Queensland..... ..	120
South Australia..... ..	25
Western Australia..... ..	25
Tasmania..... ..	20

£1140

The attention of the Assembly is called to the financial loss on the Year Book, and the Assembly is asked to give attention to some means of making the Year Book self-supporting.

Owing to the restrictions observed for the Assembly in Sydney, September, 1942, the expenses account is in a better position than at any previous period, and the Committee recommend this position be maintained so that there will always be a sufficient amount in hand to meet commitments as they arise.

FIRE INSURANCE (Min. 144)

Now that national restrictions have in many respects been lifted, the way is open to resume negotiations for a nation-wide Church insurance scheme. An amalgamation of sound State Insurance Funds is the surest and speediest way to establish a satisfactory Commonwealth scheme. The wider we can spread the risks, the stronger would a central fund become, and the more we have in reserve in that central fund the greater risks can be taken, and the greater risks undertaken the faster the reserves will grow. It is suggested that negotiations of an exploratory and preliminary nature be continued as between the States with a view to co-operation and co-ordination where and when possible in the case of existing State schemes, and the help and encouragement to States without a scheme to put one into operation.

V. CLARK-DUFF, Convener.

State Reports

New South Wales

The New South Wales Indemnity Committee has pleasure in reporting the completion of the Fund's eleventh year of successful operations. During the past three years, ending 31st December, 1944, the net revenue from contributions amounted to £4,685/16/6, while interest in the reserve funds rose to £879/13/11, making the total revenue £5,565/10/5.

There were lodged with and approved by the Committee fifty-five claims embracing Fire, Workers' Compensation, Plate Glass, Motor Car, Public Risk, and Burglary, the net cost of which amounted to £140/6/2. Rent, office services and sundry items of expense cost £1,657/14/5, leaving a net surplus of £3,767/9/10. After deducting donations, totalling £450, made to the Assembly Hall Building Fund, the sum of £3,317/9/10 was transferred to reserve, thereby increasing the latter to £11,186/15/11.

At 31st December, 1944, the Fund's total net liability in respect of fire risks amounted to £971,967.

During 1942 consideration was given to the formation of a School Fees Guarantee Scheme, but as compulsory participation by all students was considered to be the only satisfactory basis upon which such a scheme could be founded, and one of the Church's leading schools having indicated that any compulsory scheme would be viewed with disfavour, the whole idea was dropped.

In 1944 the activities of the Committee were extended to Indemnity against "Consequential Loss," or, as it is more commonly called, "Loss of Profits" as a result of fire. In consequence of representations made by the Committee, all Metropolitan Colleges and several Country Colleges of the Church effected this indemnity. This class of risk is not being carried by the Fund, but is placed by the Committee with an insurance company.

The Committee again expresses its readiness to enter into an agreement with the Victorian Church for an interchange of business which it is convinced would be to the advantage of both Funds and would pave the way to the eventual amalgamation of State schemes into a Commonwealth Fund.

The administrative and clerical work continues to remain under the supervision of one member of the Church office staff as part of his duties, and of one of the typists as part of her duties.

Regular monthly meetings of the Committee continue to be held. The Committee, consisting of Mr. T. O. McCreadie (Convener), Mr. Gordon C. Thompson, Rev. V. Clark-Duff, and Mr. H. G. Jeffreson, was reappointed by the General Assembly of New South Wales in 1943 for a period of three years.

Queensland

Fire Insurance Fund: At the 1st July, 1945, two hundred and eighteen congregations were connected with the Fund with a cover of £297,847.

Colleges, Homes, etc., were covered for £85,790, making a total Fire Insurance Indemnity of £383,637. Of this amount £284,016 was covered by an insurance company leaving the Fire Insurance Fund £99,621. The Fire Insurance Cover has increased by £33,473 since last Report in 1942.

The Fund's net income for the past three years, ending 31st December, 1944, was £877/1/11, increasing the Accumulated Fund to £3,353/4/4.

There were no claims made/ on the Fund during the three years.

South Australia

In reply to your letter of 3rd July, I would state that there is no report from South Australia concerning fire insurance. Nothing has been done in this connection, as the local members of every Church up till now have made their own arrangements, and we have no central plan of insurance.

Tasmania

No report.

Victoria

The figures of the Indemnity Fund at 31/12/44 as against those at 31/12/41 were:

	1944	1941
Congregations connected with the Fund ..	327	285
Indemnity.....	£520,183	£414,417
Colleges and Institutions.....	833,017	610,460
Accumulated Fund.....	3,615	1,637

The Indemnity Fund's share of the losses caused by the disastrous bush fires early in 1944 meant a loss to the Fund of £1,525. The Indemnity Fund had re-insurances with the Insurance Company to the extent of £652,428.

Western Australia

No report.

HOME MISSIONS (Min. 34)

We have received reports from each of the Home Mission Committees of the State Assemblies. It is interesting to note that in every instance the reports reveal a spirit of enterprise and progress, which rises above difficulties to serve Christ and extend His Kingdom. This augurs well for the future of our Church in Australia.

We regret to report the death on July 17th of the Rev. K. Forster, Convener* of the Committee, and place on record our high appreciation of his Christian character and his work for the Church. We extend to his widow and family our sympathy in their bereavement.

The H.M.C. of the G.A.A. has little work to do since the A.I.M. occupies the area not covered by State Assemblies, except in relation to the distribution of the income of two bequests, which money is allotted to assist certain State Home Mission Committees in their work.

The Earle McCracken Bequest is allotted to Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania, and was used in definite work in W.A. to assist the work at Kellerberrin and Narragin; in S.A. to Port Augusta, Port Pirie and Wallaroo; in Tasmania to Home Mission work at Lilydale.

This Committee was consulted each year in connection with the distribution of the income of the C. D. Lloyd Bequest, and agreed thereto.

The Committee has been in conference with the A.I.M., and proposes to the General Assembly a Plan for the more efficient working of Home Mission enterprise in the Commonwealth. This plan, which sets forth in detail the formation of a Commonwealth Co-ordinating Committee on Home Missions, was prepared at the direction of the Federal Advisory Committee at its meeting on September 14th, 1944, and was subsequently approved by that Committee, which then requested that it be sent to the A.I.M. and to the State Home Mission Committees for their consideration and presentation to their State Assemblies, and report not later than June 30th, 1945.

The Constitution is set forth in the Deliverance.

The A.I.M. has approved the Plan and endorsed the proposed Constitution.

N.S.W. and Queensland approved of their Home Mission Committees

sending delegates to meetings of the Commonwealth Co-ordinating Committee with instructions to report to next Assembly.

W.A. approved the proposals of the Commonwealth Co-ordinating Committee on Home Missions and agreed to co-operate in every way necessary.

The combined Assembly of Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania approved the proposed Constitution, authorized the Home Mission Committee to pay the expenses of its representatives attending meetings of the Commonwealth Co-ordinating Committee, and to assist in meeting the needs of the field; and directed that intimation of this decision be sent to the Home Mission Committees of other States.

The Assembly is asked to approve the Plan and Constitution of the Commonwealth Co-ordinating Committee and appoint this Special Committee.

The attention of the Assembly is drawn to an increasing number of Australians who are dwelling, or will dwell, in the Islands and Dependencies north of Australia, and regions beyond.

Our Church should keep in contact with these and minister to their spiritual needs. It may be necessary to co-operate with the London Missionary Society, and Overseas Departments of the Home Churches. The Committee considers that this contact may best be effected by the A.I.M., and therefore suggests that the Committee be directed to confer with the A.I.M., and the Commonwealth Co-ordinating Committee.

E. H. McLEAN SHUGG, Acting-Convener.

New South Wales

The war years, as was to be expected, have been a most difficult and most worrying experience. World War II caught the Home Mission Department in the midst of a Forward Campaign. In 1937 an Advance Movement was planned which has resulted in the creation of fourteen new parishes. This was made possible by the establishment of a special Sites and Building Fund, from which new congregations could get a loan towards the purchase of a site and the erection of a church. This advance, together with a further loan from the Church and Manse Loan Fund, and a small bank overdraft, made possible the erection of a dual-purpose building, as soon as opportunity afforded, in new suburbs and new country settlements. Under this scheme sixteen new buildings were erected. National Security Regulations, however, have prevented the erection of any further churches, and loss of staff the opening up of any further parishes.

That loss of staff was very considerable. The Church refused to give to Home Missionaries and Students any indication as to how it regarded the value to the nation of their service in the Church. The result was that twenty enlisted in some branch of the Services. Everything possible was done to supply the ordinances of religion to all Home Mission parishes. By amalgamation with adjoining parishes; by utilizing the services of retired ministers in near-city appointments; and by amalgamation with the Methodist Church; in one particular the needs of the field were tolerably well met. In latter days there has been one notable exception in the case of a big parish in the south-west—the parish of Balranald. The vacancy there, however, is to be filled by the appointment of an Exit Student this year.

In a small number of cases the Committee was able to loan a man to a strategic sanctioned charge, which otherwise would have found it most difficult to get a minister.

In answer to an appeal to help in Western Australia, the best the Committee could do was to divert an amount from the Lloyd Bequest. This amount could have been claimed with justice, but the suggestion was made by the Committee that it be allotted to W.A. Our Law Agent has advised that in no way is, it possible to use any funds held or gathered by this Committee for work in another State.

The Manse problem has become one of the most harassing and perplexing of all Home Mission difficulties. The proportion of married Home Mission students has greatly increased in recent years. The exigencies of war, too, have created that hitherto unknown category—the married university student. The housing problem has become most acute, and Government Security Regulations impede vexatiously efforts made to cope, promptly and rationally, with a problem having serious effects upon our work. The State, too, often shows slight recognition indeed of the Church's great contribution to the war effort and to the national welfare generally.

To offset the increased cost of living the 1944 Assembly raised the salaries of Home Missionaries. For some years an additional 5/- per week

has been made to the married Home Missionary for¹ the child under sixteen not covered by the Federal Government's Endowment Scheme.

The salaries decreed at last Assembly were as follows: Married men £4/10/- per week, plus residence, plus 5/- per week for the first child; single men £4/10/- per week; university students £1/15/- per week while in residence in St. Andrew's College, otherwise and during College vacation £3/17/6 per week.

Another Forward Campaign is being planned to begin when hostilities finally cease and our men on service and the Chaplains have returned. There should be a surplus of staff then. An effort is being made to improve the financial position in order to meet the extra subsidies that will be necessary on the establishment of new parishes. A questionnaire has been sent to all ministers throughout the State, which will reveal exactly where Church extension work can be carried out, and also what ministers in large provincial towns are prevented from further extending the work through the need of an assistant. It is our prayer and hope that, wherever there is the possibility, we shall still further extend the borders of our beloved Church. We are striving to stir our Church to its utmost effort for the Master at this supreme crisis in human history, believing that His Cause alone can save our civilization from going down "in wreck and ineffectuality."

J. WAUGH, Convener.

Queensland

The incidence of the war has affected this department of our work in Queensland probably more than that of any other. Not only did practically every eligible Home Missionary enlist, but almost every young man whose thought had turned to Home Mission service also joined up. We lost both actual and potential workers, and so far have not been able to replace them. The number of men in the work dropped from 62 in 1942 to 43 at the end of 1944, and of these latter most were non-students, middle-aged or even old men. The vacancies caused by the Chaplaincy work undertaken by many ministers could not be filled, and the Home Mission Committee was called upon to find supply in many of these. Consequently it was not possible to undertake much new work: the Committee was more intent upon providing services in fields already open.

Only one new mission station has been opened in the three-year period, but two suburban Charges were disjoined from the congregations which had fostered them, and became Home Mission Charges. One of these has already become a full Charge and called a minister, and the other is almost ready to be raised. Other two Home Mission Charges attained full status, but due to movements of population two full Charges found themselves unable to continue in that status and were reduced to Home Mission Stations.

Difficulties were made greater by the temporary cessation of A.I.M. Patrol work, owing to the two padres engaging in Chaplaincy duties. The contact which these padres had with the outermost Home Mission Charges was largely lost to the Church and will have to be revived at the first opportunity. All that could be done was to plan itinerating work for ministers and missionaries in wide country Charges, and this has been done so efficiently that there is scarcely a place previously served that has not had at least services at regular but too widely spaced intervals. Thursday Island came entirely under military occupation in 1942 and was closed. It is hoped soon to reopen this Charge, which should have great future possibilities.

Extensive plans have been made for the future. As soon as ministers are available, at least eight Home Mission Charges will seek full status. This will enable us to reach out to territory hitherto untouched. A start has already been made in one area—the Maranoa—where Lloyd Bequest funds have made it possible for the minister of that widely scattered Charge to go far afield and gather in many of our people. It is proposed to extend this plan in many places throughout the State, by having a minister with a Home Mission assistant stationed at strategic centres, and itinerating through the surrounding country. Centres such as Chinchilla and St. George in the South-West, Springsure in the Central West, Longreach in the Far-West, Ingham and Atherton Tableland in the North, are marked out for this type of work, while in each country Presbytery plans are in hand for more intensive work in many districts. Mt. Isa offers a great field for development and as soon as possible an ordained minister will be put in charge of the work in this great centre.

Finances continue to be buoyant, due perhaps to the fact that few new

Charges have needed to be maintained, but the giving of the people has been marked by generosity. It has been possible to increase all Home Mission salaries by £30 a year, and in many instances missionaries receive larger increases. We are still, however, far from self-supporting.

In the three years under review, thirteen Home Missionaries have passed the Exit Examinations, been licensed, and ordained. Five more are doing their exit work this year and there are ten others in the Theological Hall in first and second year.

After rendering splendid service as Convener for eight years, the Rev. F. W. Gresham resigned the Convener'ship of the Committee following his removal to a country Charge, and the Rev. S. Summers was appointed Convener.

The great need is for men, and more men, to cope with the work offering. It is probable that twenty new men could be placed almost at once if they were offering.

S. SUMMERS, Convener.

South Australia

In presenting a report on the Home Mission activities within the State of South Australia, acknowledgment should first be made of the generosity of the Church in Victoria which supports the work liberally with men and money. Considering how the Victorian Church is itself faced with grave manpower shortages, its assistance is all the more appreciated.

Since the last Assembly, the work in the City of Adelaide has been promoted by the creation of four special aid-receiving Charges, while in the expanding industrial centre at Whyalla steady progress is being made, despite unforeseen changes in staff.

The most notable developmental feature of our work has been brought, to a sudden standstill by the untimely death of the minister placed in charge of it. Less than three months ago, Rev. C. W. T. Headen was inducted to the special Charge of Murray Bridge, and his duties were to have included a desert-patrol out eastwards towards the Victorian border, and a river-patrol northwards along the Murray, and thereby minister to scattered Presbyterian families which are known to exist out in these remote areas. Mr. Headen had already made some preliminary investigations in the vicinity of Tailem Bend. He was entertaining the highest hopes for the future success of this enterprise when God called him home. As yet it is too soon to give an indication concerning the continuation of this work so promisingly commenced.

T. P. MORRIS,

LOUIS J. SCHMIDT,

Co-conveners.

Tasmania

A growing Home Mission consciousness amongst our people is evidenced in the unusually fine response to our Annual Appeal and increased contributions from all sources for 1944-45.

That the Home Mission Stations themselves are looking forward is seen in the fact that four of the remaining six are listed to be raised to the status of special Charges as soon as possible.

For the South the experiment whereby Glenorchy has been linked to New Town and placed under a Student Assistant to the minister is producing gratifying results.

Sorell, for some time given over to the Congregational Church, has been taken over again and placed under the Session of Scots Church, Hobart.

Glamorgan and Queenstown have both experienced difficult periods of shortage of ministers, but of these Glamorgan is once again under the charge of a minister, and Queenstown is carrying on for the present under the leadership of a missionary.

In the North, Burnie is showing response to the recent appointment of an Exit Student, and plans for a new manse are well advanced. Ulverstone has shown response to the work of a young leader, and is so desirous of improving its status that it has requested the Home Mission Committee to allow it to carry on without the usual grant.

North Launceston has been raised recently to the status of a full Charge, under the leadership of a young, energetic Exit Student.

From Chalmers Church in Launceston has come a request for some small assistance from our Committee to finance a plan for procuring the services of a Deaconess for developmental work at Newstead.

Lilydale and Scottsdale are both looking forward to a time in the not distant future when the appointment of an ordained minister will be

possible, and at the former place a small church has been erected recently at one of the adjoining preaching places, and plans for the purchase of a manse at Lilydale itself are well advanced.

F. W. BOUCHER, Convener.

Victoria

The war years have presented problems through the curtailment of our Home Mission Staff, and the impossibility of replenishing it adequately. A number of young Home Missionaries enlisted, some young ministers in special Charges as well as ministers in ordinary Charges undertook Chaplaincy duties; several Home Missionaries receiving their discharge from the Forces availed themselves of the advantages of the Government's Rehabilitation Scheme, and do no Home Mission work. In a number of cases services have been continued by the help of laymen, or sometimes by weekly supply from our Preachers' List, or by amalgamation with neighbouring Home Mission Stations or Charges, and in five districts by co-operation with the Methodists.

In some cases vacancies have been filled by the Committee's appointment of married men to replace single men, the Committee bearing the extra cost. The position is made more difficult for Victoria because South Australia and Tasmania receive help in men, since neither is able to obtain sufficient men within its own State. Considering the length of the war and the calling up of all young men for war service, we may claim that the position has been met with fair success.

Owing to the rising cost of living, stipends have been raised for all Home Missionaries, and in our "Special Charges." A "Special Charge" is one specially and often liberally subsidized by the Home Mission Committee for the appointment by the Presbytery of an ordained minister. At the present time a definite scheme is under consideration by the Assembly for a gradation of Home Mission Stations, and also of Home Missionaries with a graded stipend. It is planned to give more adequate recognition by the Church of the very important work done by many Home Missionaries. Attached to this is the reconstruction of the Home Mission Provident Fund, so that aged or infirm Home Missionaries may receive a better annuity on retirement than has been possible hitherto.

The Home Mission Committee through the war years has encouraged the Church to follow a progressive policy, refusing to be thrown altogether on the defensive by difficulties of manpower and finance. Opportunities for advancement have been seized, and put to the best advantage.

Certainly there is much we have not been able to do for want of Home Missionaries and ministers, and because of the impossibility of building churches and manses.

But we have pursued without check our policy of subsidizing special Charges, e.g.: In South Australia we have helped the Presbytery of Onkaparinga to set up a Semi-Patrol associated with Murray Bridge; in Tasmania, North Launceston Mission has been made a Charge; in Victoria, Bentleigh, a Melbourne suburb, has been raised in status to a Charge; Beechworth and Yackandandah have been made a Semi-Patrol with Beechworth as centre; and the Committee has been carefully gathering strength so that our Church may fulfil its responsibility for the spiritual care of the people in the new Government Housing Areas, of which there will be a considerable number formed within a few years.

Progress and development are the keynotes of our enterprise. We feel that unless our Church follows an aggressive and progressive plan it would become a decadent Church and lose its place as an instrument of God for the saving of the nation.

We have continued to give all help possible to South Australia and Tasmania. Financially we granted £640 to S.A. and £311 to Tasmania in 1944. Out of 8 Exit Students in January, 1945, one was an ex-South Australian, and one an ex-Tasmanian. Both were appointed in their own States and two others also, who were Victorians, leaving four for Victorian appointments.

In South Australia to-day, out of 17 ministers, including Chaplains, 14 are ex-Victorians. In Tasmania, out of 18 ministers, including Chaplains, 13 are ex-Victorians. These figures are mentioned to show the meaning to the two weaker State Churches of their union with Victoria, so far as the ministry is concerned.

