

Three worlds meet on mission

WCC conference 'a milestone'

From Warren Clarnette, UCNNS

THE GREATEST international gathering of Christians of many denominations ever held in Australia ended on May 24, and for all the Australian public knew it might never have happened.

Thanks to the "couldn't care the very oppressed and the very



less" attitude of the Australian media (and a journalists' strike) most people across the continent will be unaware that the World Council of Churches' Melbourne conference on mission and evangelism ever took place.

There is, perhaps, nothing remarkable in the fact that 600 people, 500 of them from overseas, had gathered in Melbourne. But they were Christians, and they came to spend two weeks in discussing mission and evangelism.

And they came out of an enormous diversity of cultures and traditions. The three worlds were there, and that meant the juxtaposition of opposites: the very rich and the very poor, the very white and the very black,

NON - EVENT?

WAS Your Kingdom Come a non-event to the people of Australia?

Apart from brief mentions of the statement on the needs of Australian Aborigines, little general use was made of news from this great conference. Listeners to ABC religious programs, and readers of some church newspapers, seem to have been the sole audience for Your Kingdom Come — a conference that had messages for every Australian. The editor comments on page 2.

oppressive. All were represented and all sat down and talked together. They also worshipped and prayed together.

It is difficult to see this conference making much difference to the Australian churches. This is because the conference was not intended to illuminate Australian problems. The issues which flared throughout the fortnight touched on almost every pressure point on the agenda of world tensions: the status of women; the arms race; the oppressive role played by missionaries and mission boards from well-to-do western churches; the violation of human rights everywhere; and interference in national economies by powerful neighbours. These are not specifically Australian problems.

In fact, much of the fortnight was dominated by awareness of the reign of terror now being visited on many parts of Latin America. It was not surprising that the relationship of Christianity to political repression, the manipulation of worldwide capitalism and the legacy of white western imperialism on the poor and deprived peoples of the third world, were recurrent themes. At the same time, there was a message for Australians in the quite strong overseas indictment of our treatment of the Aboriginal people, and of the Australian churches' conspiracy of silence in this matter.

WCC-inspired jamboree for anti-capitalist Christians.

It would be wrong to accept the argument of some Melbourne commentators writing for a section of the Christian community - that the WCC is more concerned about solving political problems (if you can call the long night of terror now falling on the people of Uruguay, or the slow hernorrhage of Aboriginal dignity in Australia as "problems") than with the stated theme of the conference: the Kingdom of God.

Wanted: friends for 1000 old people

AN EXPLOSION in the amount of caring for elderly people will be felt in Sydney this month, with Wesley Central Mission's launching of Do. Care, a program with the far from modest aim of having 1000 volunteers visiting 1000 old people in their homes regularly -- within 12 months. Do. Care (the full stop indicates that the first word is an abbreviation of "domiciliary") is already in operation in Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth. Church officials in Brisbane are considering establishing it there.

were ready to accept volunteers - and we received 200 calls in the next few days," she says. "We have 167 volunteers on file from that, plus calls from elderly people needing companionship. We're still getting four or five calls a day from people wanting to help."

The program, to cover the inner Sydney metropolitan area, will be formally launched in the Lyceum Theatre in Pitt St at 3pm on Sunday, June 15, in a ceremony in which Ron Williams, director of community services for South Sydney Municipal Council, will relate some of his observations about the need for personal friendship and help among Sydney's senior citizens. "This council area is densely populated by the elderly," Lyn Russcher says, "many of them in fairly isolated conditions. But this isolation is not experienced only in our poorer areas, and not only by people who are shut-in by loss of their families, or illness. "In many wealthier areas, we have found there are people who participate in social activities - they play bowls, or attend senior citizens' activities - but go home to suffer from loneliness and isolation."



The general secretary of the Australian Council of Churches responds on page 12.

But it would be wrong to regard the conference as a

The power of prayer

A MANTLE of prayer from the south of the state to Brisbane, that embraced Christians of many faiths, was extended last month to protect UC minister's six-year-old son, bitten by a funnel-web spider.

The boy, Jonathon Rowland, was bitten by a male spider considered more venomous than the female - and was taken from West Ryde to the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children. Doctors told the family that the first six hours of the boy's hospital visit would be crucial.

Jonathon is the son of Rev John Rowland, of Griffith. Within hours of the spider attack, the word had reached Rev Ron Elliott of Temora UC, who passed it on to other church members. In the succeeding hours, many people paused in prayer for young Jonathon: at 4.30pm, the news came that his life had been saved. Doctors were astonished by his recovery. In succeeding days, word of the extent of the mantle of protection returned to Riverina presbytery. Catholic nuns in Sydney and Brisbane had been praying for young Jonathon. So had members of other protestant denominations. In Jonathon's hometown, Griffith, a playmate had received news of the boy's revival and ran across the street to his parents, calling: "It works ... it works ... it works."

This Melbourne event will be a milestone in the long march of world Christianity since 1910; a march towards not only the unity of Christians but the recognition that discipleship is an invitation to discomfort of one kind or another.

The participants came not promoting some political or sectional cause but genuinely to ponder the meaning of the prayer - Your Kingdom Come.

Conference reports — pages 6 & 7.

A stranger to Sydney; Do. Care co-ordinator, Lyn Russcher, has faith that the target can be reached.

"Our phone number was given in a Mike Walsh show some time ago - before we

... and care

MOTHER'S DAY brought bitter news to two West Australian women, who learned that their 15-year-old daughters had been killed in a school coach crash while touring in western NSW. The accident made headlines across the nation. The driver, too, died after his vehicle slid off the muddy edge of the Sturt Highway at daylight a few km from Hay. Survivors of the accident were entrusted to the care of our church: they were accommodated at Claughton House in Hay, a UC student hostel operated by a local council and the Riverina presbytery. The responsibility was not a minor one: 82 schoolchildren, teachers and drivers, 27 of them the victims of minor injuries, all virtually a continent away from their friends and family. The WA visitors spent 30 hours at Claughton House, a time in which warm hearts and loving hands brought a caring to them. that none could have foreseen. Telecom installed three phones in the hostel: they were in constant use for the first 12 hours. A Hay mother of nine organised bedding, then set about washing mud and blood from clothes, luggage and personal effects. A volunteer ambulance driver's wife produced sandwiches and coffee for 80 in a process that started before the injured had arrived in town. Seven people stayed awake during a long Sunday night, to calm the sleep of those whose dreams were troubled. Local teachers, and the teachers travelling with the children, united in loving care. Sorrow, fear, pain, cold, grief ..., all were met and understood by people who had the will, the love, and the physical facilities to care.

Lyn Russcher has spent her first two months at Wesley meeting and talking with community aid services social workers, Meals on Wheels, and other organisations in a position to point out cases of need for care to Do. Care. The 1000 Do. Care volunteers will offer companionship in regular visits to the people they care for. Each volunteer will be given an introduction to one particular person — and will not be required to visit more than one regularly. The volunteers will receive four hours of instruction before they take up their tasks from Rev

LYN RUSSCHER delighted by enthusiasm.

Arthur Oakley, head of the pastoral department of the Mission.

The training will stress their commitment and teach them some of the basic skills they will need to be comfortable themselves during the visits, and ensure that they bring comfort and friendship to the people they visit.

"We want to reach people in our community of advanced age, who need companionship through a regular visit from a person who does care," Lyn Russcher says. "The numbers of the old are growing, and their social, psychological and physiological needs are growing, too.

"I had no idea when I came to Sydney from Perth earlier this year, that I would be involved in anything like this - 1 was a sales executive in private industry before — but the Lord has laid a very strong hand on me, and convinced me to work full-time for him. "I came to Sydney in trust and this door just opened to me. There are many facets to Do. Care, but at least in getting the project to its target in the next year - the 1000 volunteers it will be very much a selling job, and I think my experience at this will help." Lyn Russcher can be reached through Wesley Central Mission, 210 Pitt St, Sydney 2000. Telephone: 61 8741,

Jonathon has entered Christian folklore. In Colleambally, UC members were relieved by the news of Jonathon, but reflected sadly on the fact that a young wardmate of his at Camperdown, for whom they had also prayed, had succumbed to death. There are miracles of faith, but they may be hard to understand.

Church speaks up Ministry of the Well-versed **Billy Graham heeding** inside, Your Kingdom Come for Tutu 12 handicapped 5 views ... 9 you'll doctors pages 6, 7 find:

Registered for posting as a publication - Category A

WCC move to help pastor

A DELEGATION of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (WARC) and the World Council of Churches (WCC) has failed, despite repeated attempts, to discuss with Taiwanese government officials the plight of Rev C. M. Kao, general secretary of the Presbyterian Church Taiwan.

Pastor Kao was arrested on April 24 for his alleged involvement in harbouring Mr Shih Ming Deh who was charged as the organiser of the so-called Kaohsiung incident on consisted of Propst Uwe Hollm, December 10, 1979. Mr Deh deputy Bishop of the has since been sentenced to life Evangelical Church in Berlinimprisonment.

weeks after the arrest of Pastor and Dr William P. Thompson Kao, the delegation had been of WCC central committee.

convinced that the case Pastor Kao should be taken up with Taiwanese authorities at the highest level.

In a statement released Tapei last month at the end of its three-day visit, the delegation said: "It appears that when the Presbyterian church Taiwan began to articulate the relevance of the Christian Gospel to their daily life in this society, that the church and its leaders became the objects of persecution."