For her own part the Church in Victoria considers it a simple duty to render such assistance, because we realize that the Church exists to serve, and in serving there is satisfaction.

C. J. V. McKEOWN, Convener.

Western Australia

Field Work and Staff: Staffing problems increased greatly during the year owing to the resignation of Mr. T. Topping from Bassendean, Mr. J. Pole from Boulder, the ordination, induction and translation of the Rev. J. Heggie, from Subiaco to the Kunmunya Mission, and the translation of the Rev. J. W. Eddleston from Albany and Denmark to Victoria Park-Carlisle.

To offset this we have been able to secure one new student, Mr. Ron Sparks, who has been released from the Army, and after a period of some months has now taken up full-time study at the University, where he is taking his Arts course. During his probationary period, Mr. Sparks rendered very good service at Mt. Hawthorn.

Patrol: Periodical services have been rendered and maintained at Yealering, Bullaring and Milton, Mukinbudin, Bencubbin, Gabbin and Koorda, through the co-operation of several city and country ministers. Patrols have also been undertaken at Menzies, Leonora, Norseman, and Esperance, by the Rev. B. W. Morey of Kalgoorlie. Services have been conducted at Chandler (centre of Alunite industry), where an endeavour is being made to secure a block of land for Church purposes. The Rev. I. W. Ross has made journeys from Geraldton to Carnamah and has recommenced service in this district. Negotiations are now in hand for the holding of regular services there. Services are held at Denmark only when supply and transport is available. The Session of Scots Church, Albany (vacant), endeavours to hold a monthly service there.

Kellerberrin: Mr. T. J. Diggins continues to do valuable work in this district, which includes Merredin. The out-station of Kodj Kodjin has been reopened with most encouraging results.

Northam: Thanks to the loyalty of the people and the willing co-operation of Chaplains and friends the work here shows improvement. The self-sacrificing service of the Rev. J. R. Thrum who maintains our cause there, despite his often very ill-health, is a monument of devotion to the Church.

Bicton-Byford: Mr. A. Bracks renders valuable service here as a part-time missionary. Twenty-five miles separate the two stations by road. The rail route, however, has to be taken owing to petrol restrictions, and that involves a return trip of seventy-six miles.

Darlington: Services are held here every three weeks, conducted by city ministers and laymen.

Vacant Charges: There are six vacant Charges, three of which have to rely upon lay supply when it is available. These are Albany, Boulder, and Maylands. Our veteran Home Missionary, Mr. J. Barnes, supplies at Leederville; Rev. J. R. Thrum at Northam; and the Rev. J. H. G. Archibald at Midland-Junction.

Home Mission Stations: Out of twelve Home Mission Stations three are maintained by supply, three are at a standstill, and the rest are maintained by one full-time and one part-time Home Missionary.

Church of Ireland: Negotiations are in hand whereby it may be possible to secure two or three ordained (exit) students for work in W.A. Such would relieve our shortage of men here, but nothing definite has come to hand as yet.

Lloyd Bequest: In view of the fact that this year W.A. received £100 less than was applied for, there has been urged upon congregations the desirability of a voluntary reduction in the amount for which application is made in future. The thanks of the Committee are due to the New South Wales Committee for the generous reduction in its application, and to the Victorian and G.A.A. Home Mission Committee for their sympathetic consideration of the claims of Western Australia.

Director of Home Missions and Part-time Youth Organizer: The urgency with which the Committee views our Home Mission work here, particularly in the country areas, has led the Assembly to resolve that a Director shall be appointed whose duties shall include those of part-time youth organizer. His special work shall include the resuscitation of work in centres previously worked, and also the putting into active operation of a plan for constructive Home Mission enterprise.

A Thanksgiving Church Extension Fund of £5,000 is to be made the object of special appeal during the year in order to help provide funds for the forward venture of Home Missions.

New Suburban Fields: With the post-war housing scheme it is expected that the need will be great for new Suburban Stations, but nothing can be

done without finance and men. Already there is the need for immediate Home Mission work to be centred in the Floreat Park, Bedford Park, and North-Perth West areas, as also in the area of East Scarborough and Byford-Pinjarra.

R. M. HERRIMAN, Convener.

HOME RELIGION COMMITTEE (Min. 138)

It is very satisfactory to be able to report a steadily increasing demand for the "Book of Family Worship." The Congregational Union of New South Wales, as from the 1943 issue, placed an order for a considerable quantity of these booklets. The Congregational Union of Victoria has been doing the same for a number of years.

The most recent circulation figures are as follows:

	Presbyterian	Methodist	Congregational	Total
1943	32,400	1,600	3,200	37,200
1944	33,700	2,000	4,000	39,700
1945	40,200	1,850	4,700	46,750

During the period under review, the Board of Religious Education published the fifth in its subsidised "Penny Pamphlets" series, a simply written and attractively produced statement by the Rev. W. H. Waters, entitled "The Church and Your Child," in which our Church's position with regard to baptism, and the plain duty of parents in this matter, are clearly set forth. Approximately 3,600 have been sold, up to the date of writing this Report. Ministers and Cradle Roll superintendents find these pamphlets of great value for distribution in the homes of their parishes, particularly among non-Church-going parents.

After many delays caused chiefly by war-time conditions, the Board of Religious Education, in conjunction with the National Council of Religious Education of Australia, will publish, probably about the end of this year, a notably helpful book called "Up From Childhood," which is designed to aid parents and teachers in the Christian nurture of children and young people. The authors are the Revs. Robin R. Adair, Dr. John Mackenzie, John C. Jamieson, and Allan T. McNaughton. The price will be about 5/- per copy.

It is suggested that a smaller Committee than that which has hitherto been appointed will be in a better position to do the work entrusted to it by the Assembly, in caring for matters to do with Home Religion.

A. T. MCNAUGHTON, Convener.

IMMIGRATION (Min. 146)

Since the beginning of the World War, immigration has been a dead letter. Now it is being revived again by the Government's proposal to encourage the coming of migrants to Australia in large numbers and from various countries.

The combined Assembly of the Presbyterian Churches of Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia, realizing the need of a wise choice of migrants, decided to overture the General Assembly of Australia to take this matter of immigration into consideration and state its policy with regard to post-war immigration, and to form a committee to carry out that policy, or deal otherwise with the matter as in its wisdom it may deem fit.

Your Committee is in full accord with this proposal and hopes that it will commend itself to the Assembly, and that a strong committee may be set up.

The present Convener, since his appointment, has never been a member of the Assembly and will not be a member this year. He has, therefore, had no opportunity of knowing, first-hand, the mind of the Assembly on this important matter, and in consequence now asks to be relieved of the position. He expresses the hope that someone who is likely to be a member of the Assembly for a considerable period should be appointed as Convener, so that he may keep in close touch with the Church's policy and carry it out with the assistance of a strong committee.

JOHN A. CROCKETT, Convener.

JEWISH MISSIONS (Min. 319)

The work of the Mission to the Jews Committee in Victoria has been changed through the loss to our work of the Rev. A. C. Karmouche, who has taken up parish work in Victoria.

Every effort is being made to encourage ministers and home missionaries to conduct a mission to the Jews in their own parish.

The Mission to the Jews Committee of the Church of Scotland has kindly given us permission to reprint certain booklets. We have reprinted "The Truth About the Jew," by Nahum Levison, B.D. This book has been circulated to ministers, deaconesses and home missionaries. At a later date other booklets will be sent out with the hope that these will help to combat anti-Jewishness, to create a missionary spirit in the Church, to help our Jewish brethren in every way possible.

The present Convener, Prof. A. Yule, who has been a member of the Mission to Jews Committee since May, 1907, and Convener since 1917, expressed a firm desire to resign from the Convener'ship in favour of some younger man.

The Committee, with regret, agreed to this, and recommend the Rev. John Symington as his successor.

ALEX. YULE, Convener.

JEWISH MISSION COMMITTEE OF NEW SOUTH WALES

For 12 months our Committee had the assistance of a Jewish Christian born in London and gifted with a working knowledge of a number of languages, including French, German, Polish and Yiddish. He laboured with earnestness and tact among the Jews of Sydney in homes, shops, factories and synagogues, and occasionally visited other centres as opportunity offered. He gave excellent reports of what he was able to do to our Committee, which met with him monthly for prayer and conference. Unfortunately, near the end of 1944 he decided to undertake a secular occupation and was no longer free to retain his connection with us. Up to the time of writing we have not yet secured a missionary for our important work.

We were glad to obtain a supply of an excellent edition of the New Testament, issued specially for Jews, from the Million Testaments Campaign of America, of which the Rev. George T. B. Davis is the Executive Secretary. We seek to circulate them among Jews who promise to read them. We are very grateful for this timely gift.

We have taken a considerable interest in the Sydney Council of Christians and Jews, composed of representatives of the Protestant and Roman Catholic Churches, and of the Orthodox and Liberal Synagogues, under the Presidency of Archbishop Mowll. It has been active in seeking to combat anti-Semitism and spent a considerable sum in Australian broadcasts.

Our State Assembly in 1944 affirmed its approval of the Balfour declaration of 1917 and expressed the hope that the White Paper of 1939, disallowing Jewish immigration into Palestine after the end of March, 1944, would not be enforced.

Our Assembly of 1945 placed on record anew its reprobation of the inhuman atrocities committed against the Jews in Europe and offered the Jewish people its deep sympathy. It urged on all to do what they could to oppose anti-Semitic prejudice and propaganda.

There are a considerable number of Jews in Sydney and elsewhere in New South Wales, including a number of refugees. Sunday, the 16th September, 1945, has been appointed a day on which special reference may be made to the Jewish people and prayer offered on their behalf.

R. J. H. MCGOWAN,
Convener, New South Wales Committee.

MODERATOR'S COMMITTEE (Min. 331)

Moderator's Movements

Invitations to visit their Churches were received from Church authorities in Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Western Australia. Of these it was found impracticable to accept the Tasmanian invitation within the three years, 1942-45, but it was planned that if the General Assembly meeting should be not held in 1945 the visit would be made. The Victorian Church did not officially invite a moderatorial visit. This Committee is the Executive for Australia, and the Moderator's

Chaplain became a member, so that planning of his visits should not clash with plans for the Victorian State Moderators. In the result, no one official visit was made in Victoria, but a number of engagements were fulfilled as opportunity offered. As the Moderator-General was resident in Victoria, this arrangement worked well. Visits in N.S.W. were mostly for Committee and similar engagements or on invitation from one or more congregations. Details of his activities show that the Moderator was broadcast either from Church services or in special sessions, on 27 occasions and from 18 different stations, including two in the U.S.A.

When not making official visits as Moderator, Dr. Macaulay carried on the ordinary work of his own parish and in the following statistics no account is taken of preaching or other work done in that capacity. But as Moderator he conducted 123 services in 140 centres. Of these, 24 were in N.S.W. and 27 in Queensland, 13 in South Australia, 6 in the U.S.A., 64 in Victoria and 19 in Western Australia. He visited 5 Theological Colleges in our own and sister Churches and had interviews with one bishop of the Roman Church and 7 Archbishops and Bishops of the Anglican Church, as well as interviews with the Presidents or Chairmen of other sister Churches.

Much more visiting could have been done in Queensland and New South Wales but for the fact that transport was so difficult to secure (and accommodation almost impossible) at some stages of the war. The Moderator's desire to visit the camps and to go through the centre of Australia to see the men in the C.C.C. camps as well as in the Service camps up to Darwin proved impracticable. Dr. Flynn was able to take messages to the north on one of his tours, and Dr. G. R. S. Reid represented the Moderator at certain Queensland and northern functions. Dr. Mackenzie and Dr. Flynn also shared the work of the Moderator during Dr. Macaulay's visit to the United States and Canada.

Nevertheless, in the course of his travelling the Moderator addressed approximately 27,000 people at Church services and at least 38,000 at other meetings. These audiences included some thousands of children at the 40 Churches and schools he visited.

Princeton

It deserves a separate heading to record the well-known fact that in 1943 Bishop Moyes and Dr. Macaulay were asked to represent the non-Roma Churches of Australia at an inter-Church and international gathering at Princeton, U.S.A., at which the Christian contribution to a just and lasting peace was discussed. Opportunity which arose in this trip was taken to visit the city of Toronto, over the Canadian border, and to see many interesting and useful experiments in modern education and Christian work. The American University of Washington conferred the degree of D.D. on the Moderator and the "occasional" address at that ceremony was given by the then Australian ambassador, Mr. Justice Owen Dixon. Bishop Moyes, who would also have received the same degree on that occasion, was prevented by illness from attending, but later received a similar honour in Toronto.

Relations with State and Civic Authorities

The war situation required closer contact with the Departments of the Federal Government than is usual. But it was also part of the Moderator's purpose that relations with the State and civic authorities should be as friendly as is possible. At Canberra he expressed to the present Governor-General the welcome of the Church, and in like manner he has been received by the State Governors in all the mainland States. In four of the capital cities it was possible to make contact with the Lord Mayor and to meet or be welcomed by the Shire President or the Mayor in most of the other centres to which he came.

Contact with the Public

While these contacts with those who "sit in the seats of the mighty" were notable events in the term of office, the real burden of the work lay in the other direction. The poor, the sick, the hospitals, all made heavy claims on the Moderator's time and attention. But the main claim was found in the volume of his correspondence which at times was overwhelming. A rough estimate shows that perhaps more than 10,000 letters came to him in his three years of office. Being without clerical assistance, it often proved impossible to deal adequately (or sometimes at all) with that flood.

Provision for the Moderator's Work

It may be that, now that the war is dying down the burden of correspondence may greatly diminish. But the fact is that the provision made for assistance to the Moderator is quite inadequate. When Dr. Macaulay's congregation learned (by specific enquiry) how much is the allowance made to the Moderator, some members issued a private letter to the congregation. Dr. Macaulay was told one day that the congregation had promised or subscribed enough money to pay for an assistant for the term of his Moderatorial office. So the Rev. J. McDougall Forsyth was appointed from February, 1943, and ever since has proved an ideal fellow-worker.

But your Committee thinks that it should be recorded that few congregations in Australia can or would rise to such an emergency. Had Trinity Church, Camberwell, not done so, either the Moderator would have been compelled to stay at home or he would have impoverished himself. The pulpit supply fee for his congregation is £6 per Sunday, plus travelling costs and hospitality. In practice these extras would not often be required: but it will be seen that when this fee is paid for a few weeks there is not much left out of £100 to pay for a trip to Queensland or Western Australia. It is respectfully suggested that the allowance for Moderators-General should have some relevance to the amount paid by the State Assemblies in the larger States for the costs of their Moderators. In all Australia there is no place, not a room, provided by the Australian Church for the office work of the Moderator-General. In Melbourne, within the last few months, the State Assembly's Board of Finance has made available a small room for office work five days a week. But the Australian Church makes no such provision. As the work of the Moderator grows in importance and amount, it is clear that some relief to his congregation and to himself should now be given.

Personal

Dr. Macaulay was elected to the Moderator's Chair in September, 1942, and on December 20th of the same year Annie Margaretha, his wife, passed away. The Committee noted with sad surprise that this is the third successive occasion on which a minister from Victoria has lost his life partner while he was Moderator-General.

Conclusion

The Committee notes with gratitude that the Chaplains to the Moderator in the various States gave fine service. It records the Moderator's own remark that the Church Offices in the States have been courteous, thoughtful and generous in their attitude to the Moderator's needs or desires. In this connection, the main burden of work fell on the offices in Sydney and in Melbourne.

The Committee joins with Dr. Macaulay in thanks to the Rev. V. Clark-Duff and his staff, to Mr. R. S. Byrnes and his colleagues in Brisbane, Mr. Richardson in Adelaide, to the late Mr. W. Christie and the Office Staff in Perth, and, not least, to Mr. W. H. Thompson with Mr. G. D. McKinnon and the Misses Lavender and McDougall in Melbourne along with the Office Staff.

The Chaplains who aided so greatly were the Revs. Robert Swanton in Melbourne, who had an "all-weather job" for three years, the Rev. Frank Hanlin in Sydney, the Rev. R. H. C. Crowe (Brisbane), the Rev. R. W. Macleod in Adelaide and the Rev. Donald M. Baird in Perth.

The Committee also joins with the Moderator in hoping that during his term of office, and notwithstanding the limitation of travelling through war conditions, something was done to unite our scattered forces and help them realize afresh the fellowship of the wider Church and its opportunity to serve Christ.

A. MCMEEKIN, Convener.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS (Min. 253)

Since the Assembly last met, the war, which rightly occupied the central place in our concern, has run its course. Now that complete victory has come to our Allied Forces an oppressive curse has been lifted from the whole of mankind. As a Church we express our thanks to our Heavenly Father, who, through the moral courage and vision given to men, has made it possible for men and nations to fulfil their destiny truly. We fervently

pray that the basis of a permanent peace may now be laid and a beginning made to realize something of the long-cherished dream of world community.

Liquor Administration: The liquor traffic is to-day more aggressive than ever. It is given facilities and privileges not granted to even necessary and essential industries. It has entrenched itself more deeply than ever, even during this period of national stress and peril. The traffic, with a sympathetic Press, is out to break down the early closing laws. In the States where 6 p.m. is the closing hour, viz., New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, the demand for an extension of hours ranges from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., whilst in other States, where later closing is the rule, the demand is for a still later hour. The loss of the evening hours of trading was a severe blow to the traffic. Taking N.S.W., for example, we do not drink as much alcohol per head as we did in 1915, the year prior to the introduction of six o'clock closing. Cuning propaganda is being launched for so-called community hotels—more club licences—open-air cafe licences—extension of facilities for the sale of wine, and so on. On the other side, the Temperance forces are waging intensive total abstinence campaigns. In N.S.W. alone, no less than 10,000 senior pupils in the public schools signed the pledge, and over 50,000 were given instruction. Other States are also doing similarly. Each State is endeavouring to secure the right to deal with licences by Local Option, and there is an insistent demand that no further facilities be granted to the liquor traffic.

Broadcasting: No tribute can be too high to pay to those who in each State have pioneered and are still battling with the almost insurmountable problems of broadcasting. It would seem, however, that for us this phase of Christian activity is still in the Cinderella stage. We have not yet perfected the organization nor mastered the technique of efficient religious broadcasts. Many of us look with envious eyes at the achievements of others. We certainly ought to have as one of our slogans "Better Broadcasts."

Then, again, should this not be an instrument in our hands for purposes of propaganda? I use that word in the best sense of the term. Have we not a witness to make; "no goods to market; nothing with which to challenge the world"? Should not our Church possess the same rights as others in a free country for making its voice heard?

The concern caused by the low quality of many broadcasts was by no means alarming and prudish. No one objects to fun, wit and humour, but a bound must be set to vulgarity and filth. There is a point beyond which no decent society can allow this sort of thing to go. The Church is the custodian of the world's moral values and we commend the Commonwealth Government for its action here.

The Lord's Day: The question of the sanctity of the Lord's Day has recently been brought into the forum of public debate. Evidently a definite move by interested parties is being made through the Press to break down the bounds set by the Government to prevent this day being used for commercial purposes. Whilst the task of the Church is not negative, just to police society and see that law and order is observed, we are engaged on a moral adventure guided by the spirit of love for the cure of souls. At the same time our duty to society seems plain and definite here. It is to see, that this day, given to men for rest and restoration of soul, is not exploited in the interests of profit and money-making, even if it be under the guise of art and its objects be for charity.

Gambling: The amount of gambling that goes on in this country is appalling. The lotteries are mild affairs compared with S.P. betting. To be made aware of its existence for the first time is like peering into pandemonium. We Christians live in a charmed circle. We do not know what goes on on race days, Saturdays and holidays. The ramifications of the corrupting tentacles of this octopus are alarming. The telephone and the silent number under the protection of the law makes it almost immune from detection and attack. Several State Committees have done excellent work in inducing their governments to prevent the legalizing of S.P. shops.

R. MAIDMENT, Convener.

RECEPTION OF MINISTERS (Min. 83)

1. The following ministers, who were received by the Assembly in 1942, have fulfilled the conditions laid down and have been granted certificates of status: Rev. E. McIntyre Kippax, L.Th., Rev. C. E. Bowles.

2. A Communication was received from the Clerk of Melbourne North Presbytery enclosing a Petition from the Rev. A. Heathcote Fletcher, who returned from New Zealand and was invited by the Moderator of the Victorian Assembly to occupy his pulpit from January to May, 1945. After hearing the written opinion of the Procurator it was agreed that Mr. Fletcher's case fell under Regulation 217c and that he could be received at once by the Home Mission Committee of the Church in Victoria.

3. Correspondence was carried on between the Moderator-General, the Procurator, and the Convener, regarding the position of the Rev. Hamilton Aiken, minister of the Presbyterian Church of England, who wished to be received by this Church. The Procurator's opinion was that he came under Regulation 217a and the Convener notified Mr. Aiken of this opinion.

4. An Overture re amendments to Regulations has been prepared in accordance with Minute 179, A.B.B., 1939, and will be found among the Overtures.

5. Petitions were received from the following ministers:

- Rev. W. A. M. Strong, Methodist Church.
- Rev. Sydney Piper, B.A., Dip.Ed., Methodist Church.
- Rev. Frank Paton, Methodist Church.
- Rev. W. H. P. McKenzie, M.C., B.A., Presbyterian Church of New* Zealand.
- Rev. K. Dyster, Church of Christ and Baptist Church.
- Rev. G. A. Thomson, L.Th., Methodist Church.
- Rev. L. M. Humphrey, M.A., Methodist Church.

(a) Rev. Wilfred Alfred Morrow Strong. Age, 33. United Theological Course, Sydney; served Methodist Church for eight years; has served the Presbyterian Church in Wollongong as Assistant for eighteen months, and is warmly commended.

[Recommended: that the prayer of the Petition be granted provided that for one year he shall attend such classes as shall be determined by a Theological Faculty with the approval of the College Committee; and thereafter serve under the Home Mission Committee of N.S.W. for one year.]

(b) Rev. Sydney Piper, B.A., Dip.Ed. Age, 49. University of Sydney and United Theological Course; served Methodist Church for ten years; resigned to become teacher; has served the Presbytery of Monaro at Cooma since April, 1944. Warmly commended.

[In the Executive the voting was equal on the question, "Recommend or not recommend." The Convener did not use his casting vote.]

(c) Rev. Frank Paton. Age, 44. United Theological Course, Sydney; served Methodist Church for 18 years; Chaplain in A.I.F.; recently supplying Hunter's Hill Presbyterian Church, Sydney, with acceptance.

[Recommended: as in (a).]

(d) Rev. W. H. P. McKenzie, M.C., B.A., New Zealand Presbyterian Church. Warmly commended.

[Recommend: that the prayer of the Petition be granted subject to the completion of the necessary documents.]

(e) Rev. Kenneth Dyster, Church of Christ and Baptist Church. Age, 37. College of Bible, Melbourne; five passes in M.C.D.; has served for ten months in Presbytery of Hunter in Belmont with acceptance.

[Recommend: that the prayer of the Petition be granted, provided) that he completes the full course of instruction (without Hebrew) in the Theological Hall, Sydney. It was resolved to recommend that he be admitted to the Hall without further examination.]

(f) Rev. George Angus Thomson, L.Th., Methodist Church. Age, 37. Wesley College, Adelaide, and L.Th. of M.C.D.; served Methodist Church for seven years; resigned to join A.I.F.; served some months in Presbytery of Belalie. Commended.

[Recommend: that the prayer of the Petition be granted on the basis of Regulation 219 (5), provided that a satisfactory medical certificate be secured.]

(g) Rev. Louis Morton Humphrey, M.A., Methodist Church. Age, 50. Melbourne University; served in last war; served Methodist Church, S.A., for over twenty years. Highly commended.

[It was resolved, in view of his age, to make no recommendation, but to place the matter before the full Committee in September.]

(The sentences in brackets are the recommendations of the Executive.)

W. CUMMING THOM, Convener.

BOARD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (Min. 122)

In presenting this third war-time Report, the Board of Religious Education views the past six years with much regret at the difficulties which have limited its work, yet is humbly grateful to God for deliverance from danger, and for the measure of success which, in spite of every obstacle, has been achieved by His strength and guidance.

Now, turning to the future, we not only see the immense possibility and need of the Kingdom's extension among children, youth, and adults, but we are also conscious of the boundless resources which are available to those who by faith respond to the challenge of new days.

Co-operation with New Zealand

War conditions have made impossible any direct personal contact, during the last three years, between the Youth Directors of Australia and New Zealand, but we are glad to report that the most cordial relations continue to exist between Dr. Salmond, the New Zealand Youth Committee, the Christchurch Bookroom—and the Australian Board. It is hoped that, as soon as circumstances allow, a group of youth leaders from the Dominion will, visit one or more of our Summer Conferences.

Youth Hymnal

Various difficulties (the most serious of which will be obvious) have interrupted the progress being made towards the completion of the Youth Hymnal (for Fellowships and Bible Classes) that is now in preparation by a New Zealand committee, under the direction of the Dominion's Youth Committee. The Board is keenly interested in this venture, which we believe to be thoroughly necessary. We look forward to co-operation with our sister Church, in the publishing and marketing of the Hymnal.

AUSTRALIAN PRESBYTERIAN STATISTICS

(Figures from some of the States are incomplete)

State	Schools	Sunday Schools			Children under 14		
		Teachers		Total	Boys	Girls	Total
		Men	Women				
Q'ld.....	209	343	932	1275	4848	5771	10619
N.S.W. ...	379	830	2120	2950	10003	11731	21734
Vic.....	782	—	—	—	—	—	28429
SA.....	42	60	160	220	400	600	1000
W.A.....	39	57	247	304	—	—	2453
Tas.....	37	68	130	198	766	718	1484
Totals . .	1488	1358+	3589+	4947+	16017+	18820+	65719

Young People 14 and Over

State	14-16			Over 16			Totals		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Y. Men	Y. Women	Total	Male	Female	Total
Q'ld. .	675	863	1538	559	1057	1616	1234	1926	3160
N.S.W.	670	796	1466	—	—	4489	—	—	5955
Vic. . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
S.A. . .	—	—	210	—	—	100	—	—	310
W.A. . .	—	—	365	—	—	102	—	—	467
Tas. . .	38	46	84	38	50	88	76	96	172
Totals	1383+	1705+	3663+	597+	1107+	6395+	1310+	2022+	10064+

Correspondence Sunday Schools

State	Teachers			Children Under 14			Young People 14-16		
	Men	Women	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
Q'ld..	6	39	45	357	437	794	23	102	125
N.S.W.	—	5	5	610	690	1300	70	80	150
Vic..	6	66	72	186	205	391	31	40	71
S.A..	—	1	1	9	21	30	—	—	—
W.A..	—	1	1	—	—	28	—	—	4
Tas..	—	1	1	18	19	37	4	2	6
Totals	12	113	125	1180+	1372+	2580	128+	224+	356

Presbyterian Fellowship of Australia

	Men	Women	Total
Q'ld.....	—	—	2500
N.S.W.....	—	—	4489
Vic.....	2500	4700	7200
S.A.....	—	—	535
W.A.....	160	240	400
Tas.....	60	161	221
Totals ...	2726+	5101+	15345

Finance

The Board is essentially a profit-sharing, rather than a profit-making body. On Joint Board publications alone, the Australian States made in 1944 a total gross profit of £2,527, i.e., subject to the deduction of freight charges. The Board's own profit on the same goods for 1944 was only £1,284. If the margins made by the States and the Board on our own Presbyterian publications are added to the above analysis, it will be still clearer that the partner States receive a far greater share than does the Board of the financial results from their combined enterprise. In addition, the States made in 1944 £438 on literature published by the Presbyterian Board, making a grand total of £2965.

Further, it may not be generally known that by subsidising the Home Sunday School work of the States, and by bearing the full cost of the insurance on all the dispatching of goods from Melbourne, the Board makes a contribution of over £70 per annum to the monetary benefit of its partners. Then since the inception of the subsidised Penny Pamphlet series the Board has deliberately and cheerfully involved itself in a loss of more than £32, in order to provide ministers, teachers, and other Church workers, with over 21,000 pieces of attractive Christian propaganda material, at a very low retail figure.

However, in spite of all its profit-sharing and subsidisation, the Board's financial position continues to be sound and satisfactory.

Presbyterian Fellowship of Australia

In spite of obstacles created by the war, this organization maintains numerical vigour and spiritual vitality, abundantly justifying the faith of those who established it as a means whereby our Presbyterian young people might be united in worship, study, recreation and service.

Its present Constitution, however, is proving to be less satisfactory than the movement itself. Moreover, war-time limitations on travel have served merely to accentuate what had been a problem long before 1939—namely, the difficulty of giving a full consciousness of national unity to a Fellowship whose members are so widely scattered throughout Australia.

Consideration of these matters has led the Executive to begin work on the re-drafting of the Constitution, and also to examine the possibility of having a P.F.A. Organizer for Australia as a whole, a younger ordained man with special qualifications in youth leadership, who, while mainly supported by and working for the P.F.A., would be under the general supervision of the Board.

It will be clear that questions of the Constitution and the Organizer are closely linked with the Board's general policy for children and youth, to which allusion is made in the last main section of this Report.

Commonwealth Youth Sunday

This celebration, potentially very significant for the Australia-wide unity of our children and young people, has not been observed since 1941, the main reason for its temporary discontinuance being shortage of paper. Now that circumstances are more favourable for its re-introduction, the Executive feels that it would be valuable to choose a date which would make possible a high degree of synchronized observance throughout the Commonwealth.

This is not easy, because of the great variety of climatic conditions over such a vast area. For example, March, which was used from 1938 to 1941, is often so wet in many districts of Queensland, that anything like a unified State-wide observance of Youth Sunday there is virtually impossible.

In the light of this, the Executive is trying to secure unanimity among all the State Youth Committees, as to the date or approximate date of Youth Sunday. June or July may be the month chosen. Once the States have reached at least a large measure of agreement regarding the day, the Board proposes to begin issuing the leaflets once more. In the last year of their use (1941) 42,000 were distributed—gratis, apart from the freight charges from Melbourne.

Intermediate Catechism

In the three-year period now under review, 18,100 copies of the Intermediate Catechism have been printed, of which approximately 11,350 have been sold. It seems clear, from the measure of support thus given to a publication which has been merely "approved for experimental purposes" by our Federal Assembly, that the Catechism commends itself to pupils and teachers, and is satisfactorily meeting a definite need, by providing an educationally and theologically sound basis for the doctrinal instruction of our children and young people.

We have received a number of minor suggestions and criticisms, all of which have been given careful consideration, some of them leading to slight changes, whose adoption by the Assembly is now recommended.

In the light of the favourable reception given to this statement of the Church's faith and practice, which has now been used under actual class conditions for nearly six years, the Board is asking that the Assembly should now authorize its use throughout the Sunday Schools of the Commonwealth.

If this is agreed to, the Board proposes to re-examine the whole of the existing arrangements for memory work, with a view to introducing much greater continuity. As things are at present, a pupil in the Junior Department may spend three years learning the Junior Catechism, but may then be virtually invited to forget all that, while he spends three years learning the Intermediate Catechism, after which, presumably, he may be asked to learn the Shorter Catechism. By some means, this educational wastefulness must be got rid of.

The Catechism in its revised form is printed herewith:

INTERMEDIATE CATECHISM

I.—THE PURPOSE OF LIFE

1. What is the chief purpose of our life?

The chief purpose of our life is to know, love, and worship God, and do good one to another.

II.—THE FAITH

2. How does God make Himself known to us?

God makes Himself known to us as we receive and study His revelation of Himself in nature, history, human life, the Scriptures, and especially in Jesus Christ.

3. What do we know about God?

We know that God is Spirit, ever-living and all-powerful, the creator and upholder of the universe, the wise, just, and loving Father of us all.

4. Who is Jesus Christ?

Jesus Christ is the Son of God, whom the Father sent to be our Saviour and Lord.

5. Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is God working in the world and in the lives of men, helping them to understand and follow Jesus Christ, inspiring and guiding the search for all that is true, good, and beautiful.

6. Is there more than one God?

There is one God only, whom we worship as Father, revealed in the Son, and experienced in the Holy Spirit. These three, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, are known as the Trinity.

7. Why do we use the word Trinity?

We use the word Trinity, which means Three-in-One, because the one God makes Himself known as the Father (our Creator), in the Son (our Redeemer), and in the Holy Spirit (our Helper)..

III.—THE CHRISTIAN LIFE, ITS PROBLEMS AND POWER

8. What is the Christian life?

The Christian life is a life of fellowship with God through Jesus Christ, who enables us to serve God and to win the victory over sin.

9. What is sin?

Sin is rebellion against God or any lack of loyalty towards Him, shown by wrong thought, word, or action, or by any failure in good-will towards man.

10. What are the results of sin?

Sin separates us from fellowship with God, baffles His purpose for our lives, injures others, robs us of true happiness, and makes us less and less able to know and do what is right.

11. What is the Gospel?

The Gospel is the Good News of salvation through the life, death, resurrection, and abiding presence of the Lord Jesus Christ.

12. What is salvation?

Salvation is the work of God, through Jesus Christ, whereby God freely forgives our sins, brings us into fellowship with Himself, and gives us power to live the Christian life.

13. How does the Christian life begin?

The Christian life begins with our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

14. What is faith in the Lord Jesus Christ?

Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is opening our lives to Him, receiving Him as He is offered to us in the Gospel, and resting upon Him alone for salvation.

15. What does God ask of us, when we receive Jesus Christ?

When we receive Jesus Christ, God asks that we turn from sin, yield our lives to His control, and use all the helps which He has provided for our growth in the Christian life.

16. What special helps has God provided for our growth in the Christian life?

God has provided, as special helps for our growth in the Christian life, the Bible, prayer, the Lord's Day, and the Church with her sacraments.*

17. What is the Bible?

The Bible is a collection of books containing the message of God, written by men who, during many centuries and with increasing clearness, were taught by the Holy Spirit the truth about God and His loving purpose for mankind.

18. How do we obtain help from the Bible?

We obtain help from the Bible by reading it daily with care, storing it in our minds, treasuring it in our hearts, and obeying it in our lives.

19. What is prayer?

Prayer is drawing near to God, in the name of Jesus Christ, worshipping Him, thanking Him for His goodness, confessing our sins, awaiting His guidance, and asking His help for ourselves and others.

20. What is the Lord's Day?
From the earliest days of the Church, Christians have set apart the first day of the week for worship, calling it "the Lord's Day," because on that day the Lord Jesus rose from the dead.
21. How do we obtain help from the Lord's Day?
We obtain help from the Lord's Day by making it a holy day for rest, worship, fellowship, and service.
22. What is the Christian Church?
The Christian Church is the Holy Fellowship, created by God, in which Christians are united to worship, study, teach, and serve.
23. Who belong to the Church?
All who believe in and confess Jesus Christ as Lord, together with their children, belong to the Church.
24. How do we obtain help from the Church?
We obtain help from the Church by uniting in her worship and sacraments, practising her teaching, living in friendship with all her members, and sharing in her work.

IV.—THE CHURCH AND OURSELVES

25. What is the Presbyterian Church?
The Presbyterian Church, known in many countries by the name "Reformed," is a part of the Christian Church which, at the Reformation, sought to restore New Testament worship, teaching, and government.
26. Why is our Church named Presbyterian?
Our Church is named Presbyterian because, following the custom of the New Testament, it is governed by presbyters.
27. What are presbyters?
Presbyters are ministers and elders.
28. What are ministers?
Ministers are persons who have been called by God, and ordained by a Presbytery to be servants of the whole Church, to be pastors of God's people, to preach and teach the Word, administer the Sacraments,* and preside over the work of a congregation.
29. What are elders?
Elders are persons who have been called by God, elected to office by the congregation, and ordained to assist the minister in governing the Church.^f
30. How do ministers and elders govern?
Ministers and elders govern a local congregation through a Session, a group of congregations through a Presbytery, and all the congregations in a state or nation through a General Assembly.
31. When are persons received and admitted into full membership within a congregation?
Persons who have been baptized are received and admitted by the Session into full membership within a congregation, when, after instruction, they profess their faith in God through Jesus Christ, and pledge their loyalty to Him and His Church.
32. What is a sacrament?
A sacrament is a religious rite in which, by the use of symbols and actions, spiritual truths are pictured and blessings are conveyed by the Holy Spirit.
33. What are the sacraments of the New Testament?
The sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

* This word is explained in the answer to question 32.

^f The oversight of a congregation's finances and property is generally entrusted to a body called a Committee or Board of Management, or a Deacons' Court.

34. What is Baptism?
Baptism is the sacrament in which God's cleansing of our lives from sin is symbolized by the use of water, and in which we are received into the family of the Church and dedicated to God.
35. What are parents required to do, when they present their children for baptism?
Parents, when they present their children for baptism, are required to profess their faith in God through Jesus Christ, and to pledge themselves that, with the help of the Church, they will bring up their children in the way of Christ.
36. What is expected of baptized children?
It is expected of baptized children that they will think of themselves as belonging to God and His Church, and will, in their early youth, profess their own faith in Him by coming to the Lord's Supper.
37. When should adults be baptized?
If they have not received baptism in childhood, adults should be baptized when they have professed their faith in God through Jesus Christ, and their desire to unite with His Church.
38. What is the Lord's Supper?
The Lord's Supper is the sacrament of Christian fellowship.
39. How did the Lord's Supper begin?
"The Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread.
"And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.
"After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me."
(1 Cor. II: 23-25)
40. What do we do, when we rightly take part in the Lord's Supper?
When we rightly take part in the Lord's Supper, we use in faith the symbols of bread and wine, we remember with joy and thanksgiving Christ's death for us, we realize His presence with us, we pledge our loyalty to Him and His Church, and we receive strength for daily living.
41. What is the duty of the Church?
The duty of the Church is to worship God in the name of Christ, to proclaim our Lord and His Gospel to the ends of the earth, to build up her members in faith, character, and fellowship, to give loving service to all men for Christ's sake, and to watch and pray for the coming of His Kingdom.
(Adapted from the Church of Scotland booklet, "We Believe.")
42. What are our duties, as members of the Church?
As members of the Church, our duties are to join regularly in her worship and sacraments, to be friendly to all her members, to bring others to Christ, and to support, by prayer, service, and gifts, her work at home and abroad for the Kingdom of God.

V.—THE KINGDOM OF GOD

43. What is the Kingdom of God?
The Kingdom of God is the rule of God in the heart, producing the new order of society in which men live together as brothers, doing the will of God as it is revealed in Jesus Christ.
44. How does the Kingdom of God come?
The Kingdom of God comes according to the measure in which we receive Jesus Christ as the Lord of our lives, and work with others for the extension of that Kingdom, looking forward to the time when there shall be fully established His reign of righteousness, peace, and joy.