The ecumenical delegation Brandenburg, Dr Edmond Per-Arriving in Taiwan two ret, general secretary of WARC

HOW OFTEN one has heard said, that if you want to keep a secret, you should keep it to yourself. I could summarise the attitude of a number of religious journalists in Sydney by adding to that old saw the words: "or get the Australian Council of Churches to publicise it".

I write these words as the world conference named Your Kingdom Come draws to a close in Melbourne. As editor,-I have had a strong interest in reporting preparations for this conference; as Christians, we all have a strong interest in learning how the conference itself not offered this courtesy.) was conducted; and this interest prayers and special studies usbook over the weeks before the

conference the orthodox rites. No one can tell him.

'Let's open the church — but not too far'

LIKE the apostle Paul in several of his letters Jurgen theological issues at a very high level of abstraction and penetration, and then, after the disciplined struggle, comes right down to earth.

He speaks forthrightly about politics, psychology and the life of the parish church.

This article reflects the material presented in his most recent work — The Open Church (1978).

As his theology arose out of the knowledge of the God who suffers, so Moltmann's clesiology begins with people who have a passion for life. • no one has to conceal his or enables this saving power to What Moltmann sees for the Anaesthetised by the incessant society, people can be as dead as they say God is.

Moltmann says, "The vicious cycle of poverty, unemployment, crime and prison becomes larger. Why? Because people is no agreement, and

become indifferent to other peobecause they do not ple Moltmann deals with want to see the misery of other persons. In this way they try to escape their own suffering By our failure to share in the lives of others, we neglect our own life. We isolate ourselves, we insulate our lives, we imprison ourselves in our own 'good fortune'."

Not alone

The task before the local church is to create community, that is, a new kind of living together that affirms that: • no one is alone with his or

her problems, her disabilities.

horror portrayed on the media, • there are not some whoand the sterility of bureaucratic have the say, and others who have nothing to say, neither the old, nor the little

ones, are isolated, • one bears the other, even

when it is unpleasant and there

<image/> <text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text>	for his friends. You friends." (John 15:13) / and Moses were als "friends of God". In a g for worship, can the f God be anything le friends to each other? Discovery The discovery of perience in the life of gregation leads to a cell a feast of freedom, a st the life of the resu SOUT Unit Celebrates its weekend of 17th tions. Please co
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PAGE 2 — Forward, June 11, 1980	

A personal tribute to Jurgen Moltmann - the second and final article by Rev Rob Gallacher, UC minister of Glen Warerley, Victoria.

• the one can also at times Curiously, the severe oppres the other needs it.

Messianic role in contemporary suffering. society. People so incorporated praised.

friendship in a congregation over and over again.

hn 15:13) Abraham can the friends of nything less than ach other?

scovery

overy of this exthe life of a conads to a celebration. edom, a sharing in the resurrection.

> SOUTH BATHURST (ex-Methodist) **Uniting Church** ates its centenary this year (1980). The end of 17th August is the date for celebra-

Finding out by ACCident

Comment by Paul Lynch

OUR ASSEMBLY officials ask the ACC for a list of distinguished conferees passing through Sydney. No list provided

NO SENIOR officials of our church are offered observer or visitor status. (I can't imagine why our Assembly president is

REV DR PHILIP POTTER is has been heightened by the smuggled through Sydney before the conference, his ing the Your Kingdom Come presence concealed from religious journalists. Similar precautions to sneak Daisy Yet, consider these incidents: Gopal Ratnam of India and AN ORTHODOX journalist Bernard Spong of South Africa seeks repeatedly to find out who through the city without notice is coming to YKC to represent fail by accident: and Forward readers, accordingly, can read

distinguished Christians. Is this World War II? Are these Allied flyers? Is this the Netherlands? I SPEAK to senior journalists at 2CH and ABC news. Neither has heard of the Melbourne conference, more than halfway through it

I understand that the charter of ACC calls in part for the organisation "to facilitate a more effective Christian presence in the nation and the world". In the month of May and for some time beforehand, in my YKC interests I didn't see this happening

I'm told that Melbourne colleagues attending the conference found day-to-day operathe views of these two tions working well. And the knowing.

ACC had earlier offered accreditation for a Forward representative to attend Your Kingdom Come. But Forward has neither the staff nor the budget to send anyone off for a fortnight, and as a result, the newspaper and you, its readers, apparently dropped off the edge of the earth.

We received no news from Melbourne, while, with clarity, regularity and consideration, the WCC in Geneva continued to send us material about everything going on about the globe --- in countries other than Australia.

In our last issue, unaware that your church newspaper was not on the Your Kingdom Come mailing list, we promised you a full report on Your Kingdom Come this time. Now, you can see our report: whether it's a full report, as you will understand. I have no way of

20th century thinkers: an occasional series

leave the other in peace when sion of a Nazi prison camp or a Korean gaol has helped many Congregational life of this to rediscover this New Testaquality can bring people alive, ment experience. Thus it has and in so doing, can fulfil a nothing to do with a flight from

The people of God are called into the body of Christ are sav- to face reality together, to go ed. The powers of death and through "death" to the exmeaninglessness are driven perience of "resurrection". back. Hope is realised. God is Hope and struggle go hand in hand, as the people of the The atmosphere of open church live the story of Jesus

become real. When some flesh congregation today goes step for such people to undersand blood person actually likes beyond "the communion of tand themselves as a "messianic you, your freedom grows. saints" described in the Apos- community". Also there are Friends open up to each other tle's Creed, beyond the "gatherfree space in which they can ing of believers" created by the ship". It is difficult to maintain Reformation emphasis on Word a deep level of intimacy with a Jesus, through his passion, and Sacraments, beyond even large number when people are did this for the disciples. "There the "community of brothers already carrying heavy loads; is no greater love than this, that (and sisters)" as the Confessing when time is at a premium. a man should lay down his life Church described itself in the when people are so diverse, and

> Moltmann seeks the conwere also called gregation which is described as God". In a gathering "open friendship". "Open friendship is the way to experience the presence of Christ ever more deeply and

surely." In this way he seeks to some members of the congregadeal with the gap between the tion to develop open friendship. church as portrayed in the New Such occasions of intimacy, Testament, and the church of trust and friendship do enliven his own experience.

He seems to be speaking against a background where a this point, and I begin to grow too far.

Please contact Jean Peters, 246 Rankin St, it. Ph (O63) 311363.

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ther information write to or phone: ecretary, R. R. Iredale, 6 Shaftsbury West Ryde 2114. Phone: (O2) 85 6931.

congregation is like a crowded train — people physically proximate, sharing a common direction, yet not in communication with each other.

Isolated

My own experience in suburban congregation dicates that it is true of Australia that many people are isolated, and that they are seldom touched at any vital level of their being. There is an exciting response to the gospel which awakens the passion for life and for the fellowship which nourishes it.

But it is still an enormou limitations on "open friendends. You are my days of its opposition to Hitler. when the minister has so many meetings to attend.

Limits

The most I expect is that there will be some openings for the worship — within limits.

Moltmann goes far beyond

uneasy. He argues that worship services depend too much on the clergy, and that they have become events "for" the congregation instead of events "of" the congregation. He advocates spontaneous lay participation in worship but without addressing the multitude of problems this poses for both ministers and

He discards infant baptism in favour of forming congregations from those who have been baptised in response to a call. He advocates the proliferation of "small, freely constituted, comprehendible communities" which would seem to imply viability without ordained ministry.

Overall, he appears to be opening congregational life, not only to friendship, but also to the possibility of gross extreme liberalism and inept handling. These are strange conclusions for one who begins with such a strong emphasis on what God has done in Christ.

That most welcome spark which Moltmann fans into rigorous life with the theology of hope and his poignant perception of the pain of God, is in danger of escalating without control into a destructive fire.

This exhilarating theologian has really helped me to discover the open church, and I am excited, even if I am reluctant to take all the risks involved. Yes, let's open the church, but not



Applications for prospectus should be addressed to the Principal, 45 Park Road, Burwood 2134. Phone: 747 1266

'Breathe upon these, that they may live'

HOW DO YOU have 80-plus people experience in 24 hours together what people from all over the state are feeling and hoping about the Uniting Church?

How do you get a disparate group from many different starting points to listen together in depth to what the church is saying to itself about its inner life?

How do you get a commi ty of a day to produce from its brief collective mind some constructive thoughts about the way we can make our church become what we dream?

These are the questions the committee to review synod structures wrestled with, when it planned the Naamaroo conference. Its answers to those questions produced an intensive periencing. Resourceful people familiar with the tools and techniques of group dynamics helped to work out the

The purpose of the weekend was presented clearly at its beginning. The committee, having researched the church across the state, could have prepared a report, and presented it formally to synod - take it or leave it. But after a great deal of time spent listen. ing to each other, committee members felt it important to have a wider representative BRINGING 91 delegates from group do some deep and honest listening to the data as well -

that data being feedback from various levels of life in the UC. was reminded of the comm tee's terms of reference --- "to examine the effectiveness of the working of the Uniting Church in NSW".

Not everyone at Naamaroo was aware of this reference

New Church

Women head

BAPTIST Mrs Gladys West has been installed as the new president of Australian Church Women's NSW unit.