45. What is our chief duty, as citizens in the Kingdom of God?
 Our chief duty, as citizens in the Kingdom of God, is complete loyalty to God, under whose guidance we shall seek the full development of all our powers—body, mind, and spirit—for His service.
46. What are our other duties, at citizens in the Kingdom of God?
 Our other duties, as citizens in the Kingdom of God, are to make our homes centres of happy fellowship, to live with good-will towards all men, to do our daily work as a sacred service for God and His Kingdom, to seek the highest welfare of our own country, and to treat all other races and nations as our brothers, equally dear unto God.
47. How do the Scriptures sum up the duties of citizens in the Kingdom of God?
 The Scriptures sum up the duties of citizens in the Kingdom of God by saying:
 "What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"
 (Micah 6: 8)
 "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself."
 (Luke 10: 27)
 "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."
 (Matthew 7: 12)
48. When will the Kingdom of God fully come?
 The Kingdom of God will fully come in God's own time and way, when Christ will reveal Himself in power and glory, by the complete triumph of good over evil.

VI.—THE LIFE TO COME

49. What do we believe concerning the life to come?
 We believe that all men continue to live after death; and are judged by God, according to the way in which they have accepted or rejected His mercy and purpose for their lives.
50. What is the hope of the Christian for the life to come?
 The hope of the Christian for the life to come is that all who have accepted God's mercy and purpose for their lives shall be with Christ and be like Christ, living in perfect fellowship with one another and with God.

VII.—CONCLUSION

51. In what spirit does the Church hold and proclaim her Faith?
 The Church holds and proclaims her Faith in reverent obedience to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, ever seeking to understand more fully the mind and will of God, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

Stencilled Handbook

To assist teachers in the presentation of the Intermediate Catechism, the Board prepared and issued in stencilled form, on a non-profit basis, a Handbook containing explanatory and supplementary material as teaching notes: Biblical, doctrinal, devotional. For practical reasons, this Handbook was produced in 4 parts, the circulation being as follows:

Part	I.....	389 copies
Part	II.....	308 copies
Part	III.....	188 copies
Part	IV.....	133 copies

When the text of the Catechism itself is finalized, we shall be able to consider the publication of a printed Handbook, incorporating the best features of the stencilled production, but also including blocks and other teaching aids.

"I Believe"

Because of the widespread need for doctrinal study among older Bible Class members, the Executive decided to try the experiment of publishing

for 1946 a text-book entitled "I Believe." It will contain 30 chapters and be based on the Intermediate Catechism. The preparation is now proceeding, and all States will be represented in the panel of more than twenty contributors. The editorial oversight is to be in the hands of the Revs. M. A. Tremewan and A. T. McNaughton.

"The Record"

During the last two years, considerable attention has been given to suggestions (made, in the first place, by the Revs. V. W. Coombes and H. C. Matthew) for adding still further to the usefulness of the Board's Sunday School and missionary magazine, "The Record," which has for 8 years been edited by the Rev. A. T. Macdonald.

These suggestions, together with some from other sources, include: A new cover design, possibly incorporating some colour. A prayer corner. Improved serials, with line illustrations. Missionary picture-gram information strips, using line blocks. New pictorial title-pieces to introduce the main sections of the magazine. More missionary letters, illustrated. Missionary alphabet and quizzes. Change of format from quarto to octavo (more pocket size). A Tinies' Page. Reviews of missionary literature. Variety in the kinds of type used.

It is hoped that, as opportunity offers, these improvements will progressively be introduced.

"Up From Childhood"

The above book, while primarily designed for parents and teachers, will also be of considerable value to ministers, deaconesses, superintendents, and social service workers. It will be published in October or November of this year. The book as a whole was planned, by the late Rev. Robin R. Adair, who also wrote six of the more technical chapters, representing nearly nine-tenths of the contents. Three other chapters were written at Mr. Adair's request by Australian contributors. These were: the Revs. Dr. John Mackenzie, J. C. Jamieson, and A. T. McNaughton. The publication is to take place—by arrangement with the Board—under the auspices of the National Council of Religious Education of Australia, whose Publications Committee has for its convener the Board's Director, the Rev. A. T. McNaughton. It is expected that the retail price will be about 5/-.

Penny Pamphlets

These subsidised pamphlets—on each of which the Board loses approximately a farthing—have enjoyed increasing popularity since their production was begun in 1936. The titles, authors, and sales to date are indicated herewith:

"What Shall We Do With Our Sundays?": by Rev. Dr. John Mackenzie.....	5,400
"How the Christian Life Begins": by Rev. J. C. Jamieson	5,550
"How to Make a Happy Home": by Rev. W. H. Waters ..	3,400
"Can Christ Help Us To-day?": by Rev. J. K. Robertson ..	3,100
"The Church and Your Child" (Baptism): by Rev. W. H. Waters.....	3,600

By their appearance, contents, and remarkably low price, they set a new standard in Christian propaganda, as far as Australia is concerned. In spite of much publicity regarding the pamphlets, it is clear that a number of our ministers are still not aware of the great service which the Board is rendering them in their pastoral work, by making available these attractive, simply written, well printed aids to Christian thinking and living. The latest, "What Is the Presbyterian Church?" by the Rev. J. C. Jamieson, we hope to have ready by about September of this year

"The Ruling Elder"

For years there have been requests that the Board should issue a statement regarding the eldership. We count ourselves indeed fortunate in having obtained the services, of the Rev. Dr. John Mackenzie as the writer of a booklet entitled "The Ruling Elder." We trust to have it on sale by September of 1945. It will be of great value to both ministers, and elders.

"Christianity in a Changing World"

The above book of some 30 chapters, produced under the editorship of the Rev. Maurice A. Tremewan, the Victorian Director, was issued at

the beginning of 1945, in an attempt to meet what we believe to be a very widespread need, namely, that of study material on vital present-day issues, for Fellowships and Bible Classes. Its contributors (24 in number) represented New Zealand and almost all the Australian States. From the hearty reception given to the book, we judge that its appearance is most timely. Encouraged by this response, we are now taking active steps to prepare a comparable volume for 1946, "I Believe," to which reference is made elsewhere in this Report.

"Book of Family Worship"

While this little publication is also alluded to in the Report of the Home Religion Committee, it deserves some mention here, seeing that it is another of the ways in which the Board serves the Church as a whole. The 1945 sales were 46,750, made up as follows:

Presbyterian.....	40,200
Congregational.....	4,700
Methodist.....	1,850
	<hr/>
	46,750
	<hr/>

When paper supplies and other circumstances are more favourable, it may be feasible to consider having (though at slightly increased cost) daily prayers for a month, instead of morning and evening prayers for a week.

Another possible development has been suggested by the N.S.W. Presbyterian Women's Federation—the provision (as a separate booklet) of brief Bible study notes on the daily readings contained in the "Book of Family Worship."

Distribution and Use of the Board's Literature

In the midst of its activities in the production of an ever-growing range of literature, the Board is often disturbed by the ultimate and vital problem of its distribution and use.

How far are the carefully chosen lessons learned and passages memorised by our scholars, how far are the teachers skilled and careful to use the lesson helps as intended, how far is the "Book of Family Worship" regularly used in the homes, how far are the other books, booklets, and pamphlets distributed and read? These are questions which not the Board, but only our ministers, elders, leaders, teachers, and parents, can satisfactorily answer. Munitions of war, however excellent, that accumulate in dumps in Church vestries and school cupboards, that do not reach the "front line" or are not used there effectively, will not win battles.

» In this regard, literature tables or cabinets in Church vestibules, teacher training and lesson preparation classes, occasional pulpit references, mention in local Church papers, judicious distribution by ministers and elders when visiting—these methods are all helpful.

The Board recommends the General Assembly to remind all its ministers and workers of the tremendous power of good literature, wisely and widely distributed, and to urge them to make full use of it, for the furtherance of the Kingdom of God.

Joint Board of Graded Lessons

Changes in Organization and Administration

Partly in response to representations by the Presbyterian Board, the other partner in the Joint Board—the Methodist Conference of Victoria and Tasmania—has during recent months set in train certain changes which will considerably affect the future working of the Joint Board. Briefly, these changes are:

- (a) The handing over to the Methodist Federal Conference of the interest in the Joint Board which has hitherto been held by their State Conference.
- (b) The appointment of a Methodist Federal officer whose duties (almost entirely) will be the Joint Board editorial work which has previously been done by a State official. It is hoped that this new Methodist man will be able to make a beginning in April, 1946.

The Presbyterian Board recognizes that this move by our sister Church represents a useful step forward—especially in so far as it makes the Methodist side of Joint Board affairs Federal, and therefore approximately

parallel to our own. However, we believe and have indicated to our partners, that the Joint Board should as soon as possible be a semi-independent organization which, while still under the control of the constituent Churches, would appoint its own officers and consequently be able to plan the future of its work with much greater certainty than under the present system. As things are, Joint Board activities are staffed only by borrowing people who are really chosen and appointed by other organizations. Under the improved arrangement mentioned above, the Presbyterian Federal Director would really be what the name of his position implies, instead of having to give at least two-thirds of his time to Joint Board managing and editing.

Moreover, a reorganized Joint Board of the kind contemplated would be in a position to put an end to some anomalous financial practices in the present partnership.

Particularly during the discussions with our Methodist partners regarding the future of the Joint Board, it has been of the utmost value to us to have at our disposal the knowledge and vision of one of the founders of this enterprise, the Very Rev. Dr. John Mackenzie.

Editorial Staff

The following list gives the names, and also includes the denomination, of those who are editorially responsible for the various items in the range of the Joint Board's publications:

Leaders' Handbook (for "Unto the Hills")	Rev. A. T. McNaughton	P.
Intermediate Handbook.....	Rev. Dr. E. C. Pallot	M.
Junior Handbook.....	Rev. Dr. E. C. Pallot	M.
Beginners' and Primary Handbook	Miss J. J. Hopkins	P.
"Unto the Hills".....	Rev. A. T. McNaughton	P.
Intermediate "Scholar".....	Rev. Dr. E. C. Pallot	M.
Junior "Scholar".....	Rev. Dr. E. C. Pallot	M.
Primary Folder.....	Miss J. J. Hopkins	P.
Beginners' Folder.....	Rev. A. T. McNaughton	P.
Junior and Primary Outlines.....	Rev. Dr. E. C. Pallot	M.
*"Torch-Bearer".....	Rev. Dr. E. C. Pallot	M.
*Primary Home Magazine.....	Miss J. J. Hopkins	P.

Executive Manager..... Rev. A. T. McNaughton P.
 Special Home Sunday School or correspondence literature.

Difficulties of Production

It goes without saying that the managers have encountered many acute difficulties in the war-time production of such a considerable number and variety of publications. For example, there have been and still are most awkward shortages in paper, printing and dispatching staffs, packing-cases, steamer and rail transport facilities. Even by working very much earlier on the "copy," those responsible have not been able to improve the rather hand-to-mouth production schedule, because the printers, with their staffs so gravely depleted, could not catch up. However, if it had not been for the printers' helpfulness and attention to our special problems, much more frequent and more serious trouble would have arisen.

Circulation Figures

	Methodist		Presbyterian	
	July 1942	July 1945	July 1942	July 1945
Leaders' Handbook.....	1,900	1,880	900	1,000
Intermediate Handbook.....	6,350	5,800	3,700	3,550
Junior Handbook.....	7,850	7,900	5,500	5,700
Beginners' and Primary Handbook	7,500	8,050	4,700	5,300
"Unto the Hills".....	7,200	7,850	6,250	7,650
Intermediate "Scholar".....	34,000	31,200	24,900	24,800
Junior "Scholar".....	40,800	42,000	37,850	41,350
Primary Folder.....	6,300	9,600	8,075	11,650
Beginners' Folder.....	6,700	11,000	8,450	13,450
Junior Picture Outlines.....	9,500	11,000	4,600	5,800
Primary Picture Outlines.....	7,300	10,500	5,400	8,000
"Torch-Bearer".....	600	725	*1,825	1,550
Primary Home Magazine.....	560	800	1,075	1,400

* Temporary abnormal increase, due to special circumstances.

Proposed Developments

The Director, in his capacity as Executive Manager of the Joint Board, has prepared a tentative list showing over twenty possible developments (new literature, visual aids, etc.), many of which are urgently needed. It will be clear that a body which is to function effectively in carrying out a programme of this kind must be freed at the earliest opportunity from the impediments which have for some time rendered its progress limping and difficult.

Home Sunday School Work

This branch of the Joint Board's programme needs further expansion, as shown under item 6 of the above list. It may well be that the practical experience gained by several of our Presbyterian Youth Departments, in administering Home Sunday School affairs, will furnish guidance for still further developments in the literature for these pupils living in remoter areas. The Presbyterian Board subsidises Home Sunday School publications to the extent of nearly £100 per year.

Because in certain States an undenominational correspondence movement is vigorously soliciting support for its activity among country children, the Board takes this opportunity of emphasizing the excellent work that is being done by authentic Presbyterian agencies, to give our boys and girls in the "outback" a sound Christian education which aims at linking them firmly to their Church.

Director's Reappointment

On August 1 of 1944 the Rev. A. T. McNaughton, M.A., B.D., completed ten years' service as Director.

Both the Presbyterian Board and the Joint Board took advantage of the occasion to congratulate him on the fruitful service rendered during a difficult decade. In spite of serious complications created by war restrictions on transport and materials, and in spite of the embarrassments occasioned by continually expanding activities, sustained progress has been made under his leadership—particularly in the quality and grading of the literature produced.

The Board considers that the Church, in a field where specialists in Australia are few, is fortunate in having the services of so efficient a leader and organizer. It feels that the General Assembly also would desire to add its congratulations, and recommends that Mr. McNaughton be reappointed for a period of five years from January 1, 1946, at a salary of £600 per annum, plus house allowance of £150.

Miss Hazel Belcher

This year Miss Hazel Belcher is also completing a decade in the Board's service, as secretary-accountant.

To her, the work is more than a professional appointment, to be executed with conscientiousness and efficiency; it is also a channel for the expression of her consecrated enthusiasm in the realm of Christian Education, and consequently is ever discharged in a spirit of devotion and sacrifice, as unto the Church and her Master.

Divide Director's Duties?

During the last three years, the Executive has felt that it was a matter of much urgency to reconsider the duties now included in the Directorship. As the work is at present arranged, at least two-thirds of the Presbyterian Federal Director's time must be given to Joint Board matters. As the Joint Board's publishing enterprise expands still further (an inevitable and necessary development), more demands will be made on our own Director. In the view of the Executive, this problem requires for its solution the progressive separation of Joint Board from Presbyterian Board duties, so that both these related enterprises may be carried on effectively. Just where the present Presbyterian Director (who is also executive manager of the Joint Board) would fit into the future pattern of things is a little uncertain. His own preference leans somewhat to the Presbyterian position, though several factors prompt the Executive to feel that Mr. McNaughton might with advantage give his full time to Joint Board affairs.

Editorial Assistance—Interstate Visits by Director

Particularly because some time may elapse before the Joint Board can achieve a semi-independent status, the Executive regards it as very desirable that the Director should, as soon as possible, have an editorial assistant. Such an appointment would not only simplify his administrative labours in Melbourne, but would also allow him to resume more regular interstate visitation, the value of which, for the adequate and harmonious development of Australia as a whole, cannot be overstated.

Annual Conference of State Directors with Federal Director

It is the Board's hope that in the near future it will be possible to begin the practice of having annually a conference of the State Directors with the Federal Director, for the sake of regular consultation about their common plans and problems.

P.F.A. Organizer

Australia's geography faces our national Church with many problems, including that of unifying sufficiently her whole programme of Christian Education for children and youth. The Board considers that one important contribution to this unity would be to create in the near future the post of P.F.A. Organizer. This officer—a younger ordained man with special qualifications in youth leadership—would be a member of the Presbyterian Board's staff. His duties would include:

1. In consultation with State Directors and under their guidance[^] regular interstate visits at Conference and other times, more especially for the sake of direct contact with State Councils and Fellowship members.
2. Resulting from these visits, reports to the Federal Director on the discovered national needs of the Fellowship Movement, thus guiding the Board as to its policy, programmes, and literature, for youth groups.
3. The planning and carrying through—again, in consultation with State Directors—of intensive short courses in leadership training, at the various capital cities or other important centres.
4. The organization and (at least in part) leadership of occasional visits to and from New Zealand and South Africa. (Compare the valuable visit by six Australians to New Zealand in 1939-40.)
5. A certain amount of literary work, in connection with study books, and perhaps an Australian youth magazine.
6. Periodically undertaken pieces of research in connection with Christian education problems, particularly those affecting young people.

It would be necessary that the financial support of such an Organizer should be met, to a large extent, by the Fellowship movement itself.

National Plans for Christian Education of Children and Youth

The appointment of a P.F.A. Organizer would, however, meet only a part of a much greater need: the planning and working out of a comprehensive all-round scheme of Christian education for children and young people, beginning before adolescence. Week-day activities and camping should also be included. In a master plan of this sort, clear guidance should be given to all our congregations, as to the best kinds of cumulative through-the-week programme and organization for the various age-groups concerned.

Teacher and Leader Training

Throughout Australia, well-made plans are failing to achieve their full success, in local parishes and larger areas, because of the lack of adequately trained personnel. Teachers and leaders whose consecration leads them to train themselves thoroughly, will be able to revolutionise the outlook of Christian education in this country. It is obvious that a well-staffed Federal department would need to give a considerable proportion of its time to the organization and management of training courses, at varying levels, both centralized and de-centralized in their administration.

Adult Christian Education

In the past, the Church's educational work, as far as adults are concerned, has been restricted almost wholly to the Sunday sermons. But there are many other opportunities, of which a few may be listed here:

P.W.M.U.—a corresponding organization for men(?)

Presbyterian Brotherhoods, Leagues, etc.

Adult Fellowships.

Chaplains in industry (compare Church of Scotland experiments).

Pre-marriage counselling by ministers and others.

Parent Education.

Church dramatic groups, choirs, orchestras, literary societies.

Radio talks, discussions, dramatizations, singing and verse-speaking choirs.

Hobby exhibitions.

Pamphlets and leaflets with a Christian message for outback families (A.I.M.), also for the un-churched in town and city areas and at holiday resorts.

Holiday resorts, migrant workers, and Christian Education

At holiday resorts (and also at places of highly seasonal employment, such as fruit-picking areas), where many thousands of people are gathered together, the Church has abundant "front line" opportunities of Christian education with children, young people, and adults. Generally speaking, these opportunities have hitherto been little used.

It may be that in co-operation with State Youth Departments, Visual Education experts, some returned Chaplains, Home Mission and A.I.M. leaders, Life and Work Committees, and National Fitness organizers, the Board should evolve at least tentative plans for meeting broadly and wisely the spiritual needs of these holiday and special industrial areas. Christian education caravans (fully equipped mobile units) may be able to play an important part in this new field of modern educational evangelism.

Chairs of Christian Education

Because the individual minister is the key person in the Church's teaching programme within every parish, it is essential that ministers should be fully equipped to take effective charge of such matters. To aid in securing this result, there should be established at the earliest moment two Chairs of Christian Education—in Sydney and Melbourne. No doubt similar provision will ultimately be made in the other capital cities. By the co-operative enterprise of several denominations, hundreds of theological students could be receiving thorough tuition in the theory and practice of Christian education, and many ordained ministers could greatly benefit from short "refresher courses," periodically organized by the professors and their assistants. In the planning, and possibly in the staffing, of such departments of Christian education, the Presbyterian Federal Director would inevitably have some share—possibly a major one.

Schools of Religious Education

Every capital city should have a School of Religious Education, for the training of lay leadership. The courses so offered should include some at an advanced level, to provide tuition for those who desire to fit themselves as "teachers of teachers and leaders of leaders."

On behalf of the Board,

W. H. WATERS, Convener.

SOCIAL SERVICE (Min. 260)

The Committee has kept in touch with the various State Committees and appends their Reports on the work being done in the different States.

VICTOR G. BELL, Convener.

New South Wales

1. St. Andrew's Boys' Home, Manly, recently established, was dedicated by the Right Rev. H. J. Hillman, B.A., State Moderator, on the 20th May, 1944. Over 30 boys are in residence, and the practical results of the Home are seen in their physical and moral improvement. The aim of the work is to prevent rather than cure delinquency, although, of course, the latter is undertaken where possible.

2. The Eva Patience Wood and George Pitt Wood Memorial Home for Aged Ladies would be much more easily spoken of if it had a shorter name. There are 33 aged women there at present, and the evening of their life is cheered by great kindness and comfort. Recently a library has been

presented by The Daughters of the Manse, Scots Church, and Miss Bailey, Principal of Ascham School. Regularly every Sunday afternoon voluntary services are conducted by ministers, and these are very highly valued.

3. Coalfields: Cessnock and Bellbird: The coal miners are always a problem, because of inherited hostility towards employers, the social isolation in which many of them live, the dangerous nature of their work, and the lack of refining escapes! from their drudgery. On account of these conditions the Church finds a splendid field for service in the establishing of Clubs, Study Circles and Sunday Schools. Deaconess Mackie has been doing this kind of work in the places above-named, and her range of influence has been extended by weekly broadcasts over 2CK.

4. Service Centres: A manse has been secured in the Redfern area, where the housing problem is most acute; and Mr. and Mrs. Rapkins, the agents there, are increasing the scope and the influence of their work. The same is true for Ultimo, where Deaconesses Burns and Parger have a Boys' Club with intense activity in arts and crafts, attracting boys to find in this centre a home for happy hours and genial companionship. All their other work is progressing. Deaconess Anderson at Glebe has a very wide field, but an uphill task; yet she maintains a high level of service. At Balmain an active Dorcas Society has distributed many articles of clothing, visited hospitals with a supply of medicine, and carried out an educational scheme for the Mothers' Clubs by the help of a number of efficient speakers. Deaconess Dunlop, who was responsible for this fine work, has had to resign through ill-health, and is now succeeded by Miss Burns. The Newtown branch had been somewhat unsettled for a time, but is now on the old track of progressive service. Deaconess Ross has paid 234 visits to the sick, distributed 270 articles of clothing, and raised £20 for grocery orders. Finally, Mr. and Mrs. Spence in Palmer Street, one of the most difficult centres, have battled heroically against many subversive elements; they have distributed for the past year (this is also the period covered by the other references) £53 in relief, 717 garments, and continued the club work, which for over thirty years has been carried on in this district.

The above reports of the past year are typical of what has been done since the last meeting of this Assembly, and give ample proof of the effectiveness of the New South Wales Social Service Department.

On the financial side the most cheering result was netted at the Australian Market in 1944, when £1,112 was cleared. Mrs. J. H. G. Auld, the Convener, Miss Gillies, the Secretary, and Mrs. Merrington, the Treasurer, were heartily congratulated on their success. Miss Gillies has since passed away, but her work will be long remembered.

Very able assistance has been given by the Dorcas Society, the Deaconesses' Auxiliary, and individual helpers have done remarkable work; nearly 6,000 articles of clothing were sent out to the various centres. Chaplains, too, have been busy in visiting mental hospitals and charitable institutions. This work has now been focussed under the control of a newly appointed Chaplain—the Rev. D. McDiarmid.

Mr. N. Chivas, the Convener, and the Rev. Joseph Faulkner, the Superintendent, deserve hearty thanks for the work done by this committee; and their consolidated activities give promise of a vast increase in the future.

5. Hospitality Centre: One of the most remarkable pieces of Social Service has been witnessed in the varied activities of several hundreds of women, who have given their voluntary help to provide meals foremen of all the fighting forces and the Merchant Navy. This has been established for about two and a half years, and for the year 1944 has provided 55,193 beds, 171,065 meals, and dealt with bookings in the cloak-room to the number of 29,348. It is impossible to number, or to name, all the willing friends who have served under the Rev. C. A. White's committee; but no finer work has ever been done by our Church, mainly, of course, by women, as it falls more especially in their sphere. This Centre is one of the most popular in the State and has shown to the whole community that the Church stands second to none in doing its part to win the war.

6. Burnside Homes: The whole of this historic and far-reaching service to children was compelled by the Military Authorities to move out of Burnside to the Blue Mountains, where the complicated duties had to be maintained for almost three years. Not till last January were the children brought back to the Homes at Parramatta. During their absence the number of the boys and girls fell by almost two hundred, and at the end of 1944 there were only about 350.

With the return of the work to its proper sphere, the religious services

have been resumed, the children can once again attend their fine day-school, all the domestic administration is back to its former system, and the hard-working staff can now enjoy unity of work, which was not possible when the children were scattered in different places on the Blue Mountains.

Plans are being considered for the erection of a Kindergarten for the smaller boys and girls of the Homes, and this will ease the difficulty of teaching them in the larger school.

Mr. George Wright is a most painstaking chairman, whose wise direction through the perilous period of the war has won for him very great admiration. He is strongly supported by Dr. R. G. Macintyre, who, in spite of his advanced years, brings to his task remarkable energy backed up by his unique experience on the Board. And the splendid work of the Superintendent, Mr. M. G. Ross, has lightened considerably what might easily have been an insupportable burden. Too much praise cannot be spoken on behalf of the Matrons and their respective staffs through a most trying period. The Burnside Homes are not, of course, under the Social Service Department of the New South Wales General Assembly, but they are pre-eminently in that category.

7. The Queen Victoria Maternity Hospital: Last, but by no means of the least importance, is the work of this hospital. It has made remarkable progress within the last few years, and now the Report for 1944 shows an increase in the number of births to 576. New and extensive additions are needed, and it is the hope of the Committee that these will be erected in the not distant future. The Rev. Andrew McCallum resigned after several years as Convener, but is still carrying on till a successor is found. This, like the Burnside Homes and the Hospitality Centre, is not under the Social Service Department, but is Social Service in the most real sense.

Victoria

The Homes comprised in the present Social Services Department originated separately, as particular social needs became clamant, and stirred the practical-minded amongst our people into efforts to remedy them. The Church has done something to meet these calls as they arise from infancy to early adulthood, and a brief summary, excluding the St. Andrew's Hospital, which does not at present fall within the Department, is as follows:

Frail and needy infants are cared for at the Babies' Home, Canterbury.

Children, if boys, from 3 to 11 years; if girls, from 3 to 15 years, find a happy home at Kildonan, Burwood.

Adolescent boys, some of them graduating from Kildonan, go to Kilmarnock Farm Home at Sale, where those fitted and inclined may train for the land; others attend the local Technical School.

Adolescent girls are trained for domestic pursuits at the Girls' Home, Elsternwick.

The unmarried mother finds refuge in her need at the Sisterhood, Fitzroy.

Young girls, employed mostly in factories, are under the care of a deaconess at Abbotsford Hostel, and the demand for good accommodation and board for young women, generally in office employment, is provided for at Chalmers Hall.

Now thought is being given to establishing a Home or Homes for the Aged, and a committee has been set up by the Victorian Assembly to advance this project. The proposed scheme is along the lines of the Garden Settlement at Chermside, Brisbane, established by the Methodist Church. Sites are being examined, and the Committee hopes for liberal financial support from our people; for the need of such homes, with infirmary accommodation, is very great.

For many years it has been felt that the Social Service work in Victoria would be improved by better co-ordination and planning at the centre. Under the existing set-up, each Home has its own Committee, fully responsible for its management, and is to some extent an isolated unit. A special Assembly Committee is at present engaged on proposals to establish a Board of Social Services to control the whole of the Social Service work of the Church. It would have the services of a full-time Superintendent and General Secretary, and would plan desirable extensions for the work, e.g., Homes for Delinquents, Hospitals and Inner Suburban Missions, including evangelistic, relief, rescue, police court and Chaplaincy work.

Since last Report the various Committees have carried on their tasks

with great faithfulness and success, under war-time conditions which have made problems of staffing extremely acute. Some features of interest regarding the separate Homes may be noted shortly as follows:

Babies Home: The daily average has been over 50 during last year. Matron Nesbit resigned and her office was taken over by Sister Stewart, who was for 10 years on the Staff. The Committee desires to extend its work by adding a building to meet the existing demand for the short-term care of toddlers, whose mothers are temporarily unable to look after them, and this development is under consideration by the Social Services Committee at present.

Kildonan: This year a much needed sick bay was opened by the Chief Justice of Victoria, Sir Edmund Herring, and the large attendance indicated the strong support of our people for the grand work being done in this Home for its 75 little residents.

Kilmany Park Farm Home for Boys: This Home has now passed its 21st birthday, and has rendered fine service to the Church and the community. Much damage was done to the buildings by the disastrous fires of 1944, and when conditions permit much rebuilding and purchase of essential farm machinery will require attention. The Committee plans to erect a new cottage construction for 25 boys plus staff and 2 women assistants, as at Burnside, N.S.W. Facilities for technical training, recreational, gardening and cultural activities are being planned, as well as an improved water supply, piggery improvements and extension of irrigation. Mr. Thomas, the Superintendent, and his wife are transferring to the Menzies Boys' Home at Frankston, and Mr. and Mrs. Elwood will now be in charge. Mr. Harris, who is a returned soldier, has been appointed welfare officer, and will be responsible for matters such as hobbies and games.

Girls' Home, Elsternwick: The Home has a daily average of 35 girls, who are trained for domestic pursuits. Class work includes physical culture, first aid, nursing, singing and craft-work. The laundry provides useful experience and contributes towards maintenance expenses. Much valuable service is given to girls at a critical period of their development. Many of them become active members of the Church.

The Sisterhood: Since 1907, 2,576 mothers and babies have passed through the Home, which has been the means of saving many lives in danger of being wrecked. Usually about 12 girls are in residence. There have been many cases where the mother has subsequently married, the child being adopted by husband and wife. Improved equipment for bathing the infants recently installed has helped in the smooth running of the daily routine in the Home.

Abbotsford Hostel: The Home lost a devoted worker by the death of its Matron, Miss Faith Harland. Deaconess Hurdman is now in charge, while Miss Storie still helps with the fine work which she established in 1917. Present buildings are inadequate, and the Committee looks forward to building a new Home on the site of the Princes Hill Church, where it is intended to provide for twice the number—about 20—now at the Abbotsford Hostel.

Chalmers HaII: The Hostel occupies the old Scotch College Boarding House and Principal's residence, at East Melbourne, and accommodates now 86 young women. It helps to fill the very great need for Hostel accommodation in Melbourne. The Hostel more than pays its way, despite the moderate charges for rooms. Country parents are able to be assured that their daughters are receiving the care and oversight they would feel so much to be needed, while they are engaged in city employment. Many more Hostels on similar lines are urgently required.

The Report for Victoria was written by Mr. J. P. Adam, Convener.

Western Australia

1. The Children's Homes, Byford: This fine piece of work was only commenced in the year 1938. Since November of that year, when the Homes were opened, excellent progress has been made. In our last Report we stated: "It is hoped to erect a further new wing at a cost of £1,450." This wing was opened in 1943 and cost approximately £4,000, £3,000 of this was given by Mr. Nat Harper for the "Nat Harper Wing," and a splendid hot water service was the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Paterson, in memory of their son, who was killed in New Guinea. The new wing has been constantly filled since it was opened. The demand for more accommodation is greater than ever, and in order to meet this demand the General Assembly, at a pro re nata meeting in June, 1945, approved of a proposal to purchase another property some 12 miles from Perth with a view to

establishing another Home—this being for growing boys. Another sum of some £4,000 will be required for this new venture.

2. The Committee on Hospitals and Prisons carries on work in our hospitals in the metropolitan area, and the Woorloo Sanatorium[^] for consumptives is visited regularly by Rev. J. H. G. Archibald. "The Prisons and Mental Hospitals" are also visited regularly.

3. Deaconess L. Skinner commenced work under the auspices of St. Andrew's Church, Perth, at the beginning of 1945, and is doing a fine work, particularly amongst the young.

4. The question of establishing a Home for the aged has been before the General Assembly in 1944 and 1945; so far no action has been possible, but this work is regarded as one of the very first social services which should be undertaken by the Church, and it is hoped it will not be long delayed.

5. The P.W.M.U. workers have been constantly on call for work amongst the men of the services in the various canteens and hostels under the auspices of the Citizens' Reception Council. The Sunday evening gatherings at the close of services in St. Andrew's, Perth, for Service men and women were highly appreciated—they closed down when the great majority of troops left this State for the Pacific war-front.

Efforts are being made to contact men now released from the Services and to make them feel at home on their return to civil life.

Written on behalf of the Public Questions and Social Committee by the Rev. George Tulloch,

Queensland—Report of Committee on Homes and Hostels

The work of the Homes for Children, viz., Blackheath Home for Boys and W. R. Black Home for Girls, Brisbane, has been steadily maintained despite difficulties created by the war situation in Queensland.

The average number of boys who can be accommodated at Blackheath Home is 46; and girls at W. R. Black Home, 36.

Early in 1942, at the request of the State Government, arrangements were made for the evacuation of the children from Brisbane, and they were transferred to Killarney. This move rather interfered with the work of caring for needy children, as it was not possible to admit so many children since the buildings secured in Killarney were not so convenient as the Homes in Brisbane. During the absence from Brisbane, Blackheath Home was occupied by the military, who vacated the premises towards the end of 1944, when the boys returned to their Home. Unfortunately, it has not been possible for the girls to return and they are still at Killarney. We are indebted to the State Children Department for the most of transport to Killarney, and part cost of the necessary alterations to the buildings there.

The two Homes for aged people, viz., Hopetoun Home for Aged Men and Stonehaven Home for Aged Women, carried on and the inmates were not evacuated, as the men and women preferred to remain in their Homes rather than have the discomfort of transport and makeshift premises. Owing to the difficulty of securing places, which were not too difficult in the way of transport, and the availability of medical attendance for these people, it was agreed to let them remain in Brisbane. We are very thankful that the war danger moved from our shores, and made it safe for these old folk to remain where they were.

There has been great difficulty in staffing the Homes during the war period, and we have not yet overcome this problem. Food supplies have also at times caused anxiety, but the Government has given us much assistance in this direction.

There is great need for Homes for our elder girls and boys, who are ready to leave W. R. Black Home and Blackheath Home; also young people coming temporarily to the city for higher education and attendance at the Teachers' Training College. A scheme to provide such Homes is under consideration. In addition to this there is need for a Babies' Home, but as there are a number of regulations governing such a Home, it is not possible to entertain the provision of same at present. In connection with our aged people the Committee has in mind a scheme to provide quarters where elderly couples can be given accommodation together instead of in separate Homes.

The care of the children and the aged people has received very good support from the Church in Queensland. Both the Children's Homes, Women's Auxiliary and the Ladies' Committee for the Homes for Aged People, have been untiring in their respective spheres of service.

There is a combined Presbyterian and Methodist Hostel for young women, Archibald House, Brisbane, which is always filled to capacity with young women whose work brings them to Brisbane.

This section of the Report was authorized by Miss M. F. Wilson, Secretary, Committee on Homes and Hostels, Presbyterian Church of Queensland.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CLOSER CO-OPERATION IN THE
MISSIONARY WORK OF THE CHURCHES WITHIN THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA (Min. 188)

Owing to the difficulties of interstate travel and lack of funds, it has not been possible for this Committee to get all its members together at any one time. However, since the G.A. of A., 1942, two partial meetings have been held, and much has been done by means of correspondence and personal interviews with missionaries visiting Sydney and others passing on their way to and from their various mission fields.

On the 8th March, 1944, advantage was taken of the presence in Sydney of the members of the Board of Missions to convene a meeting of the Closer Co-operation Committee and of associating members of the Board. Representatives from Victoria, Tasmania, Queensland, New South Wales, and the Rev. J. G. Miller, of Tongoa (New Zealand Church), were present and took part in the discussions. Inter alia, it was resolved that this meeting declare its mind:

1. That the ultimate goal of the Presbyterian Church of Australia should be the bringing under one single control the Foreign Mission work carried on by the Churches of the States, and that strong efforts should be made to attain this goal as soon as possible.

Again, on the 29th May, 1945, when the Rev. G. Anderson (Victorian M. Secretary) and the Rev. Basil Nottage, of New Zealand, (and one time Clerk of the New Hebrides Synod), were attending the Pacific Conference in Sydney, they were invited to meet with the N.S.W. representatives of the Closer Co-operation Committee and of the Board of Missions. At this meeting the work of the Committee was reviewed, fully discussed, and it was agreed that the drawing up of the Report and Deliverance be left, to the Convener and the Rev. T. McDougall, and that if fresh information came from the New Hebrides,¹ as the result of Mr. Coombes' visit, it should be published as an Assembly Paper.

Work Done

Negotiations begun in 1939 between the Foreign Mission Committee of New South Wales and Western Australia, with reference to W.A.'s participation in the work being carried on by N.S.W. in India, have been concluded. Both State Assemblies gave formal approval to the scheme, and final arrangements were completed when the Rev. V. W. Coombes visited the West in 1944. Western Australia has assumed certain financial obligations, and now shares in the work of the Indian Field.

The New South Wales and Victorian Committees are now co-operating in the preparation and publication of literature covering the missionary activities of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, and are meeting the needs of our young people by means of joint publications of Young Peoples' Mission Band literature.

Steps have been taken to make "The Record" an All-Australia Missionary Magazine for children, and practical agreement has been reached towards establishing a similar magazine for adults.

Considerable advance has been made between the State Committees in the exchange of deputationists and missionary films.

Work Being Done

Recognizing as unsatisfactory the present system of multiple control of the work of our Church in the New Hebrides, whereby some eighteen missionaries are responsible to one or other of five Sending Committees (Victoria, N.S.W., Tasmania, New Zealand, and the John G. Paton Committee), this Committee approached these Sending Committees and the missionaries on the field, and advised:

- (1) The adoption of a Unified Policy for the whole of the work in these Islands, and

- (2) that the constitution of the New Hebrides Synod be revised and, where necessary, the Synod be given added authority to enable the Synod to exercise effective executive control of the whole of the local work of the Church on the field.

The Synod last year appointed a sub-committee to consider the above proposals, and report to next meeting of Synod in 1945. The Rev. V. W. Coombes (F.M. Secretary, N.S.W.) and the Rev. D. N. McDiarmid (Director of Missions, New Zealand), will attend this Synod, and we expect their report will be available for the G.A. of A.

Discussions continue between the Victorian and N.S.W. Foreign Mission Committees re Victorian participation in the work of the Indian Field.

Work to be Done

This Committee's recommendation that the ultimate goal of the Church should be the "bringing under one single control the Foreign Mission work carried on by the Churches of the States," has been considered by several State Assemblies and Committees.