In a moving ceremony Northside Baptist Church, Crows Nest, Mrs West received from her predecessor. Catholic Mrs Marie McCann, the president's bible. The new president's inaugural address was titled Serving God Troubled Times. Mrs McCann was president for two years.

ESTABLISHED in terms drafted in October 1978 by synod "to examine the effectiveness of the working of the Uniting Church in NSW", the committee to review synod structures last month conferred for a weekend with representatives of synod, boards, presbyterles, parishes and UC members without organisational affiliations. It explained its findings to date, and it listened to what the conferees had to say in response. From this meeting, the committee will draft its closing report to synod later this year. Acting convener, Rev Bill Adams, reflects in this article on the weekend meeting at Naamaroo. Rev Russell Davies, who attended on behalf of the Board of Communications Services, reports below.

point, or of its implications. The task, obviously, is not one looking simply at structures. but of finding out how well they are working, and suggesting new ways of improving their effectiveness.

The conference, therefore. was fed a large piece of gathered information, asked to ponder it listen to it, and respond to it with some degree of interpreta tion. The information we were program of different styles of able to feed in, had been sought, mutual study, sharing and ex- gathered and processed by the committee from a major survey. interviews, and observations of the church at work.

> I think the delegates at Naamaroo found it an incredibly difficult assignment to cope with so much information of such varied meaning. Any simple notions they may have had of the dimensions of the task, would certainly have been dispelled.

Experiences were planned for the conference, to allow the about the way we have to get people present to feel the significance of decisions, and attitudes we all have to express. To openly declare ones' self on an issue is quite different from studying it in an armchair. A brief game called Voting with your Feet made that possible on a lighthcarted level.

Another feeling experience set deliberately not in a church organisation, but in a fictitious business corporation. It forced all of us through intensive feelings of frustration, confusion; anger and hopelessness.

Delegates were amazed at what came out of their experience at this point: you could almost see people's brains making the connection between the fictional setting and the real

There were clear message together in our own God-given assignment.

Special input was sought and received from three people. DR GRAHAM FERGUSON spoke on law and gospel prepared statement on Christian basics of importance to a church on the way: reminder that grace is primary. was the simulation game called THE MODERATOR, Rev Up and Down the Organisation, Peter Davis, led a devotional segment on the priority of mission, plugging into the matchless information that had come out of the state-wide survey, that revealed by far the best feature of the church to be its emphasis on mission. Effectiveness, therefore, had to do with how well we are able to answer that missionary call. DR GEOFF PETERSON drew us together, after the shattering church of which we are a part. experience of the simulation

'We've made a good start'

all over NSW to look at synod structures could have led to a rare old donnybrook — the riding of hobby horses, the ven At the outset, the conference ting of dissatisfaction with the structures and performances of synod and presbyteries --- but it was not like that at all.

"I gained the impression that provided people understood the structures and the conciliar nature of the Uniting Church, the structures were serving the church reasonably well," said former NSW Moderator, Rev Ron Sparks, after the conference

"I felt there was less concern about actual structures, and more concern about inter personal relationships at all levels, and that was encouraging. People don't mind that there's a board to deal with a particular aspect of the church's life, but they do react if this is heavyhanded," Mr Sparks said. This did not surprise Rev Bill Adams, acting convener of the

Committee to Review Synod

By Russell Davies

Structures. The committee itself had changed direction last year following a survey which revealed that the greatest concern across the church was with the relationships between people and their attitudes to the structures, rather than with the structures themselves.

"We recognise that no structure is perfect," Mr Adams said. "Our structures need to be questioned, modified and changed as necessary, so we have to keep the door open for constant review. This is probably a 10-year job, so the synod needs to set up procedures for continuing reappraisal."

It may well take 10 years before people learn to read UC regulations and structures the light of the Basis of Union. rather than through their old denominational glasses.

This will become easier as tasks and objectives in the UC are spelled out more clearly.

The conference certainly took several steps along this sense that we have not yet arroad.

Sub-groups brought suggestions and evaluations covering is a more biblical description of many areas, and these will be the poeple of God than any put together by the committee other we could find, so we are in its report to synod.

Some delegates were clearly one. frustrated that these issues were not debated and voted on by the ference. I heard the basic finconference itself. Like me they dings of the committee reapparently read the lines in the affirmed: people said in many conference invitation which different ways, that being effect secretary of the alliance, says spoke of planning, and glossed tive as a church is a people the decision was prompted by over the lines which spoke of listening and sharing.

ministering synod structures, who could have felt threatened by the conference, showed great tional things, the way we move willingness to listen and be vulnerable.

The real test will come when church has the patience and will prepared next morning processes of change with and read the scriptures, sensitivity. I hope we pass the test.

Card gets into wrong hands

AUSTRALIA'S oldest bank has found a brand-new way to let total strangers learn how much money depositors have in their accounts — and equip those strangers to make unauthorised withdrawals.

These two things are possible, using Handycard — an imprinted plastic card that allows its holder to extract up to \$200 a day in cash from particular accounts. The card is designed for count numbers. The informaputerised "Handybank" occupant of the child's home machines in the outer walls of who left four years ago. know a "Personal Identification former address. Number" - PIN - and push No improper use has been buttons feeding that number in- made of these banking to that computer. The computer accepts the insertion of disgorge information and Money



insertion into slots in com- tion had been sent to a former some Bank of NSW branches, seems improbable that the Possession of the card is not depositor whose private bankenough to produce the cash or ing information had become a private information — the per- plaything, had requested that a son using the card must also card and PIN to be sent to this

plements. The card and accompanying documentation have the Handycard, and punching been sent to the NSW Privacy the PIN, as authority to Committee, which is investigating the matter.

It would seem that Bank of A small child has been found NSW depositors who have at Crows Nest, playing with a recently changed their address, Handycard and a document giv- should advise their bank branch ing a depositor's PIN and ac- of this forthwith, and that

depositors who have not received Handycards through the mail after applying for them, should take steps to ensure that no such cards have been mailed to them, and lost - or stolen en route.

While appreciating that the Bank of NSW has designed a security system which involves mailing the PIN separately from the Handycard, it seems that this security system is of limited value: perhaps other banks considering similar systems, could ponder the advisability of mailing PINs to depositors, without receiving acknowledgement from the depositors that the card has been received, and the PIN is wanted.

We've made a good start.

game, with a talk on the dynamics of reconciliation. Input on the nature of true reconciliation allowed no scope for cheap and easy answers, but called us to acknowledge the relevance of the gospel to this moment.

People present at Naamaroo for the weekend conference came from just down the road Chatswood — and from the far outback - Broken Hill. A few were young, but most were in or past their middle years. Boards and presbyteries were significantly represented. I admired the spirit in which those heavily involved in the synod structures, made themselves present throughout. They were in positions of extreme that I have looked forward to at vulnerability, and I noted often Pattaya," he said in a letter. their generosity and openness.

In the final sessions of the weekend, small groups dealt with specific issues relating to tion in Pattaya, Thailand, structures, voluntarily choosing the issues which were for them of greatest concern.

Out of these sub-groups came suggestions which will go back now to the committee to process and collate, before report to synod.

The conference represented a cross-section of our people who have a deep commitment to the UCA, and an obvious determination to make our structures work. There is a very real rived as a church, but that we are "a people on the way". That willing to work on with that

Many times during the conthing. It has to do primarily with our attitudes to the struc-People involved in ad- tures, rather than the structures themselves.

> It has also to do with relatogether and the way we experience God.

This all happened on the two we find whether the whole days before Whitsunday. As I to keep plugging away at the preach on the Pentecost theme. wondered whether Ezekiel may have been speaking of the UCA Sydney 2000. Telephone: (02) in chapter 37, verses five to 10. 61 8737.



Graham to rest awhile

AT THE AGE OF 62, US evangelist Billy Graham (pictured) has accepted his doctors' advice to slow down - and "with much regret, must forgo the joy, blessing and pleasure

Dr Graham remains as honorary chairman of the consultation on world evangelisawhich this month brings together 650 Christian leaders from round the globe. It is one of several major functions from mass of paper with ideas and which Dr Graham has withdrawn in recent weeks.

> Without revealing the nature of his medical problem, he told the committee for world evangelisation: "During 2 recent routine medical examination, my doctors insisted I take some time from my normal WORK.

"They were very insistent."

Temperance campaign developing

THE NSW Temperance Alliance has established a campaign division to promote the advantages of an alcohol-free way of life.

Tom G. Willis, general changing attitudes in the community toward awareness of the problems of alcohol. The campaign division, known by the acronym CARE, for Committee for Alcohol Reform and Education, is preparing new literature and audiovisual presentations aimed at a threefold approach to alcohol problems - community concern, education and rehabilitation.

Inquiries to Mr Willis at suite 316, 318 Pitt Street,

We've hearts to love and hands to help ... but we need your will to serve!



Will power is very important to Wesley Central Mission! Your legacy or bequest can be of great help in assisting us to continue caring for the aged, the sick, the mentally handicapped, the children and the homeless.

This program of Christian compassion extends from the mid-city Wesley Centre, a hostel for the handicapped, eight children's homes, a lodge for homeless people, a hospital for the psychologically ill, a sheltered workshop, an international leadership training college, a refugee resettlement centre, a retirement village and five aged care hostels two nursing homes and a large hospital specialising in rehabilitation and terminal care, Life Line, Youth Line and Debt Line telephone services and Vision Valley, a conference and leisure centre.