(a) The N.S.W. Assembly resolved to "Give general approval to the principle that the Foreign Mission work of the Presbyterian Church of Australia should be co-ordinated under one Federal Board, and instruct the Committee to confer with the Committee on Closer Co-operation of the G.A. of A., and with the Board of Missions, with a view to making the whole missionary work of the whole Church of Australia the responsibility of all States. Blue Book, 1945. Min. 67 (8).

(b) The Victorian Assembly resolved to "Authorize the Foreign Mission Committee to confer with the Co-ordinating Committee of the G.A. and with the Board of Missions with a view to making the whole missionary work of the Church of Australia the responsibility of all States." Blue Book, 1945. Min. 232 (7).

(c) The Rev. D. A. Brown, Queensland Secretary for Missions, writes: "The Queensland Church is definitely opposed to the proposal to bring under one single control all Foreign Mission work carried on by the Churches of the States." Continuing, Mr. Brown states: "It has long been considered that the administration of the Missions in North Queensland can be best carried out by the Queensland Church." This, in the opinion of this Committee, should form no insuperable barrier.

(d) The N.S.W. Women's Missionary Association passed the following resolution: "In view of the fact that the Church's missionary work should be its first concern, and that the urgency of it demands that it must be done with the greatest efficiency, we plead that the missionary work of the Presbyterian Church of Australia be brought under one control at the earliest opportunity."

(e) The Board of Missions "agreed to assure the Women's Missionary Association of N.S.W. that the Board of Missions was in general agreement with the resolution and that the matter would come before a meeting of the full Board and the General Assembly at its first meeting." Minutes, 23/3/45.

The Present Position: The Victorian Assembly, which, through its Foreign Missions Committee, already co-operates in its mission work with Tasmania and South Australia, and the N.S.W. Assembly, which now co-operates with Western Australia, both approve of co-operation between all the States. The G.A. Advisory Committees and the Board of Missions also agree (vide Addendum to this Report). Queensland would obviously approve under certain conditions. The Assembly is therefore requested to instruct the Board of Missions and the State Foreign Missions Committees to complete arrangements whereby the whole foreign mission work of the Church be co-ordinated.

In reporting to the Assembly in 1942, this Committee stated that it had been asked virtually to fulfil the intention of the Deed of Union (I, 134-139) in constituting the Board of Missions to the heathen. In other words, it considers that the work entrusted to it belongs rightly to the function of the Board of Missions, and, having consulted with the Board of Missions on the matter, now requests the Assembly to discharge the Committee, and instruct the Board of Missions to carry out the work of co-ordinating the Church's foreign mission activities.

CHAS. E. TURNBULL, Convener.

Addendum to G.A. of A.'s Committee on Closer Co-operation

In August, 1944, the Moderator-General, the Rt. Rev. R. W. Macaulay, sent a letter to Moderators of State Assemblies and to Conveners of Assembly Committees calling for a forward movement and inviting Committees and Boards to meet with the Advisory Committee of the General Assembly of Australia.

In association with others, the Board of Missions met on the 12th and 14th September, 1944. At this meeting, the following motion was unanimously adopted:

"Having regard to the material submitted by the Moderator-General from the State Foreign Mission Committees, and following the recommendations of the General Assembly's Committee on Closer-Co-operation, the Board of Missions resolves:

"1. That further steps be taken to secure the co-ordination of all Foreign Mission work being done by the Presbyterian Church of Australia, so that all the State Churches, through their Foreign Mission Committees, take part in the missionary witness of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

- (a) That an adequate share in the evangelization of the aborigines of Australia be accepted as a primary task of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.
- (b) That all the States be invited to participate in the completion of the evangelization of the natives of the New Hebrides.
- (c) That all the States be invited to co-operate with the Church in New South Wales in its mission in India, and in any extension of such missionary work.
- (d) That all the States be invited to co-operate with the Foreign Mission Committee of Victoria in its plans for missionary work in the Far East: (1) in the reopening of its work in Korea; (2) in sharing in the mission work in any other field.

"2. That the Board of Missions invite the State Foreign Mission Committees to co-operate with it with a view to:

- (a) Surveying and reporting on their present missionary responsibility in missionary work and in moneys.
- (b) Examining the financial response for missionary work in each State.
- (c) Estimating from these surveys the work which should be undertaken by the Presbyterian Church of Australia.
- (d) Arranging that all States should be informed of all missionary operations and plans, so that they may have an opportunity to share.

"3. That the Board investigate the possibility of issuing an all-Australia Missionary Magazine.

"4. That in view of the possibility that such surveys may lead to the opening of new fields or to the sending of missionaries to other fields than those already opened by the States, and in view of clause 138 (4) in the Deed of Union, the Board approach the Advisory Committee on the matter of any such extension as the Board may decide upon."

STATISTICS (Min. 145)

The last full statistical return submitted to the Assembly was in the year 1933. While in many ways much fuller than the statement which the Committee presents on this occasion, in quite a number of cases the figures for particular States are missing. However, a comparison of the two sets of figures gives the following results:

Parishes (increase).....	37
H.M. Stations (decrease).....	52
Communicants (increase)	8,511
Elders (increase)	694
Managers (decrease).....	1,426
Sunday Schools (increase).....	120

There is a gratifying increase in the number of Communicants, but we would welcome a corresponding increase in the number of children attending our Sunday Schools: but a decrease is evident in every State—N.S.W., 6,579; Victoria, 1,895; Queensland, 3,172; South Australia, 970; Western Australia, 222; Tasmania, 604.

In compiling the table which follows, the Committee was rendered very great assistance by Statistics Conveners (and others) in the various States, who made every effort to bring their figures up to date and complete. Unfortunately, in most of the States many ministers and Home Missionaries failed to make the statistical returns which their Assemblies require—which makes the work of the statisticians doubly onerous.

According to the figures of the census of 1933, there were then 711,982 persons in Australia professing to be Presbyterians: roughly one in seven of these is on our Communion Rolls and one in nine a scholar in our Sunday Schools. Which seems to indicate that there is still a considerable field for our Church's extensive and intensive activities.

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Totals
Parishes.....	209	251	68	19	22	16	585
Home Mission Stations . .	48	58	42	7	12	6	173
Communicants.....	38,000	44,491	14,732	2,705	2,873	2,113	104,944*
Elders.....	1,950	1,884	732	183	158	111	5,018
Managers.....	2,940	5,311	1,179	265	215	224	10,134
Sunday Schools.....	401	782	185	38	41	43	1,490
Sunday School Teachers	3,108	5,750	1,221	260	304	211	10,854
Sunday School Scholars	23,307	37,000	10,504	1,569	2,453	1,403	76,386
Home Sunday School							
Enrolment.....	1,500	462	900	38	30	63	2,993
Fellowship Members . . .	5,160	7,200	1,500	596	467	271	15,194
In Public Schools:							
Children taught . . .	31,000	24,000	14,056	1,800	2,684	1,476	75,016
Ord. Income, Congl							
Purposes.....	155,000	246,545	44,650	12,129	15,525	10,056	£483,905
Value of Congl Properties	1,385,000	2,057,902	416,593	97,290	79,231	78,460	£4,114,476

t Including 150 children in A.I.M. Sunday Schools.

* Including 90 Communicants in A.I.M. Centres.

V. CLARK-DUFF, Convener.

A. OF A. TRUSTEES' REPORT (Min. 162)

The impasse which prevented a progressive report to the 1942 Assembly still exists. The difficulties regarding registration of the Trust Deed in Western Australia and Queensland, have not yet been surmounted, and recent correspondence from the Law Agent would seem to indicate that the position is not very hopeful in either State. Your Trustees will deem it unwise to operate in these States where the Trust Deed is already registered, believing that to be of any real value a Trust Deed should be operative throughout Australia. We regret to report no progress, but are the victim of circumstances which, so far, our legal advisers have not been able to straighten out.

Under all the circumstances and in view of the difficulties suggested by recent correspondence, the Trustees are of opinion that the Trustees appointed should resign and the idea for a Trust Deed for Australia be dropped entirely.

J. R. B. CAMPBELL, Chairman.

THE YEAR BOOK (Min. 259)

The Committee has pleasure in reporting that publication of the Year Book has gone on regularly during the past three years, despite the continuance of the wartime paper shortage and other difficulties, and the grave loss sustained through the death of our late Editor, the Rev. J. R. Fiddian. After 29 years of faithful service (1915 to 1943 inclusive) Mr. Fiddian passed away suddenly on 20th February, 1943. For all those years he had made the Year Book one of his chief interests in the wide and varied service he rendered the Church. He brought to his task a great capacity for taking pains, a truly scientific regard for accuracy, and a sound knowledge of Presbyterianism both in this and in other lands; and as the years went by he built up for himself and for the book he had made so largely his own, an assured position in the respect and esteem of his brethren throughout the Commonwealth.

We gratefully record our appreciation of the lasting worth of his work.

After due consideration, your Committee invited the Rev. E. C. Day, B.A., B.D., of Batesford, Victoria, to fill the vacant position. Mr. Day accepted the task and has edited the issues for 1944 and 1945 with great credit to himself and to the complete satisfaction of the Committee. We are well assured that Mr. Day is the right man for this important post, and we recommend that he be congratulated upon the excellent start he has made and appointed to the office of Editor for the next three years.

On 13th September, 1944, the full Committee met in Melbourne with nine members in attendance, representing three States. Apart from the confirmation of the choice of Mr. Day as Editor, the principal matters dealt with were the price of the Year Book and its circulation. A proposal to increase the price to 2/- was disapproved, but there was general agreement as to the desirability of a considerable increase in the circulation. Some success has been achieved in that direction inasmuch as we have sold 250 more copies in 1945 than in 1944, but it is felt that many more would be sold if more of our potential purchasers knew about the Year Book and could easily obtain it. We appeal to all ministers to make sure that their office-bearers are aware of the veritable mine of information about our Church that is so readily available to them in this publication.

The particulars of our operations during the period now under review are:

Year	Copies Printed	Cost	Sales	Receipts	Deficit
1943	1100	£94 19 3	983	£70 7 3	£24 12 0
1944	1150	£105 8 5	1093	£79 6 6	£26 1 11
1945	1400	£110 2 0	1342	£90 12 10	£19 9 2

Exchange and review copies number some 50 annually, so that in each of the last two years we have sold all that were printed and available.

On behalf of the Committee,

VERNON McKEOWN, Convener.

CHURCHES WITHIN EMPIRE (Min. 326)

Committee to investigate the possibility of strengthening relations between the various Presbyterian Churches throughout the British Commonwealth.

The last six years have denied this Committee opportunities for formal action, but there has been considerable thought and consultation between members.

Meantime, the very conditions which have prevented formal efforts on our part have been creating future opportunities, and creating, also, a new consciousness of the need for the widest possible "awareness," in Presbyterian communities, as well as in the Church universal. Consideration has been given to the nature of ecclesiastical machinery that would be necessary to make effective action possible.

The following conclusions are submitted:

1. There is need for still closer relations between Presbyteries of the various Australian States, and such relations must be strengthened to facilitate understanding between ourselves and world Presbyterianism.
2. The British Commonwealth may no longer be regarded as an adequate unit for fellowship; we should aim, at least, at closer fellowship among English-speaking Presbyterians.
3. Such an active fellowship need not exclude any. Many of the foremost leaders in the rest of world Presbyterianism are also "English-speaking individuals"; many are graduates of British and American Universities and/or Theological Halls.
4. To implement closer fellowship between ourselves and visitors, suitable local arrangements must necessarily be left to those responsible for domestic details within each State.

It is recommended, therefore, that the G.A.A. should recommend to State Assemblies that each appoint its own Committee to explore possibilities in this field; and, meantime, take advantage of all opportunities for wider fellowship which emerge from time to time;

That, from time to time, delegates appointed by such committees should meet at suitable centres, for consultation and joint action, under the leadership of the Convener and a few colleagues appointed by this Assembly;

That those thus brought together in joint activity be recognized as a Special Committee of the G.A.A.

JOHN FLYNN, Convener.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
AGGREGATE BALANCE SHEET AT 30th JUNE, 1945

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
Sundry Creditors:		Properties:	
Due by Board of Religious Education.....	£683 9 3	A.I.M. Hostels and Nursing Homes, etc. £28,076 10 5	
Presbyterian Church in New South Wales:		Church of St. Andrew, Canberra ...	57,304 0 10
On Account of Church of St. Andrew, Canberra ...	18,219 1 3		£85,380 11 3
Reserve Funds:		Organ (at cost):	
A.I.M.....	£29,816 02	Church of St. Andrew, Canberra.....	1,809 3 8
Board of Religious Education:		Office Furniture:	
Post-War Literature.....	184 178	A.I.M.....	£158 1810
Boat and Truck Renewal Fund ...	111 26	General Assembly of Australia.....	16 94
	40,112 0 4	Board of Religious Education.....	289 198
Funds for Specific Purposes:			465 7 10
A.I.M.....	11,077 11 7	Motor Cars:	
Trust Funds:		A.I.M.....	250 0 0
A.I.M.....	£10,765 17 5	Wireless Sets:	
C. D. Lloyd Bequest:		A.I.M.....	172 0 0
Capital Account.....	22,273 00	Stock on Hand:	
Income Account.....	64 146	Board of Religious Education.....	663 13 6
A. E. McCracken Bequest:		Loans on Mortgage:	
Capital Account.....	4,000 00	On Account of A. E. McCracken Estate.....	2,889 14 5
Income Account.....	131 102	Shares in Companies:	
John Frazer Foreign Mission Endowment:		A.I.M.....	5,448 0 0
Capital Account.....	1,000 00	Commonwealth of Australia War Loan:	
Income Account.....	218 120	A.I.M.....	£29,500 0 0
Church of St. Andrew, Canberra:		A. E. McCracken Estate.....	820 0 0
Parish Endowment.....	2,823 3 2		30,320 0 0
Clara Kirkland Bequest Aborigines		Cash at Bank:	
Mission:		On Account of—	
Capital Account.....	2,960 0 0	A.I.M.:	
Income Account.....	178 2 1	Bank of N.S.W., Sydney.....	£97 38
	44,414 19 4	Bank of N.S.W., Melbourne.....	13 510
General Assembly of Australia:		Bank of N.S.W., Perth.....	21 195
Expenses Account.....	2,136 7 2	Board of Religious Education:	
Board of Foreign Missions:		Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd.	65 177
Publications Account.....	107 10 1	Board of Foreign Missions:	
Capital and Accumulated Funds:		Boat and Truck Renewal Fund	111 26
Church of St. Andrew, Canberra ...	£38,997 1 8		309 9 Q

186

A.I.M.....	36,445	121
Board of Religious Education.....	3,739	69
Board of Foreign Missions.....	2,527	114
	<hr/>	

81,709 ll 10

Funds in Hands of Local A.I.M. Committee.....		1,448	11	8
Funds in Hands of South Australian Treasurer—Board of Foreign Misesi^.....			101	16
Cash on Hand:				
A.I.M.....	£20	00		
Board of Foreign Missions	126	18	6	
	<hr/>			146
Funds in Hands of:				
Presbyterian Church in New South Wales:				
On Account of—				
A.I.M.....	£26,243	1	0	
General Assembly of Australia:				
Expenses AccouS.....	2,119	17	10	
A. E. McCracken Bequess.....	421	15	9	
John Frazer Foreign Missions:				
Scholarship Fund ..	1,000	00		
Clara Kirkland Bequess.....	3,138	2	1	
	<hr/>			32,922
Presbyterian Church in Victoria:				16
On Account of—				
A.I.M.....	£3,331	19		
John Frazer Foreign Missions:				
Scholarship Fund.....	218	120		
Charles D. Lloyd Bequst.....	22,331	146		
Board of Religious Education . . .	2,161	16		
Board of Foreign Missions:				
General AccouS.....	2,293	74		
Publications AccouS.....	101	101		
	<hr/>			31,077
Presbyterian Church in Queensland:				5
On Account of—				
A.I.M.....				728
Presbyterian Church in South Australia:				16
On Account of—				
A.I.M.....				2,638
Presbyterian Church in Western Australia:				5
On Account of—				
A.I.M.....				11
Sundry Debtors:				2
Due to—				
A.I.M.....	£140	13	0	
Board of Religious E(iucation.....	817	6	7	
	<hr/>			955
				19
				5

£198,460 10 10

Church of St. Andrew: Commissioner's Stipend Account.....	26 17
Payments in Advance: Board of Religious Education.....	11 15 0
	<u>£198,460 10 10</u>

I report that I have compared the above Balance Sheet with the books of account of the General Assembly of Australia, and the audited statements furnished by the Presbyterian Church in other States, and find same to be in accordance therewith.

Sydney, 3rd August, 1945.

A. W. CHAPMAN, F.C.A. (Aust.)
Official Auditor to the Presbyterian Church of Australia
in the State of New South Wales.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
EXPENSES ACCOUNT FROM 1st JULY, 1942, TO 30th JUNE, 1945

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
To Meeting in Sydney, September, 1942:		By Balance brought forward, 1st July, 1942	£540 19 6
Advertising.....	£4 03	„ Assessment of Expenses for 1940:	
Attendants, Cloak Room, Communion Wine, Printing and Stationery.....	9 17 6	Western Australian Church.....	25 0 0
	<u>13 17 9</u>	„ Assessment of Expenses for 1941:	
„ College Committee:		Western Australian Church.....	25 0 0
Secretary's Honorarium: Rev. A. C. Grieve		„ Assessment of Expenses for 1942:	
—to 30/9/45	£120 00	Western Australian Church.....	25 0 0
Examination Fees.....	53 11 0	„ Assessment of Expenses for 1943:	
	<u>173 11 0</u>	Victorian Church.....	£400 0 0
„ Loss on Year Book (including honorariums to Editor of £21 per annum):		New South Wales Church.....	350 0 0
1943	£24 12 6	Queensland Church.....	90 0 0
1944	26 2 11	South Australian Church.....	25 0 0
1945	19 9 8	Western Australian Church .. .	25 0 0
	<u>70 5 1</u>	Tasmanian Church.....	20 0 0
„ Honorariums:			<u>910 0 0</u>
Moderator-General.....	£300 00	„ Assessment of Expenses for 1944:	
Clerk of Assembly.....	30 00	Victorian Church.....	£400 0 0
Junior Clerk of Assembly	20 00	New South Wales Church.....	350 0 0
	<u>350 0 0</u>	Queensland Church.....	90 0 0
		South Australian Church.....	25 0 0
		Western Australian Church 4	25 0 0

„ General Presbyterian Alliance:		
Edinburgh.....	£25 00	
Exchange.....	6 78	
		<u>31 78</u>
„ Audit Fee.....		28 70
„ Australian League of Nations.....		3 30
„ Basis of Union Printing.....		7 08
„ Business Committee Convener's Expenses.....		2 10 6
„ Expenses:		
Moderator-General.....	£9 17 3	
Chaplain-General and Chaplains.....	7 10 4	
		<u>17 77</u>
„ Books:		
„What God Requires from Us”.....	£22 14 4	
„Faith and Order”.....	12 11 2	
		<u>35 56</u>
„ Travelling Expenses of Delegates.....		243 0 4
„ Supply for Clerk of Assembly.....		4 0 0
„ Presbyterian Church of Victoria, for Printing, Stationery, etc.....		35 12 9
„ Printing and Stationery.....		2 15 3
„ Postages, Telegrams, Exchange.....		5 3 9
„ Legal Expenses.....		3 3 0
„ White and Blue Books.....		161 12 4
„ 2% on Revenue.....		67 8 10
		<u>£1,255 12 0</u>
„ Balance carried forward, 30th June, 1945 ..		<u>2,136 7 2</u>
		<u><u>£3,391 19 2</u></u>

Tasmanian Church.....	20 0 0	
		<u>910 0 0</u>
„ Assessment of Expenses for 1945:		
Victorian Church.....	£400 0 0	
New South Wales Church.....	350 0 0	
Queensland Church.....	91 1 0	
South Australian Church.....	25 0 0	
Tasmanian Church.....	20 0 0	
		<u>886 1 0</u>
„ Interest on Current Account ...		69 18 8

£3,391 19 2

Examined and Found Correct.