The Wesley Central Mission has been greatly assisted in the past by generous legacies. Give us a place in your will! It allows you to continue to serve the community long beyond your life span. Should you wish to make a legacy or bequest, Mr S. H. Manning, the General Manager, will be glad to assist you. Phone 61 8741.

Wesley Central Mission 210 Pitt Street, Sydney 2000. Phone: (02) 61 8741 Superintendent: The Rev. Gordon Moyes

School for Seniors in class of its own

WANDERING round Wesley Centre on Mondays and Thursdays can be quite educational and sitting in one place for an hour or so can be even more so. On those two days Wesley Centre is all but taken over by about 800 over fifties - all students of the mission's ever-growing school for seniors.

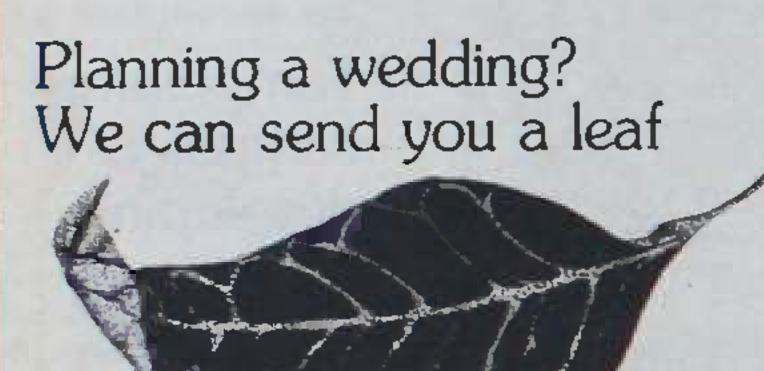
This school has 58 classes in subjects as varied as Esperanto, art, philosophy and Scottish country dancing. The most popular class is current affairs which usually has between 135 and 200 people. Almost as big is the psychology for personal growth class which normally has 80 attending. The smaller classes might only have four or five students.

Many people do several subjects in the one day going, say, from French beginners at 10am, Thursday, to copperware at noon, to literature and life at 2pm. Languages taught are Chinese, Esperanto, French, Italian, German and Spanish. Some of the languages are taught at two levels - beginners and advanced.

As well as academic subjects, such as the language, history, literature and communications, there are practical and handicraft subjects such as French flower making, nutritious food preparation, crochet and dressmaking.

Not all students spend their time sitting listening to a lecturer. Sometimes they make the room bounce with dancing, singing, acting and playing. The more active classes do Scottish dancing, rhythmic exercises, Old Time dancing, sing and praise and indoor bowls.

There are three terms a year. The second term has just begun and will continue until August 14. Third term will start on September 11. Anyone over 50 is welcome to join a class or classes. The cost is \$4 each term. This registration fee entitles a student to attend as many of the school's activities as he or she can fit in. Further information can be obtained from Christine Black on 61 8741.



WE'D be happy to send you a sample from our chapel's ceil ing. We collect them from the floor. They're always drifting down, floating away in the breeze. But new ones are continually growing - on the trees that make up the walls of Vision Valley's Gum Tree Chapel.

We think our outdoor chapel is a specially fitting place for a wedding. What better setting for the start of a new life, for new growth together than in the midst of trees and bushes that keep on growing together, long and strongly - firmly attached to the earth, yet brushing the heavens. There you can be close to God, at home with nature. Traffic won't disturb your vows (but the leaves may whisper occasionally through the ceremony).

We can cater not only for the wedding ceremony - seven days a week - but also more than satisfactorily for the reception. Vision Valley has a large 300-capacity dining area. Actually, you don't even have to leave Vision Valley for your honeymoon — we have rooms with en suite in big. comfy lodges.

If you would like a sample leaf from our Gum Tree Chapel we'd be pleased to send you one. Better still, why not come out and see millions of them growing in their natural environment. Arrange a visit through Mrs Dulcie Robertson who can be contacted on 61 8741.

Coming up at the Lyceum

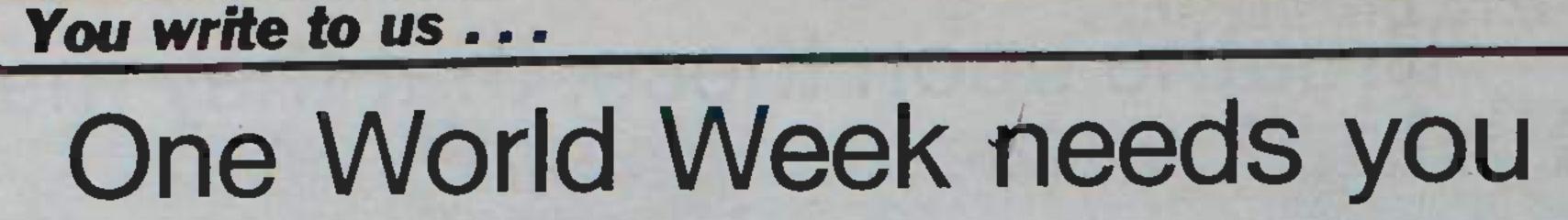
June 15: 3pm --- Launching of Do Care --- a new community service (see story page 1). 7pm - Church-in-a-Theatre, Opportunity Shops Staff Service.

June 22: 3pm - World Vision 40-Hour Famine with singing, films and Lindsay Doust. 7pm - Church-in-a-Theatre, Word Vision Service.

WESLEY CENTRAL MISSION 210 Pitt Street, Sydney. Phone: 61 8741. The Reverend Gordon Moyes, superintendent



Full catering for receptions, parties, conventions First floor, Wesley Centre, 210 Pitt Street, Sydney Bookings 61 8741



CHRISTIANS of many denominations concerned with social juctice are organising a national week - One World Week - to focus attention on our responsibilities as members of a world community, and to tee is drawing up a list of share our concern with people

outside the church. casion in the UK suggests that we can most successfully carry out this task by working through local groups, organised at parish or presbytery levels.

The One World. Week from drawn committee Australian Catholic Relief, September 21-28 to get in touch Australian Council of Churches. Australian Board of Mis- study and other resource sions, Australian Episcopal materials for local use, and from Conference, Action for World the local level amassing a list of Development, Asia Bureau of suggested topics or activities Australia, Catholic Commission through which the Christian for Justice and Peace, and the ideals of One World Week may UC Commission for World Mis- be expressed. sion --- hopes that this occasion, in about three months time, will help Christians look beyond commitment. their own local or family or occupational interests to develop a spiritual and intellectual understanding of the wider

We believe this week could

'God is not a wet nurse'

I REFER to your article Should We Pray for Rain (Forward, May 14). God is not a wet nurse despite efforts to establish His femininity. He helps those who help themselves. We are a abundance upon the earth over the year. It's not more prayers for rain that we want, but more dams. We ought to cut out expenditure on mythical defence, and among other things, build counts is a new creation" (Gal more dams, and not waste time 6:15 NIV). praying for rain.

Harold E. Rowland,

'Bogged down in baptism?'

IN THE first century AD, it is AS A Methodist, I felt you were said Emperor Nero was fiddling the natural people to write to. I while Rome was burning. In the have just finished 15 years sersixth, it is said, ecclesiastics vice with the British Army and were debating how many angels on my return to England, 1 could dance on the point of a don't see a future for my two needle while Europe was sliding young sons. We plan to faith" to the Prime Minister. into the Dark Ages. emigrate to Australia for their On the eve of the 21st, is it to sake, but find it extremely difbe said that the UC is in danger ficult to obtain relevant infor- make you free". Deception such of being bogged down on mation about Australia - such as this, on the part of the Chriswhether, or why, babies or as jobs (lathe and milling tian women responsible, cannot

Fellowship

other men? the jail chaplain, Rev Len Cliff, group. spoke of his work behind the

wall at Long Bay. While he FORWARD has carried reports fulfils many of the duties of a of state/national/Macquarie parish minister - weddings, University conferences dealing GEORGES River Presbytery's of the Jamberoo ladies who atfunerals, pastoral visiting - he with recommendations to go to Fellowship gathering has been tended the day at St Marys. also acts as a link between the 1980 World Conference on rescheduled for 12 noon on prisoners and families. the United Nations Decade for Sunday, June 29, at Oatley The share and discuss session Women to be held in Park barbecue area. For inforin the afternoon compared the Copenhagen, Denmark from mation contact Pat Condon, 77 characteristics of the early July 14 to 30. This conference Como Road, Oyster Bay. church with our Church as it is aims to produce concrete today and the way we would action oriented programs so DAY mission support group like it to be in the future. Sug- that a World Plan of Action can gestions for improvement were: be met by all member states by June 19 meeting - speaker will but I am sending it as I feel it is encourage gifts of the spirit in 1985. one another; rethink purpose of Two lead-up conferences Davis, whose subject will be fellowship groups (Do they have been held: in March, the The Scandal of Mission. relate to today's society?) en- Commission of the Status of July 17 meeting - speaker will \$500.



help many Christians develop a more outgoing ministry that could transform their individual lives, and the world we all

At this moment, the commit-Australians eager to help express the aims of One World Experience from a similar oc- Week at their local level. To succeed, the week must not be a centralised expression of faith: in many cases, local human issues will help determine the course of events in the week

I invite readers interested in participating in the event on with me. We are developing

We welcome your ideas, and we seek your personal

> Greg Madden. One World Week. PO Box A63. Sydney South 2000. (02) 267 2462

believers, should be baptised while the whole world is sliding down the slippery slope into World War III?

Thirty years ago J. B. Phillips produced a paperback entitled Your God is Too Small. Is our God so small that He is serious. ly worried over this question of baptism, while the whole wasteful lot. He sends rain in weight of this mad, sad world hangs on His crucified hands? To paraphrase Paul regarding a similar traditional rite. "Neither baptism nor unbaptism means anything, what

Brian E. Heawood.

Grose Vale

Tell us about Australia

machine operating), wages, house and land prices and availability, schools, churches and many other things. Australian newspapers are unobtainable here.

> P. J. Antrobus, Egton St. Hull HU8 7HT, Englan

'Hundreds were conned'

AS AN Anglican, I do not usually see copies of your teresting journal, but my atter tion has been drawn to an arts cle in the April 30 issue, headed "Journalistic licence upsets country women".

licence referred to has upset this city woman also though perhaps in a different sense. I through stress or bereavement: find it staggering that a Chris- some people unite to form suptian woman should state that port groups of different kinds: she is "very pleased" about a some people do not marry; and controversy which she unashamedly admits was stirred children. up by an incorrect story she "did deliberately" in the Central Western Daily.

Based on the inaccurate Cen- a particular view of sexual tral Western Daily article, a petition was circulated under the name of the Organising Chairman of the Conference of Christian Women. Signatories were asked to dissociate themselves from a list of resolutions taken word for word from the article, and said to be, or to be similar to, those which and support to individual would be put to the Mid-Decade Conference in Canberra (as having been passed at the Sydney Mid-Decade Con-

convention, which I obtained quate resources relating resolution. Yet hundreds of confused and worried Christian women have been conned into signing that petition, believing that it does indeed reproduce society frequently cause parthe actual resolutions from the ticular problems for women and Mid-Decade Convention.

I have been informed by the quire Organising Chairman of the Conference of Christian Women herself that she intended sending the petition "in good

We are told "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall possibly serve the truth, or further the coming of Christ's kingdom, in whose service is perfect freedom.

(Mrs) M. J. Holmes.

4 Egton Villas, Churchwomen beg to differ

AS A group of churchwomen from various parishes of the Uniting Church, we wish to point out that the views put forward by the Conference on Women for the Family and Society held at Macquarie University do not represent the views of all churchwomen.

We are concerned that the focus of the resolutions from that conference is directed an one type of family unit only. I must say the journalistic We give full support to the family, but also recognise that some families are broken some do marry but do not have

We therefore do not subscribe to the view that social support should be dependent on

morality, or on the life style in which people find themselves from force of circumstances or from choice.

We see that there are dif ferent life styles which are acceptable within a Christian context, and our prime concern is to give equal opportunity to all human beings at the point of their need.

We support the view that all parents have responsibilities for the care and welfare of their In the proceedings of that children, but believe that adefrom Heather Stevens, I cannot work, education, finance and find even one corresponding housing should be available to all, so that they are able to take up this responsibility.

We also recognise that present attitudes and structure of that special legislation is re-

We consider the issues raised in the resolutions from the earlier NSW Mid-Decade Convention, to be worthy of serious consideration.

> Marjorie Spence, Val Reid. Pat Andersen, Norma Hardy, Strathfield.

THE Sydney North Presbytery courage and understand young Women in Vienna; in April, the be Dorothy McMahon bringing Fellowship Rally held recently people; more tea parties for Preparatory Committee to the a report of the World Council at Lakeside Road Church, Christion learning and Copenhagen Conference in of Churches conference in Eastwood was attended by fellowship; opportunity for all New York. Dr Lucille Mair, a Melbourne. more than 100 women and churches in an area to work Jamaican, has been appointed ONE MAN. Fellowship is for together; more prayer; sharing secretary-general. everyone - where were the ourselves, our money, time and A special parallel forum for Castlereagh Street, Sydney. talents. What better place to non-government organisations During the morning session start than with your fellowship is planned for July 11 to 24 with RIPPLES from the Sydney Day

of the planning group.

some dates for your diary: be the Moderator, Rev Peter

Group meetings are held on the first floor of 139

Elizabeth Palmer, formerly of Mission Support Group invathe World YWCA, as chairman sion of Bidwill continue. Recently the Board of Mission received this letter: "I was one What a wonderful day - I was challenged when one of the speakers said if each person gave their bus fare and had stayed home, thousands of dollars would have been given to mission. My fare did not cost the amount of this postal note, an enormous task our church is taking on at Bidwill." The offering on the day for Bidwill was

From the parishes

Flying padre asks for a new plane

IN SEARCH of a shiny new aeroplane, Rev Russell Thompson, who recently spent eight years travelling the 230,000sq km of our far west mission area, recently showed members of the Sydney day group of mission support some glimpses — in words and pictures — of just how much the rather less shiny original mission plane has done to enable mission to the outback.

Using land transport to two particular properties he explained, involves driving 10 hours, and opening and closing 20 gates. The plane trip takes 20

Using the mission's Cessna, Mr Thompson and his successor, Rev Chris Sparks, are able to visit places like Tilpa, Wanaaring, Hungerford, Tibooburra and the Moomba gas field once a fortnight, establishing a stronger pastoral relationship. People who live hundreds of km from the nearest neighbour and church, can now receive personal counselling in time of need.

Through the ministry of the flying padre, Mr Thompson said, many country people, living close to drought, flood, and the regeneration of the natural cycle, are finding a more personal faith.

The present Cessna must be replaced shortly. Its maintenance costs are rising. Donations to the ABC appeal of mission support, Mr Thompson said, can be put towards continuing this much-needed service to our outback people.

CANBERRA'S St Margaret's Uniting Church has set up an appeal to help in the rebuilding of Adi Cakobau Missionary School in Fiji. The appeal will also help to buy materials and to rebuild houses.

The devastation of parts of Fiji left by cyclone Wally is still a matter of concern. Soap, JACK Donald Mayo McKinblankets and mosquito nets are still in short supply.

A WORKSHOP on unemployment was held in the Canberra

Have you got your poster?

THERE'S a new poster for Forward that we would like to 22-cent stamp. Our address is in Perth. Forward, POB E178, St James 2000.

Presbytery recently. The aim was twofold: to awaken the church to the problems school leavers face in finding jobs; and to explore possible ways in which local churches can help. Those who attended played the simulation game Leaving School (devised by the Nationa Youth Council of Australia) which can easily be adapted for use by members of parish cour cils, councils of elders, an parish youth councils. Loca church premises have now bee made available free for self-help projects of work co-operatives Bible studies on unemploymer were also examined, placing the subject in its true spiritu perspective.

DEE WHY Parish is holding a series of Talk-Ins on baptism or four Thursday nights in July (3, 10, 17, 24) at 8pm at South Creek Road, under the leadership of Rev Jim Mathers and Tony Winter. The program will include:

Introduction and background material with historical and biblical basis.

 A look at our present practice of baptism in the church. • Some insights from lay

members of the parish. Discussion and dialogue UTC.

• Dialogue with clergymen from the Baptist and Greek Orthodox churches.

non (b 1900), of Crows Nest Parish, looked back on his active church life at a service commemorating 60 years as a lay Christ our King.

than parish council secretaries. for many years, and was sheets and pillow cases, your church - we'll send you mittee of conference and at- cutlery." the poster, and replace your tended the general conference

> Commander in the Order of Knights for many years.



from Sydney gave parishioners Mr Smart said later, "is for our planning and organising. of Moruya-Tilba a unique parish to become involved in Suitable accommodation Easter this year. The 80 were learning something of ministerbrought to the parish by helpers ing to the handicapped, and be devised to involve physical, from Sydney Crossroads, an what it means to accept them educational and social activities, ecumenical organisation offering voluntary Christian fellowship to the handicapped.

parish minister, Rev Victor Smart, who with his wife Joan has been a Crossroads member for 10 years. Our picture shows some of the visitors and local church officials at the local birdland wild life sanctuary - a highlight of the weekend.

"One purpose in inviting

Get stuck into stamps

AS WE in the Forward office read parish and presbytery newspapers, we're struck by the number of times we come across appeals for parishioners to collect stamps, and bring with Rev Dr Alan Loy from them to church or fellowship

Some parishes ask that you trim the envelopes close to the stamps: others have volunteers who do the trimming. Either way, those stamps mean money - big money - for worthwhile projects, when they're put together from all over the state.

There's even reasonable preacher. During his sermon, he money from statewide collecchallenged the congregation to tions of the gift labels off leave behind him them "foot- packets of Lanchoo tea. As our prints in the sands of time", as a fellowship reporters revealed response to our high calling of recently, these are put to many good uses. A recent letter to the Mr McKinnon was involved Mission Support Groups from with the Methodist Synod, and Shirley McNaught tells this know was hanging in every most of the boards of the story: "Because of them (the church porch in NSW. One has Methodist church, particularly labels), we have been able to been sent to each parish council the property department. He send to our three children's secretary in the state - but we also served as circuit steward of hostels at Normanton, Coen know there are more churches Crows Nest Methodist Church and Kunanurra ... towels, Write in if you want a poster for a member of the standing com- tablecloths, teatowels and

> That donation took 22,000 labels. If you drink the tea, and He was also District Knight don't use the labels, sent them to the Board of Mission, POB 240, Chatswood 2067.