A. W. CHAPMAN, F.C.A. (Aust.)
 Official Auditor to the Presbyterian Church of Australia
 in the State of New South Wales.

Sydney, 3rd August, 1945.

AUSTRALIAN INLAND MISSION
GENERAL FUND
REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR YEARS ENDED 31st MARCH, 1943, 1944, AND 1945
HEADQUARTERS

	EXPENDITURE					REVENUE			
	12 months to 31/3/43	12 months to 31/3/44	12 months to 31/3/45	Total		12 months to 31/3/43	12 months to 31/3/44	12 months to 31/3/45	Total
To Advertising and Publicity ...	£192 0 10	£371 6 11	£532 18 1	£1,096 5 10	By Donations, Spe- cial Efforts, etc.	£6,557 10 0	£5,015 11 5	£6,102 9 5	£17,675 10 10
„ Beneficiary Fund	94 15 1	96 13 1	89 9 1	280 17 3	„ Dividends ...	211 8 0	226 17 10	213 7 8	651 13 6
„ Bank Charges ..	34 6 8	27 8 4	44 14 3	106 9 3	„ Fees & Rents ..	317 7 8	312 0 0	312 0 0	941 7 8
„ Freight & Cart- age	95 18 3	86 5 1	118 18 6	301 1 10	„ Interest	623 12 9	913 14 0	1,195 16 6	2,733 3 3
„ Fuel, Light and Water	56 3 6	36 16 3	68 9 1	161 8 10	„ Legacies (under £50)	197 9 10	180 12 7	25 0 0	403 2 5
„ General Expenses	390 19 0	338 7 10	420 19 7	1,150 6 5	„ Subsidies	256 16 9	160 6 9	175 0 0	592 3 6
„ Grants to Mis- sions	288 15 0	530 0 0	450 0 0	1,268 15 0	„ Transfers from Legacies in Re- serve	£8,164 5 0	£6,809 2 7	£8,023 13 7	£22,997 1 2
„ Hospital Supplies	4 0 7 11	70 11 9	54 3 7	165 3 3	„ Transfer to Ac- cumulated Funds —Excess of Ex- penditure over Revenue	1,000 0 0	1,500 0 0	1,800 0 0	4,300 0 0
„ Household Exs. . .	169 7 5	102 8 0	109 16 9	381 12 2		£9,164 5 0	£8,309 2 7	£9,823 13 7	£27,297 1 2
„ Insurance	317 6 3	231 3 6	198 0 3	746 10 0		1,385 19 4	1,881 10 5	1,282 0 2	4,549 9 11
„ Printing & Sta- tionery	68 19 2	51 14 10	115 5 9	235 19 9					
„ Rents, Rates and Church Office Charges	862 10 9	881 16 2	753 7 6	2,497 14 5					
„ Repairs & Main- tenance	—	87 3 6	253 6 2	340 9 8					
„ Salaries & Allow- ances	4,698 17 1	4,358 16 2	4,760 15 9	13,818 9 0					
„ Stamps, Tele- grams, T e l e- phones	286 11 8	245 19 7	227 12 8	760 3 11					
„ Travelling Exs. .	788 4 0	888 1 1	1,235 9 10	2,911 14 11					
	£8,385 2 7	£8,404 12 1	£9,433 6 10	£26,223 1 6					
„ Depreciation on Buildings, etc., Motor Cars and Wireless Sets .	2,165 1 9	1,786 0 11	1,672 6 11	5,623 9 7					
	£10,550 4 4	£10,190 13 0	£11,105 13 9	£31,846 11 1					
					£10,550 4 4	£10,190 13 0	£11,105 13 9	£31,846 11 1	

AUSTRALIAN INLAND MISSION
GENERAL FUND
BALANCE SHEET AT 31st MARCH, 1945

LIABILITIES			ASSETS		
Trust Funds:			Current Funds:		
Estate H. A. Allen.....	£1,443	17 8	Presbyterian Church in N.S.W.....	£1,764	10 2
Edgely Memorial Fund....	1,500	0 0	Bank of N.S.W., Sydney...	97	3 8
Estate J. Kirkland.....	1,028	1 0	Bank of N.S.W., Melbourne..	13	5 10
Estate M. Mathieson.....	60	0 0	Bank of N.S.W., Perth...	21	19 5
Wm. Martin Memorial....	2,750	0 0	Petty Cash.....	20	0 0
Archibald and Elizabeth McLaurin Fund..	2,830	15 0			£1,916 19 1
A. Phillips Bequest.....	386	7 11	Council Cash Balances:		
Robt. Purdie Endowment..	666	15 10	Queensland.....	£123	12 11
Eleanor Symon Endowment..	100	0 0	South Australia.....	88	5 8
		£10,765 17 5	Victoria.....	110	12 0
Funds for Specific Purposes:			Western Australia.....	11	2 6
A.M.S. and Wireless.....	£1,493	2 4		333	13 1
Busby Bequest.....	148	17 8	Total Current Funds.....	£2,250	12 2
Estate M. R. Blain.....	2,204	6 8	Reserve Funds:		
Darwin Club.....	154	2 10	(Available for general purposes in case of emergency)		
Edgely Trust Income.....	354	8 7	I cash held by:		
Estate Miss Charles Fairfax	1,249	16 4	Presbyterian Church in N.S.W.....	£17,134	11 5
Estate C. E. Gebhardt...	1,900	0 0	Presbyterian Church in Queensland...	500	0 0
Estate J. S. Love.....	645	0 10	Presbyterian Church in South Australia..	550	0 0
Motor Car Replacement Fund	1,409	19 5	Presbyterian Church in Victoria.....	81	8 9
Estate E. M. MacKay.....	711	5 7		£17,816	0 2
Presbyterian Church of N.Z..	21	8 8	Commonwealth War Loan Bonds..	22,000	0 0
J. W. Rogers Bequest.....	60	2 8	Total Reserve Funds..	39,816	0 2
Fellowship Fund.....	725	0 0	Funds for Specific Purposes:		
		11,077 11 7	In cash held by:		
Reserve Funds:			Presbyterian Church in N.S.W.....	£5,823	3 0
Legacies in Reserve in N.S.W.	£39,266	0 2	Presbyterian Church in Queensland...	354	8 7
„ „ „ j > South Australia..	550	0 0	Presbyterian Church in South Australia..	1,900	0 0
		39,816 0 2		£8,077	11 7
Accumulated Funds:			Commonwealth War Loan Bonds	3,000	0 0
General Funds:			Total Funds for Specific Purposes	11,077	11 7
Balance at 31/3/42.....	£37,624	5 2			
Additions during three years ended					
31/3/45.....	1,800	5 2			
		£39,424 10 4			

Less Excess Expenditure over Revenue (General A/c).....	£4,549 9 11	
Deduct Excess Revenue over Expenditure (Local Committee A/cs.) ..	1,570 11 8	
	<u>2,978 18 3</u>	36,445 12 1

Trust Funds:

In cash held by:		
Presbyterian Church in N.S.W.....	£1,520 16 5	
Presbyterian Church in S.A. 100	0 0	
Presbyterian Church in Vic. 3,145	1 0	
	<u>£4,765 17 5</u>	

In Debentures and Stock held by:		
Presbyterian Church in Queensland Grain Ele- vator Board (V.) ...	£1,000 0 0	
Metropolitan Water, Sewer- age and Drainage Board	500 0 0	
	<u>1,500 0 0</u>	

	£6,265 17 5	
Commonwealth War Loan Bonds.....	4,500 0 0	
	<u>£10,765 17 5</u>	

Shares held by:

Presbyterian Church in N.S.W.:		
Imperial Tobacco Co. of Great Britain and Ire- land.....	£1,872 0 0	
Pindemar - Port Stephens Ltd., 1,500 shares at probate valuation ..	450 0 0	
Qantas Ltd.....	26 0 0	
Scotts Ltd.....	250 0 0	
Presbyterian Church in Vic.: Herald & Weekly Times	100 0 0	
Presbyterian Church in Queensland: Brisbane Gas Co.....	1,250 0 0	
	<u>3,948 0 0</u>	

Total Trust Funds.....	<u>14,713 17 5</u>
Properties:	
Including equities in Nursing Homes, Churches, Manses, Clubs, etc.:	
Alice Springs.....	£3,273 13 2
Birdsville.....	2,473 5 2
Beltana.....	613 18 1

Broome.....	557	13	8	
Carnarvon	1,500	6	4	
Church on Gascoyne.....	10	00		
Cloncurry Land.....	10	00		
Darwin.....	6,102	11	10	
Dunbar.....	2,370	5	8	
Fitzroy Crossing.....	2,167	19	9	
Hall's Creek.....	766	14	1	
Innamincka.....	3,079	10	3	
Mount Isa.....	2,220	11	0	
Oodnadatta.....	1,294	15	8	
Tennant Creek.....	1,635	5	9	
				28,076 10 5
Wireless Sets.....				172 0 0
Motor Cars:				
Central Patrol.....	£175	0	0	
N.A. Patrol.....	50	0	0	
Dodge	25	0	0	
				250 0 0
Office Furniture.....				158 18 10
Sundry Debtors (including advances to Padres, Nursing Homes, etc.).....				140 13 0
Funds in Hands of Local Committees:				
Birdsville.....	£486	172		
Carnarvon.....	160	1810		
Fitzroy Crossing.....	461	193		
Hall's Creek.....	217	38		
Innamincka.....	271	192		
Oodnadatta.....	1	143		
S.A. Children's Camp.....	53	38		
				£1,653 16 0
Less Beltana.....	204	18 4		
				1,448 17 8
				<u>£98,105 1 3</u>

£98,105 1 3

£98,105 1 3

I report that I have compared the above Balance Sheet of the Australian Inland Mission with the vouchers and books of account of the Mission which have been produced to me, and find same to be in accordance therewith. In my opinion such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Mission's affairs according to the best of my information and the explanations given me and as shown by the books of account of the Mission.

Sydney, 26th June, 1945.

A. W. CHAPMAN,
Chartered Accountant (Aust.).

AUSTRALIAN INLAND MISSION
NURSING HOMES AND CLUBS
LOCAL COMMITTEE'S REVENUE ACCOUNTS FOR YEARS ENDED 31st MARCH, 1943, 1944, AND 1945

EXPENDITURE				REVENUE					
	12 months to 31/3/43	12 months to 31/3/44	12 months to 31/3/45	Total		12 months to 31/3/43	12 months to 31/3/44	12 months to 31/3/45	Total
To Advertising Printing, and Stationery.....	£7 72	£4 11 4	£1 16 10	£13 15 4	By Donations, etc.	£1,168 11 4	£1,026 6 0	£1,318 2 9	£3,513 0 1
„ Bank Charges	3 6 9	2 10	2 3 2	7 10 11	„ Fees and Sale of				
„ Fuel, Light and Water.....	78 15 6	85 12 3	142 18 6	307 6 3	„ Drugs	696 1 10	470 6 2	448 12 6	1,615 0 6
„ Freight & Cartage	24 4 6	51 3 4	57 3 5	132 11 3	„ Interest	—	—	2 7 11	2 7 11
„ General Expenses	193 0 1	188 0 4	177 17 1	558 17 6	„ Subsidies and				
„ Household Exs.	817 5 8	905 7 4	863 3 8	2,585 16 8	„ Grants	499 6 3	484 6 10	553 18 6	1,537 11 7
„ Hospital Supplies	296 11 0	320 19 7	296 19 11	914 10 6	„ Rente	—	62 9 7	65 4 2	127 13 9
„ Insurance	23 6 3	23 6 3	21 7 9	68 0 3					
„ Repairs & Maintenance	47 0 9	58 14 6	99 9 2	205 4 5					
„ Rents, Rates and Taxee.....	17 18 0	16 10 8	26 13 5	61 2 1					
„ Salaries & Wages	98 5 1	43 4 2	13 15 6	155 4 0					
„ Stamps, Telegrams and Telephones	35 12 0	22 6 5	48 11 3	106 9 8					
„ Travelling Exs.	1 15 1	29 5 10	77 11 8	108 12 7					
	<u>£1,644 7 10</u>	<u>£1,751 3 0</u>	<u>£1,829 11 4</u>	<u>£5,225 2 2</u>					
„ Transfer to Accumulated Funds—Excess of Revenue over Expenditure	719 11 7	292 5 7	558 14 6	1,570 11 8					
	<u>£2,363 19 5</u>	<u>£2,043 8 7</u>	<u>£2,388 5 10</u>	<u>£6,795 13 10</u>		<u>£2,363 19 5</u>	<u>£2,043 8 7</u>	<u>£2,388 5 10</u>	<u>£6,795 13 10</u>

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BOARD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30th JUNE, 1945

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
Sundry Creditors.....	£683 9 3	Presbyterian Church of Victoria:	
Post-War Li esa use Reserve	184 17 8	Current Account.....	£2,708 0 4
Accumulated Fund:		Interest Accrued.....	53 1 2
Balance at 1/7/42.....	£2,286 16 2		£2,761 1 6
Add Net Profit for year:		Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd.:	
30th June, 1943	210 2 2	General Account.....	£41 12 3
30th June, 1944	579 16 9	Joint Board Account.....	24 5 4
30th June, 1945	662 11 8		65 17 7
	3,739 6 9	Sundry Debitor.....	815 6 5
		Furniture and Fittings at 1/7/42 ..	£275 3 0
		Addition.....	69 6 4
			£344 9 4
		<i>Less</i> Sale.....	£6 8 0
		<i>Less</i> Depreciation	48 1 8
			54 9 8
		Stock on Hand	289 19 8
		Accounts Paid in Advance—Rent ..	663 13 6
			11 15 0
	£4,607 13 8		£4,607 13 8

BOARD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE THREE YEARS ENDED 30th JUNE, 1945

	12 months to 31/3/43	12 months to 31/3/44	12 months to 31/3/45	Total		12 months to 31/3/43	12 months to 31/3/44	12 months to 31/3/45	Total
To Stock 1st July ..	£953 18 3	£756 8 6	£674 2 8	£953 18 3		£5,237 14 10	£6,287 19 9	£6,657 18 4	£18,183 12 11
„ Purchases ...	3,746 6 3	4,492 12 0	4,625 1 10	12,864 0 1	By Sales	756 8 6	674 2 8	663 13 6	663 13 6
„ Gross Profit ..	1,293 18 10	1,713 1 11	2,022 7 4	5,029 8 1	„ Stock 30th June				
	<u>£5,994 3 4</u>	<u>£6,962 2 5</u>	<u>£7,321 11 10</u>	<u>£18,847 6 5</u>		<u>£5,994 3 4</u>	<u>£6,962 2 5</u>	<u>£7,321 11 10</u>	<u>£18,847 6 5</u>
To Salaries.....	£759 3 1	£787 1 0	£1,026 6 7	£2,572 10 8	By Gross Profit ..	£1,293 18 10	£1,713 1 11	£2,022 7 4	£5,029 8 1
„ Travelling Exs. .	14 4	47 19 7	69 15 6	118 9 5	„ Interest	44 0 9	60 6 0	91 5 9	195 12 6
„ Rent.....	138 0 0	141 0 0	141 4 0	420 4 0					
„ Auditing.....	4 4 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	12 12 0					
„ Telephone ...	25 17 0	30 0 3	31 1 8	86 18 11					
„ Postages.....	20 8 4	16 14 3	19 13 5	56 16 0					
„ Advertising ..	2 12 6	1 13 9	9 1 3	13 7 6					
„ General Expenses	159 15 2	148 19 7	134 15 1	443 9 10					
„ Depreciation ..	17 3 0	15 18 9	14 19 11	48 1 8					
„ Net Profit for Year.....	210 2 2	579 16 9	662 11 8	1,452 10 7					
	<u>£1,337 19 7</u>	<u>£1,773 7 11</u>	<u>£2,113 13 1</u>	<u>£5,225 0 7</u>		<u>£1,337 19 7</u>	<u>£1,773 7 11</u>	<u>£2,113 13 1</u>	<u>£5,225 0 7</u>

We certify that we have audited the books and accounts of the Board of Religious Education for the three years ended 30th June, 1945, and that the Balance and Trading and Profit and Loss Account are correct and in accordance therewith.

Melbourne, 17th July, 1945.

MORTON, WATSON & YOUNG,
Chartered Accountants (Aust.).

CANBERRA EXECUTIVE
CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, CANBERRA—BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30th JUNE, 1945

LIABILITIES						ASSETS
Donations, Collections, etc., received on account of Church and Manse Properties (Less Interest, Insurance and Sundry Charges)		£38,997	1	8		Church and Manse Properties (at Cost) -
Parish Endowment.....		2,823	3	2		Church Building.....
Presbyterian Church in New South Wales.....	£21,042		4	5		" Grounds.....
Less Funds held on account of Parish Endowment.....	2,823		3	2		" Furnishing.....
						N.S.W. Women's Gift Window ...
						Manse (Gift of John Ross Family, Holbrook).....
		18,219	1	3		" Grounds
						" Roadway.....
						" Furnishing.....
						Assist. Minister's Cottage.....
						" " " Furnishing
						57,304 0 10
						Organ (at Cost).....
						Commissioner's Stipend Account ...
						1,809 3 8
						926 1 7
						<u>£60,039 6 1</u>
						<u>£60,039 6 1</u>

I report that I have compared the above Balance Sheet, and attached account of The Church of St. Andrew, Canberra, with the records relating thereto, and find same to be correct and in accordance therewith.

Sydney, 3rd August, 1945.