Inspired by Daisy

HIGHWAY UC, on the Hume Highway at Bankstown, is to be of many desert tribes, who callthe venue for an unusual

dramatic production this month - a one-woman play about the life of Daisy Bates, a wealthy Irish immigrant who gave up fortune and social position to A Lifetime Spent Amongst the share the lives of outback Aborigines.

Described as a "devotional drama" by its presenter, Geoffrey Sykes, the new play is particularly suited toward presentation to church groups as a suitable program for services or special meetings.

ed her their white mother. Her tent camp beside the interstate famed to black and white alike.

In Geoff Sykes' Daisy Bates: Aborigines of Australia, magic lantern slides, writing drawing heavily on Daisy's own words, and special illumination, all recreate the atmosphere in which this pioneer woman gave public talks to white audiences at the start of the century.

Geoff Sykes says! "The in-

Daisy Bates gained the trust spiring mixture of practical, modest living and devoted meditation in Daisy's life has great application for both the railway line at Eucla, SA was Gospel message and our own time."

> The Highway Church presentation will be at 7pm on Sunday, June 15, featuring Sue Bannerman as Daisy. The play lasts about 50 minutes, and after its presentation, discussion will be called for.

> Inquiries to Geoffrey Sykes, 2/55 Penshurst St. Penshurst 2222. Telephone: (02) 705 6509.

Helping and being helped

and identify with them.

"More important still, is the become aware of their ministry Mr Smart attributes the suc- service at Moruva.

EIGHTY handicapped people Sydney Crossroaders here," cess of the weekend to a lot of needed, and an itinerary must

Mr Smart has organised opportunity to help the han- three such visits to the parish so The visit was organised by dicapped develop their gifts, and far. This one featured worship \$3.95 a copy, including handling, on Easter morning in the in the church and in the world. primary school auditorium a Theirs is a ministry to the able." Batemans Bay, an afternoon

eter & lenny's mother took an overdose

Dad left home for another woman.

Mum couldn't take the heartbreak. Peter and Jenny woke one morning to find her dead. The kids were taken to Wesley Central Mission's Dalmar Children's Homes. Now they live in 'cottage' accommodation with eight 'brothers' and 'sisters'. Slowly these little ones are finding new happiness. But Dalmar Children's Homes have another 120 children to care for. Government subsidies only meet 25% of their needs! We ask you to give generously. Allow Peter and Jenny to have the sort of life you want for your children. With Heart TO: Reverend Gordon Moyes Wesley Central Mission 210 Pitt Street, Sydney Dear Gordon, I'd like to support Peter and Jenny and others like them, Please accept my donation of \$95 to provide support for one child at Dalmar for a week. Please accept my gift of \$ Please send me your brochure "The Will to Serve" that tells me how to make a bequest to the 25 caring agencies of the Mission. Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms. Dr. Rev. Please Print Address OR: Please debit my bankcard account: your bankcard numbers here

CLASSIFIEDS

Mr and Mrs Frank Fowler of Otford have great pleasure in announcing the engagement of their daughter Brenda to Martin, son of Mr and Mrs D. Ohye of Killcare, NSW.

Exchange House:

We are a doctor's family, with two grown up children, and members of St John's Uniting Church. We would like an exchange house for Christmas vacation between December 28 to January 24. Ours is a three bedroom house at Rostrevor, adjacent Adelaide foothills. Will look after your house with great care. Contact Dr N. Edwin, 170 Stradbroke Road, Rostrevor, South Australia 5073.

To rent

3 bedroom unfurnished house -Thomleigh - carport - vulcan oil heater - available from June 10. Approximately for 2 years --- owner overseas. \$100 per week. References please. Phone: (02) 871 1721.

"TIN TACKS"

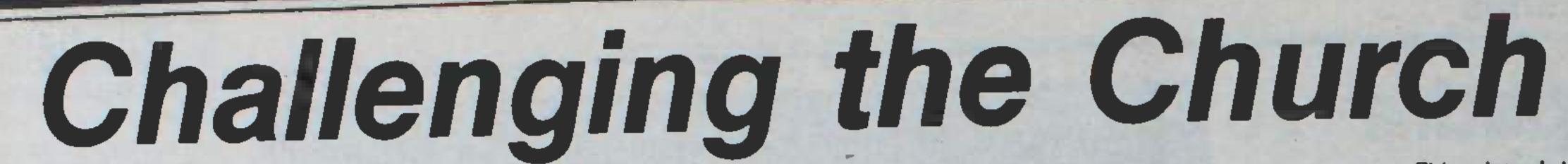
The practical, step-by-step guide to presenting your parish, church or social group news in print. Getting Down to Tin Tacks, by Russell Davies, a clergyman and a print communicator, tells you how and where to get your stories, and how to put them on the page.

The Board of Communications Services.

139 Castlereagh St, Sydney 2000.

1 Mar Ja

Forward, June 11, 1980 - PAGE 5



ONE NOTABLE fact about the WCC conference, Your Kingdom Come, is that this marathon was affirmed as a transcendent meeting of the worldwide church reality which does not come by on the theme of mission and evangelism was attended by very few missionaries, and even fewer evangelists.

The point was raised by one of the last questioners at the final press conference: Was the WCC commission for mission and evangelism worried by this apparent contradiction?

the WCC commission on mission and evangelism, said no. "The conference was trying to challenge the whole church to understand its being as missionary being," he said.

He explained the emphasis on oppression, poverty and injustice as the only way in which the missionary challenge could be made concrete.

As for evangelism, Dr Castro said the conference had clearly shown that the churches were now called to see that every aspect of their life should have an evangelistic dimension.

But this missionary challenge, and this evangelistic outreach, could not be understood in traditional ways. The emphasis was not on individual action, nor on the role of ecclesiastical institutions. At the heart of every debate was the question of the role of local congregations.

Four Themes

Delegates were divided into four- time. kingdom of God and human strug- churches. They came out of situagles; 3 The church witnesses to the tions of hardship and tension, but challenges human power.

Points raised in one section major poles of thought emerged Salvador and Korea) in a resolution kingdom." kingdom.

On the other hand the kingdom from the world body.

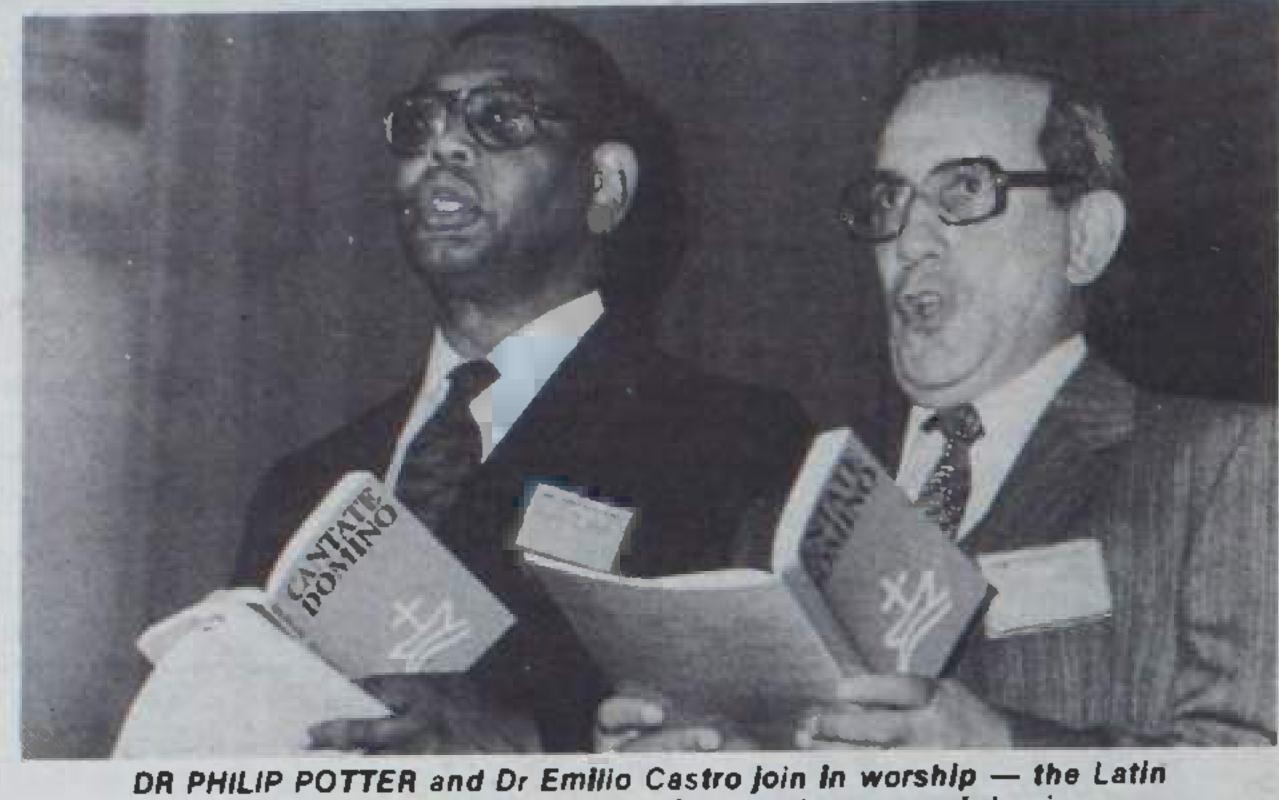
From Warren Clarnette in Melbourne.

human effort, yet which does come as a gift to mankind in spite of the circumstances, even the cruellest and most obscene.

It was easy to identify the supporters of each position according to whether they lived at peace or at war with their governments: Latin American delegates cried out to fellow Christians on behalf of their Dr Emilio Castro, chairman of countrymen, and delegates

Clearly this attitude was not just many participants.

American churches.



of this world.

A last-minute attempt to name of the Russian church withdrawing

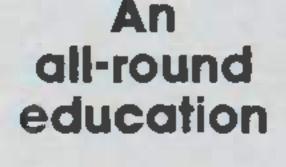
from European nations insisted ed, in a climate of official atheism, To such a question the WCC that the kingdom must be on the basis of the eucharistic wor- conference could supply no understood as a dimension beyond ship as their only act of witness. answer. What the conference could

groups to explore the theme of the But such a simple equation was brought the two poles closer tional church men and women on coming kingdom. The groups were: not possible, thanks to the presence together when he said: "The behalf of many exploited and suf-1 Good news to the poor, 2 The of delegates from the Orthodox kingdom is something God given; fering people. it belongs beyond time; and yet there are those who can live with kingdom; 4 The crucified Christ they spoke of a kingdom that is not such an intense awareness of its the life of that kingdom in a world Pacific nations. Their concerns may be able to identify some of overlapped into the others. Two Afghanistan (along with El which is not related at all to the were: the violation of rights of the those countries and peoples.

hand the cry for justice in the con- and sisters ... undergoing suffer- prepared to live according to the nuclear weapons in the Pacific such a specific public identification crete relationships of world power ing for the kingdom of God" way of the kingdom, and that region. The delegates listed French by the conference may endanger was recognised as an essential com brought a strong response from the meant "simply living in such a way nuclear testing in Tahiti; proliferation, even the lives, of ponent of the prayer for God's Russian delegation. There was talk that relationships reflect the nature tion of nuclear weapons by the US many of our brothers and sisters, of the God you believe in. This lays government in Hawaii and other some of whom are participating in on the church a very outward look- places; recent missile tests by this conference."

NEWINGTON COLLEGE Lindfield Preparatory School

26 Northcote Rd, Lindfield, 2070. Phone 46 4280 Mr D. Brown, B.A., M.A.C.E. Master of the Preparatory School



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linked with political considerations. The profound spirituality of the Orthodox tradition impressed

admiration for the spiritual depth of Orthodox witness as a necessary cendence," he said. complement to the social struggle

He marvelled at the fact that in Russia so many Christians surviv- torture and poverty."

ing and sacrificial vocation, totally distinct from the self-serving, inward-looking attitude which has marked the life of the churches."

Professor Orlando Costas (Puerto Rico) was not satisfied with that. "Every time we speak about our One Latin American confessed experiences in Latin America we have this language of trans-

"But we want to know whether which continues within the South the glory and power of kingdom can be revealed in the midst of our struggles with death.

book title enjoins singing to the Lord, not a game of dominos.

Bishop J. V. Taylor (UK) do was to raise the cry of interna-

Pacific plea

Pacific delegates issued a strong reality that they can dare to live plea for recognition of the plight of

China; intended use of the Pacific as a dumping ground for nuclear waste by Japan; deployment of nuclear powered naval vessels by the super powers.

Also, said Pacific delegates, colonialism and economic domination continues in the south Pacific.

Immigration policies of Australia and New Zealand were attacked: "Such policies are violations of the rights and dignity of human beings. We also express concern about the increasing forced migration of Pacific people."

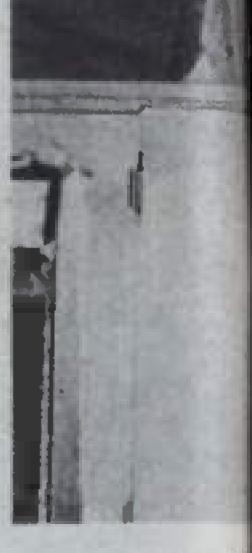
From the conference a letter will go to President Carter, appealing to the US government to stop its military aid to military regimes.

The conference was told that assassinated Archbishop Romero of El Salvador had written to President Carter not long before his death. He said to the President: "I am quite worried by the news that the government of the US is analysing the means to accelerate the arms race in El Salvador by sending military equipment and advisers to train three battalions in logistics, communications and intelligence. If this information is correct, the contribution of your government, instead of helping to increase justice and peace in El Salvador, will increase injustice and repression against the people

The conference declaration went on: "After Archbishop Romero's death the US Congress approved the additional sum of \$5.7 million for military aid for the government of El Salvador."

One of the final resolutions made specific mention of El Salvador and Korea, but drew a veil of anonymity over other countries.

The resolution continued: "We Pacific community through the Others, however, we dare not idenvery early in the fortnight. On one of support for "unnamed brothers The church's duty was to be build-up, stockpiling and testing of tify, for the simple reasons that





By REV DR JOHN BROWN. general secretary of our commission for world mission and a YKC delegate.

many parts of Victoria gathered in Festival Hall on Sunday evening, May 18, in a joyful celebration of the Ascension and sending out of the church.

The 600 participants in the WCC conference shared in this festival of faith event, organised by Melbourne churches as response to the conference on mission and evangelism.

testimonies of Rev Park Hymy countries. ficials of the previous govern. delegate. already been sacrificed.

missioning of the churches to be a piece of cardboard. witnesses for Jesus Christ.

He told us to take Stephen as an inspiration; and following Jesus who descended into Hell to do battle with the principalities SEVEN thousand people from and powers, to go down and join in struggles of the poor and marginalised in sure hope of the final victory of Jesus over all the powers of evil.

Most of all, it was an evening of overflowing joy; music from the Salvation Army band; hymns; lively massed choirs; and children-acting the story of the Good Samaritan as an introduction to the prayers of intercession The crowd heard the led by the people from seven

Kyn, jailed five times in the last Delegates had just returned to homes for a shower the conference. five years for his stand on human from a weekend in the Australian and in some cases for The Zimbabwean delegates letter of congratulation to u who had died in the Sandanista for the hospitality shown, and ex the effects of this con Zimbabwe, President Canaan responding in person. struggle to overthrow the op citement at the widespread, deep many years, not only Banana, prevented from attenpressive Somoza government last reflection on the theme Your personal interact ding because of his responyear, and of the new government Kingdom Come in the churches. delegates from over sibilities in Zimbabwe. which preaches forgiveness to its They have delved much more in- festival of faith, the The delegates said (inter alia): people who demand retribution to the theme "out there" than we its delegates taking "We are sorry that we bring this on the torturers and corrupt of have in this conference, said one life and the parallel of message so late in the conference.

ment, claiming that human life is Rev Hamish Christie-Johnston ing the plenary press place in the world again. precious and too much has had arranged for host families to Australia the sine "We are the first delegation meet all participants when they Aboriginal people is sent out under the flag of the true Dr Philip Potter, general arrived in Melbourne, who were the delegates. secretary, who had been discharg- overwhelmed when they walked Participants had a just emerged from a situation of ed from hospital that morning, through the arrival gate to find a something of the stand domination of six million black preached from his chair - a com- family holding up their name on

Participants were whisked off



DR DORITO NA opening speech



ERECTING a cross, young workers enact the daily prelude to worship in the conference hall.

been no response from the deprived. Australian churches on the situation known round the world expressing the hope of the Aboriginal people, and challeng-Indonesia deliver ing the Australian churches.

A small group worked on a delegates, statement and resolutions from

Melbourne, but also We have been trying to find our

nation of Zimbabwe. We have ing of Australians and people by 200,000 whites who cerned to hear of the completely subjugated us.

and the social discrime "We were stripped of our land

After several days delegates rights, dehumanised, our religion were saying: "Why has there put down, economically

"Even the churches turned issue?" So some delegates put, their back on this situation, and together a brief paper stating the advised us to seek our reward in situation of Aboriginal people, the sky. From 1965 till 1979 the action of churches to date, there was a high degree of selfthe admission of the inadequacy sacrifice and suffering on the part of all that has been done, and the of our people — their struggle for hope that this conference would liberation. The churches have play a helpful role in making the awakened and identified with the struggle of our people.

> "We have been maintained and supported morally, financially and spiritually by the WCC and member churches.

"Your solidarity has been dicated clearly in Philip Potter's rights issues in Korea; and churches. The universal opinion two of hospitality being brought a message to the con- independence. We could have Miguel Torres from Nicaragua, of this weekend was an en- ference started. ference and in particular replied in writing, but we wanted who told of the 40,000 people thusiastic approval and gratitude Australian churched greetings from the President of to take this opportunity of

> "We are challenged to proclaim and practice the gospel in full recognition of these difficulties. Thank you for the opportunity to share with you our

The conference raised many issues for the congregations c our churches — challenges concerning the proclamation of the gospel, the local congregation's witness by the quality of the life its members share, the challenge of the command of Jesus to his disciples to heal the sick, the witness of Holy Communion.