A. W. CHAPMAN, F.C.A. (Aust.),
Official Auditor to the Presbyterian Church of Australia
in the State of New South Wales.

CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW CANBERRA ACCOUNT
FROM 1st JULY, 1942, TO 30th JUNE, 1945

<p>To Insurance on Church, Manse, Cottage and Organ, for 1942-1943-1944</p> <p style="text-align: right;">£69 16 3</p> <p>“ Stationery, Telegrams, Postages and Stamp Duty on Cheques</p> <p style="text-align: right;">13 3</p> <p>“ Convener's Expenses</p> <p style="text-align: right;">5 2 6</p> <p>“ Interest Charges:</p> <p>1942—6 months £409 6 7</p> <p>1943 851 11 6</p> <p>1944 889 6 8</p> <p>1945—6 months 464 4 5</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">2,614 9 2</p> <p style="text-align: right;">£2,690 12</p> <p>“ Balance carried forward 30/6/45</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 3px double black;">38,997 18</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-bottom: 3px double black;">£41,687 2 10</p>	<p>By Balance brought forward 1/7/42</p> <p style="text-align: right;">£41,611 3 6</p> <p>“ Receipts for 3 years ended 30/6/45:</p> <p>Donations — Canberra Collection Box.....</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2 10 0</p> <p>Canberra — Refund of Insurance Premiums.....</p> <p style="text-align: right;">68 6 6</p> <p>Interest — Canberra Debt Reduc- tion Fund.....</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">5 2 10</p> <p style="text-align: right;">75 19 4</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 3px double black;">£41,687 2 10</p>
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GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S FOREIGN MISSION BOARD
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THREE YEARS. ENDING 30th JUNE, 1945

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
General:		Balance brought forward, 1st July, 1942	
Victoria—to 30/6/45	£4,200 0 0	£516 0 9	
N.S.W. —to 30/6/45.....	3,805 0 0	Less amount held by South Australian	
S.A. —to 30/12/44	325 0 0	Treasurer	158 8 6
W.A. —to 30/12/43	424 0 0		
Tas. —30/6/45.....	455 0 0		
	<hr/>		
Donations and Collections.....	£9,209 0 0	General:	
Estate of late H. J. Lawrence ...	175 ll 0	Grant to Queensland Executive ...	£1,200 0 0
Estate of late G. E. Gibhardt ...	22 8 4	N. Hey—Retiring Allowance.....	96 0 0
Sale of Booklet—"The Future of the	250 0 0	Presbyterian Church of Victoria —	
Aborigines"	7 7 1	Keeping Accounts.....	150 0 0
	<hr/>	Grant—Secretary.....	30 0 0
	£9,664 6 5	Rent of Office—Secretary.....	56 13 4
		National Mission Council Assessment	25 0 0
		Fares of Delegates to Interstate Meet-	
		ings.....	62 9 6
		Printing, Postages, Advertising, Films,	
		Petty Cash and Sundry Expenses ..	204 5 10
			<hr/>
			1,824 8 3
Ernabella:		Ernabella:	
S.A. Group—Subsidy to 30/6/45 ...	£900 0 0	Salaries:	
S.A. Dept. of Education—on Account		Rev. J. R. B. Love . . .	£975 0 0
Subsidy R. M. Trudinger.....	345 12 10	R. M. Trudinger.....	671 19 3
Child Endowment.....	502 15 0	W. B. MacDougall.....	361 6 0
General Donations.....	1,450 0 8	R. R. Henderson (6 months).....	125 0 0
S.A. Aboriginal Dept. — for Water		S. Ward (to 31/10/43).....	333 6 8
Improvements and Store.....	200 0 0	L. B. Young (to 30/9/45).....	479 3 4
H. V. McKay Charitable Trust ...	200 0 0	Dr. E. J. Davies.....	51 6 8
G. L. Owen Bequest—for Well-Sinking	200 0 0	S. Brown (to 31/12/44).....	283 6 8
Estate of late G. E. Gibhardt—for		Dr. R. Trudinger (2 months) ...	50 0 0
Well-Sinking	250 0 0	Matron—Grant.....	60 0 0
Estate of late M. G. Cuthbertson . .	200 0 0		<hr/>
Special Donations:			£3,390 8 7
Well-Sinking and Windmills ..	217 14 0	South Australian Provident Fund:	
Shearing Sheds.....	50 0 0	Rev. J. R. B. Love.....	£15 0 0
Camels.....	7 0 0	Insurance:	
Hospital Dispensary, etc.....	18 0 0	W. B. MacDougall.....	46 12 6
Cottage and Furnishings.....	810 15 6	Mrs. W. B. MacDougall.....	10 0 0
School	13 5 10	L. B. Young	24 7 6
Church Furnishings.....	12 12 0		
Pulpit.....	20 0 0		
Mission Box Committee.....	60 0 0		

P.W.M.U. — Refund of Salary Dr.		
E. J. Davies.....	51	6 8
Sale of Wool, Skins, etc.....	4,026	2 0
Sale of Publications.....	7	3 0
Interest.....	991	
	<hr/>	
Kunmunya:		
General Donations.....	£69	7 6
P.W.F.U.—Refund of Salary Dr. E. J. Davies.....	137	6 8
	<hr/>	
Moola Bulla:		
Donations.....	£6	13 11
	<hr/>	
	9,551	16 7
	206	14 2
	6	13 11

Children's Allowances:		
Rev. J. R. B. Love ..	£280	12 6
W. B. MacDougall ..	23	15 0
L. B. Young.....	60	0 0
Dr. R. Trudinger ..	10	0 0
	<hr/>	
	374	7 6
Grant to Mission.....	1,725	0 0
Building Costs.....	2,923	5 6
Fares, Freights, Outfit Allowances and Incidental Expenses.....	530	191
Printing, Postages and Sundry Ex- penses	298	11
Truck Renewal Fund.....	180	00
Shearing Wages, Stores and Expenses	476	160
Camels.....	21	189
Insurance—Station Staff.....	70	101
Films, etc.....	36	129
Donation—Mission Box Committee ..	60	0 0
Hospital Equipment.....	17	1 11
Well-Sinking (Alalka) Pump and Plant	128	6 11
Fee—Correspondence Course re Shear- ing	21	0 0
Brick-making Machine and Cement Mixer.....	105	11 3
	<hr/>	
	10,455	19 5

Kunmunya:		
Salaries*:		
K. L. Drew (10 months).....	£208	68
Rev. A. J. Heggie (7 months) ..	209	173
Rev. G. W. Holmes (to 28/2/45) ..	800	00
L. B. Young (4 months).....	83	68
J. W. Paton (to 30/4/44).....	458	68
Dr. E. J. Davies.....	112	13 4
	<hr/>	
	£1,872	10 7

Presbyterian Church of Victoria:		
Beneficiary Rate, Rev. G. W. Holmes	39	13 4
Insurance:		
L. B. Young.....	12	3 9
K. L. Drew.....	12	4 10

Children's Allowances:			
Rev. G. W. Holmes ..	£72 18 4		
L. B. Young.....	52 10 0		
K. L. Drew.....	33 6 8		
Rev. A. J. Heggie	41 19 7		
		<u>200 14 7</u>	
Grant to Mission.....		1,230 0 0	
Agency Account.....		100 0 0	
Boat Renewal Fund.....		120 0 0	
Fares, Freights, Outfit Allowance, etc.		576 15 11	
Sundry Expenses, Films, etc.....		32 5 9	
		<u>4,196 8 9</u>	
Moola Bulla:			
Salary—Rev. H. W. Hovenden ...		£51 5 0	
Fares, etc.....		16 5 8	
		<u>67 10 8</u>	
Balance carried forward, 30th June, 1945:			
Presbyterian Church of Victoria:			
Balance in Account.....	£2,293 5 4		
Presbyterian Church of Victoria:			
Cash in Hand.....	126 18 6		
South Australian Treasurer.....	107 7 6		
		<u>*2,527 11 4</u>	
		<u>£19,429 11 1</u>	

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* The balance of £2,527/11/4 includes:

- £1,000 (legacy, to be used for erection of church);
 - £810 (contributions from Victorian P.W.M.U., for erection of Cottage);
 - £502 (held on account of Child Endowment);
 - £450 (earmarked for well-sinking);
 - £40 (held for church furnishings);
- which liabilities total approximately £275 more than the apparent credit balance.

Audited and found correct,
MORTON, WATSON & YOUNG,
Chartered Accountants (Aust.)

Melbourne, 24th July, 1945.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S FOREIGN MISSION BOARD
PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT
STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING 30th JUNE, 1945

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
Contributions from Foreign Mission Department, Presbyterian Church of Victoria.....	£100 0 0	Printing.....	£328 8 4
Contributions from Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union, Presbyterian Church of Victoria.....	200 0 0	Balance carried forward 30/6/45	107 10 1
Donation.....	1 0 0		
Sale of Booklets.....	13418 5		
	<u>£435 18 5</u>		<u>£435 18 5</u>

JOHN FRAZER FOREIGN MISSIONS SCHOLARSHIP FUND
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FROM 1st JULY, 1942, TO 30th JUNE, 1945

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
Balance brought forward 1st July, 1942	£143 12 0	Scholarship: Miss M. Cranstoun.....	£30 0 0
Presbyterian Church of New South Wales Scholarship Committee—Interest on Endowment.....	105 0 0	Balance carried forward 30/6/45	218 12 0
	<u>£248 12 0</u>		<u>£248 12 0</u>

Melbourne, 24th July, 1945.

Audited and found correct,
MORTON, WATSON & YOUNG,
..... Chartered Accountants (Aust.).

BOAT AND TRUCK RENEWAL FUND

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
Balance brought forward 1/7/42:		Expenditure—Boat, New Sails and Decking	£204 4 4
Boat Fund	£63 2 0	Costs—Freight, etc., re wreck.....	314 3 11
Truck Fund.....	129 0 0		£518 8 3
	£192 2 0	Truck (New Parts, old Truck).....	£52 7 6
Transferred from General Assembly's Foreign Mission Board Account:		New Truck.....	972 17 4
On account Boat, Kunmunya..	£120 0 0	Tyres, etc.....	139 18 6
Donations for New Launch ..	406 1 10		1,165 3 4
Bank Interest.....	7 2 1	Balance as at 30th June, 1945:	
	533 3 11	Boat Fund.....	£77 17 8
Transferred from General Assembly's Foreign Mission Board Account:		Truck Fund.....	33 4 10
On account Truck, Ernabella.....	£180 0 0		111 2 6
Donations for New Truck ..	248 13 0		
Sale, Old Truck and Fittings.....	280 15 2		
Bequest.....	360 0 0		
	1,069 8 2		
	£1,794 14 1		£1,794 14 1

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Melbourne, 24th July, 1945.

Audited and found correct,
MORTON, WATSON & YOUNG,
Chartered Accountants (Aust.).

JOHN FRAZER FOREIGN MISSION ENDOWMENT ACCOUNT
FROM 1st JULY, 1942, TO 30th JUNE, 1945

To the Treasurer, Board of Missions—Interest to 30th June, 1945 £105 0 0 „ Balance carried forward, 30th June, 1945 1,000 0 0 <hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin: 5px 0;"/> <p style="text-align: right; margin: 0;"><u>£1,105 0 0</u></p>	By Balance brought forward, 1st July, 1942 £1,000 0 0 „ Interest to 30th June, 1945 105 0 0 <hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black; margin: 5px 0;"/> <p style="text-align: right; margin: 0;"><u>£1,105 0 0</u></p>
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CLARA KIRKLAND BEQUEST ACCOUNT
ABORIGINES MISSION IN NORTHERN QUEENSLAND AND WESTERN AUSTRALIA
FROM 5th JUNE, 1943, to 30th JUNE, 1945

	Interest	Principal		Interest	Principal
To Costs in Estate.....	£7 0 0				
„ Stamp Duty.....	0 0 7				
„ 2% on Revenue.....	5 17 2				
„ Balance carried forward, 30th June, 1945	178 2 1	2,960 0 0			
	<u>£190 19 10</u>	<u>£2,960 0 0</u>			
				By Estate late Clara Kirkland	£2,960 0 0
				„ Interest:	
				1943	£32 3 2
				1944	104 16 3
				1945	54 0 5
				<u>£190 19 10</u>	<u>£2,960 0 0</u>

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Sydney, 3rd August, 1945.

Examined and found correct,
A. W. CHAPMAN, F.C.A. (Aust.),
Official Auditor to the Presbyterian Church of Australia
in the State of New South Wales.

ALEXANDER EARLE McCracken BEQUEST ACCOUNT
FROM 1st JULY, 1942, TO 30th JUNE, 1945

	Interest	Principal		Interest	Principal
To Payments as per Blue Book, page 91, 1942:			By Balance brought forward, 1/7/42 ..		£4,000 0 0
Presbyterian Church of Tasmania— Home Mission Committee.....	£77 6 8		„ Interest Received from:		
Presbyterian Church of S.A.—Home Mission Committee.....	193 6 8		Current Account.....	£31 3 6	
Presbyterian Church of W.A.—Home Mission Committee.....	<u>193 6 8</u>		Commonwealth Loan.....	13 8 10	
	£464 0 0		Mortgages.....	563 4 9	
„ 2% on Revenue.....	12 4 9				
„ Stamp Duty on Cheques.....	2 2				
	<u>£476 6 11</u>				
„ Balance carried forward, 30th June, 1945	<u>131 10 2</u>	<u>£4,000 0 0</u>			
	<u>£607 17 1</u>	<u>£4,000 0 0</u>			
				<u>£607 17 1</u>	<u>£4,000 0 0</u>

to
0
VI

Examined and found correct,
A. W. CHAPMAN, F.C.A. (Aust.),
Official Auditor of the Presbyterian Church of Australia
in the State of New South Wales.

Sydney, 3rd August, 1945.

CHARLES D. LLOYD (AUST.) BEQUEST
STATEMENT FOR THREE YEARS ENDING 30th JUNE, 1945

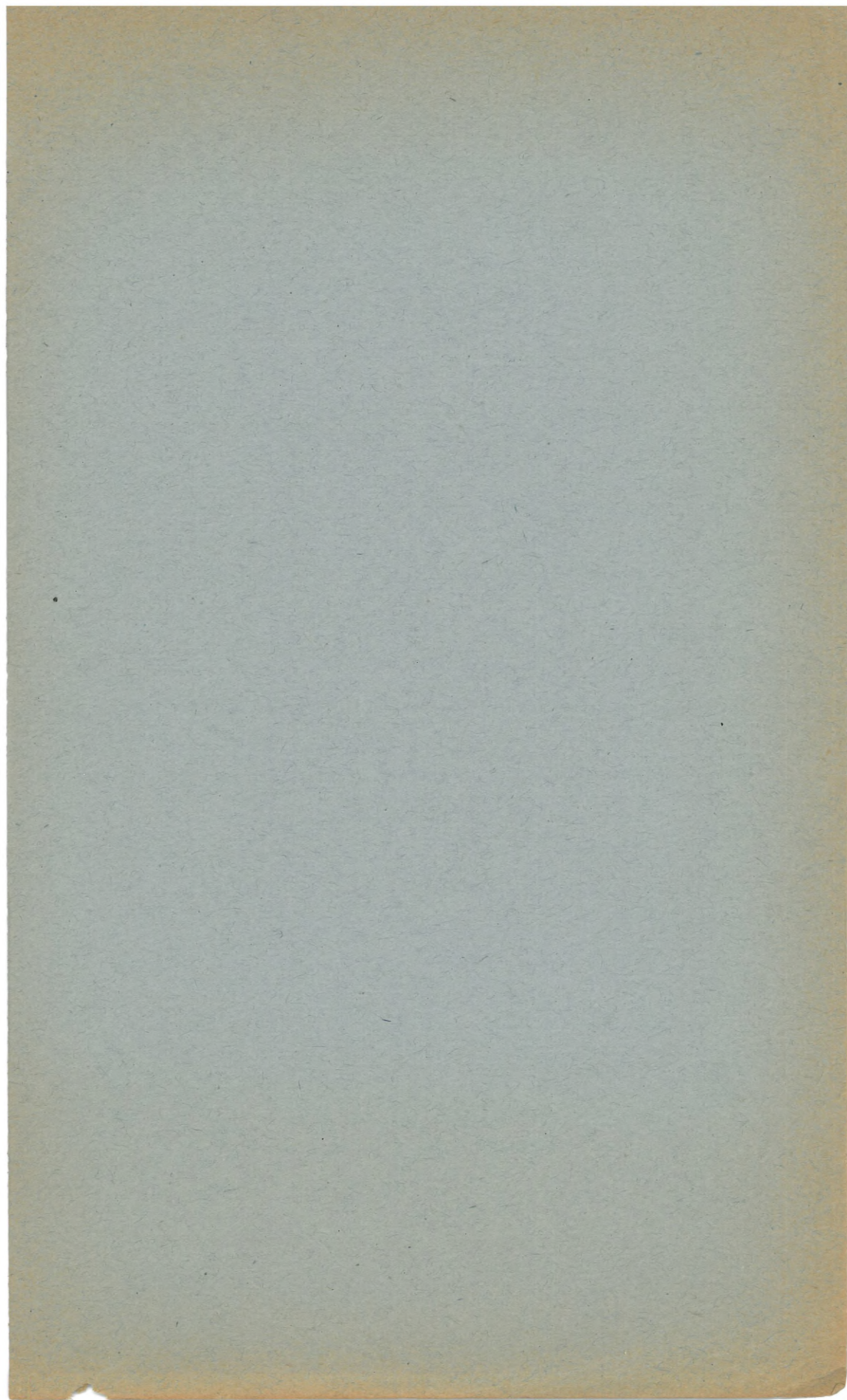
RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS
Balance brought forward, 1st July, 1942	Balance carried forward, 30th June, 1945
£22,148 0 0	£22,273 0 0
Received from Executors of Estate.....	
125 0 0	
£22,273 0 0	£22,273 0 0

CHARLES D. LLOYD BEQUEST (AUST.) REVENUE ACCOUNT
REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THREE YEARS ENDING 30th JUNE, 1945

RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS
Balance brought forward, 1st July, 1942.....	Grants:
£44 17 10	Presbyterian Church, Canberra
Accumulated Revenue received from Executors of	Presbyterian Church of Queensland
Estate.....	Presbyterian Church of S.A.....
14 15 0	Presbyterian Church of Tasmania
Net Interest on Trust Fund.....	Presbyterian Church of W.A.....
2,612 18 3	£400 0 0
£2,672 11 1	350 0 0
	580 0 0
	580 0 0
	395 0 0
	£2,605 0 0
	Printing, Postages, etc.....
	1 16 6
	3 %> on Revenue t) Church Expenses Fund, Presbyterian
	1 0 1
	Balance carried forward, 30th June, 1945
	64 14 6
	£2,672 11 1

	Minute No.	Page No.
Presbyteries .. 48 (4), 293 (Wagga Wagga), 153 (13), 164 (9) (Goulburn), 138		
Sessions.....		
Trustees (Queensland and W.A.)	275 (5)	
State Theological Education Committees ..	153 (3, 12)	
Ministers.....	138 (3)	
Clerks of G.A. of A.....	176 (7), 181, 317, 318	
Representatives to World Council of Churches ..	290 (4)	88
Law Officers (re Deed of Union)	291	
Miscellaneous:		
Answers to Dissent.....	284, 337	
Braddon Charge Created.....	164 (7)	126
Dissent (Christian Unity).....	283	
Dissent (P. L. Forster, anent Code).....	323	138
Lord's Supper.....	25	26
Loyal Address.....	16	25
Message to Church Committees.....	336	
Moderator Elected.....	ll	
Minute Commission.....	345	
Private Sitzings	56, 82, 204	
Shorthand Writers.....	57	
Thanks.....	343	
World Communion Sunday.....	289	
O v p . . r P G i .		
I. Re Immigration.....	229-231	90
II. Re Re-Marriage of Divorced Persons.....	35	90
III. Re Uniformity of Marriage and Divorce Laws ..	37	90
IV. Re Women Candidates for Ministry	294, 295	91
V. Re Eligibility of Women for Eldership ...	297-302	91
VI. Re Assistance to Church in W.A.	42, 50	92
VII. Re Overturists at Bar of House.....	74	93
VIII. Re Associate Members of Courts.....	198	93
IX. Re Amendment of Deed of Union.....	303	93
X. Re Amendment of Regulations (Reception of Ministers).....	292a	94
XI. Re Uniformity of Standards for Training Women Workers.....	296	94
XII. Re Method of Nominating Moderator-General ..	269	95
XIII. Re Method of Electing Moderator-General ..	270	95
XIV. Re Membership of Board of Missions ..	189, 190	96
Personal:		
Beckett, Chaplain K. C. W.....	180	
Borland, Chaplain Frank.....	180	
Coombes, Rev. V. W.....	83 (a)	
Corr, Chaplain B. J. R.....	180	
Cox, late Chaplain Rev. Clive.....	181	
Davidson, Rev. A. I.....	176 (4), 179	142
Dean, late Chaplain Rev. Ross.....	181	
Dyster, Rev. K.....	101	162
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