VIRTUALLY the only YKC ones who define what are the face similar situations of in- of Churches invite the World of that resolution:

OUR deliberations on the white interpretations. kingdom of God theme at the ABORIGINES need to control and their organisations. conference on world mission their own institutions and the This support should include: and votes of church members, and evangelism has compelled funds given to them. be proclaimed in both word and use should be protected. action.

ference we have had a personal training in technologal schools. participate in the bicentennial discrimination, and support the encounter with the poor of ABORIGINES should share celebrations of European settle- Aborigines with direct action, Australia in the Aborigine peo- fully in the fruits of the ment in 1988 unless adequate including Aboriginal ple of the land. We have heard Australian economy and not land rights legislation is adopted demonstrations against the opthe voice of the voiceless and have the heaviest unemploy- in every state prior to that date pressive system. we are challenged by the cry of ment rate. the poor of Australia to ABORIGINES need adequate THAT the churches call upon World Mission and Evangelism demonstrate our obedience to housing. the demands of the kingdom of ADEQUATE health care an immediate policy of full INTERNATIONALISE the God.

Our encounter with the Aborigines. Aboriginal people has brought THE AUSTRALIAN federal their traditional land, and of cern and action for the Univerto our attention the way in government has failed to use its just compensation for all land sal Church. which the Aborigines have been powers, granted by overwhelm- taken from them. robbed of their own land and ing public vote in a referendum THAT the World Council of Aboriginal people. spiritual heritage to an ex- in 1967, to override Churches call upon the Interna- SUPPORT the claim of the perience of racial and cultural discriminatory State Legisla- tional Commission of Jurists to Aborigines to full personhood, genocide, and then denied any tion, especially the Queensland come to Australia to report on the right to land and to a full fair share in the fruits of the Act. society constructed with their While recognising that in law, resources.

Our concern is expressed about the continued oppression and suffering of the Aboriginal people and the blatant racism in Australia, which is a denial of the kingdom of God.

While we recognise the attempts made by some sectors of the Australian church to support Aborigines in their struggles, we are particularly concerned by reports of church cooperation in maintaining and condoning racist and oppressive policies of governments in Australia, failure to support action against second-class citizentance to give adequate financia assistance to communities organisations and projects controlled by Aborigines.

The issues that have been raised by the Aboriginal peoples ABORIGINES need to be the

> How the rest lives

IN THE wondrously congruous setting of a classic temple to Mammon - the 19th century Gothic financial cathedral, the ANZ Bank in Collins Street - the Asian Christian art exhibition went on

Under the splendid goldleaf ed high ceilings the tall lean Uganda priest spoke of his impressions of the World Council of Churches conference.

Surrounded by the low key activity of international corporate capitalism Rev Richard Amooti said the fundamental difference between the West and the rest was that the West saw social justice as a gospel optional extra.

We could have engaged in dialogue and explained why our view is correct and his is wrong, but . . .

We would go back to our comfortable, insulated, heated homes, and watch the Sullivans.

He would return to a land Name. still warm with the blood of modern Christian martyrs — Address from archbishops to humble nonentities; home to a country Organisation which through a coup had changed its government while he was away.

We didn't say anything. -UCNNS, Melbourne

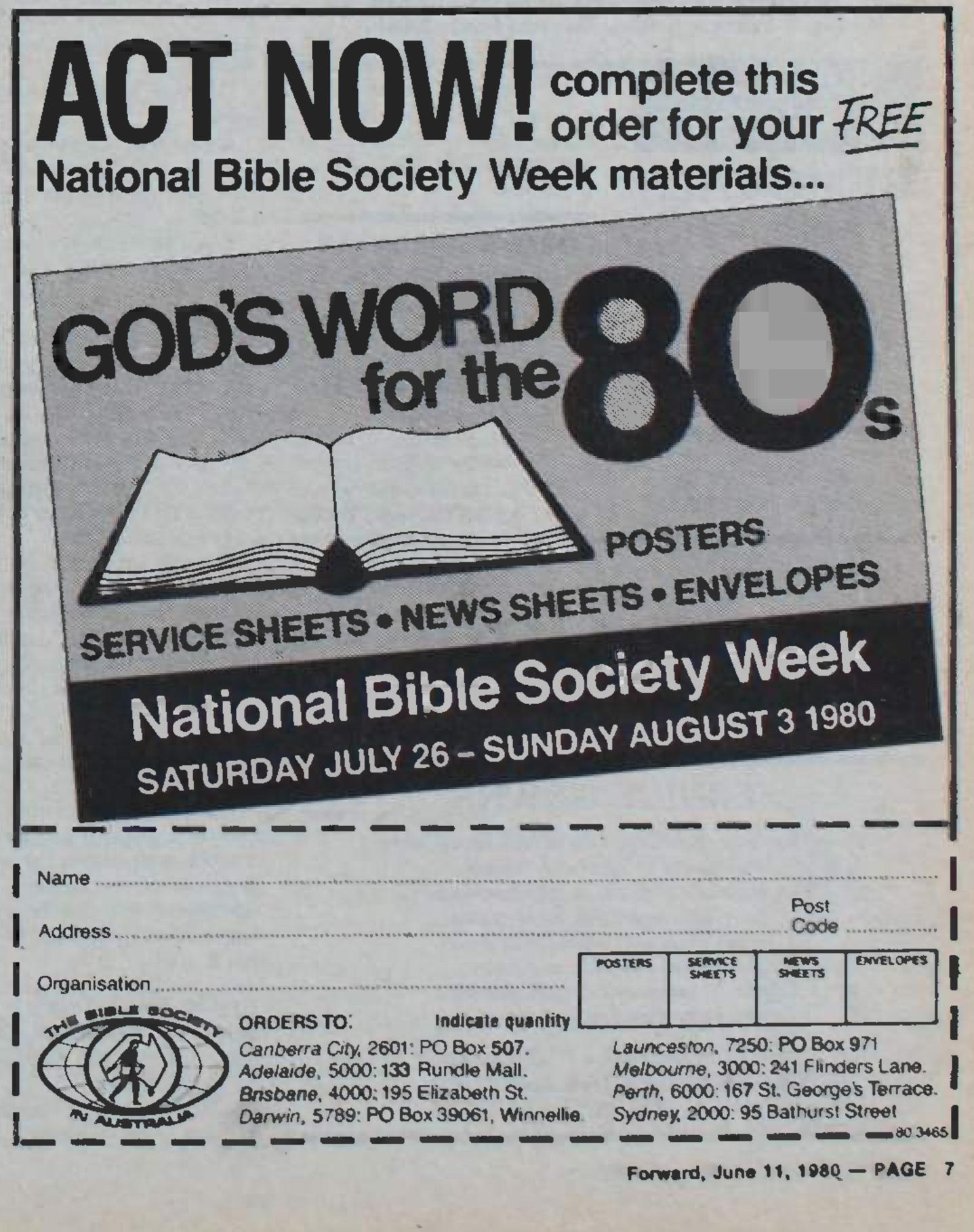
many of our own churches we THAT the Australian Council action for justice.

FOR centuries women have Delegates from Asia, Africa mothers' what to do and why. been educated into accepting a and North America described In the past, it would seem that second class status in the how womanhood is denied full women have accepted the inchurch, with the result that recognition within the male-stitutional church structures women have been belittled and dominated structures of the and its teaching, feeling that it the church has been deprived of churches. But there was no in- upheld something sacred, their special contribution. dication of desire to abandon divinely created and destined by

delegates at the WCC con- women's roles" of caring, offeron their vision of the kingdom others.

of God.

ship for Aborigines and reluc- church we are concerned and interested not only in service, Therefore, on many levels and deeply engaged in thinking and but in deciding what ministry in many places women are joinreflection about our full identity most needs to be done and ing together and are seeking as the women-people of God in how," said the document. the fulfilling of our missionary "Women have been told by their own identity, to formulate task. We are still struggling to those in power how to serve the the witness of the gospel." find our voice and to be heard," Lord and men. The 'church said the women's document.



'Support the Aborigines ...'

ABORIGINES need access to action;

situation, instead of relying on discrimination; to support solidarity with them. Aborigines, their communities Further action should in-

THAT the churches return changing the policies and strucus to accept that the gospel of THE RIGHTS of Aborigines to some of their land and property tures of mission organisations Jesus Christ, is good news to the their own land and sacred sites to Aboriginal groups as a sign of and projects controlled by poor and that this message is to and their right to determine its their commitment to land rights Aborigines. In support of these and a stimulus to government the church will need to educate

and

the federal government to adopt (WCC) to:

the denigration of the rule of power sharing in Australia.

resolution widely published issues that need to be addressed, justices, we call upon the chur- Council of Churches to send an In the general press, was the in relation to their own people. ches and church organisations international team to visit one about Aborigines. Here ABORIGINES should be of Australia to acknowledge Australia and acquaint itself Is the prologue and language assisted to print and circulate their past - and in some cases, fully with the Aboriginal situainformation concerning their continuing - complicity in this tion thus building international

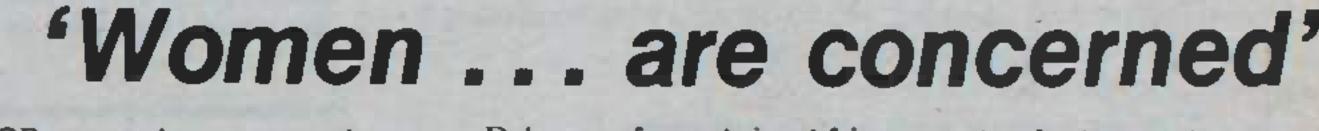
clude the use of the influence and challenge the leaders and On the occasion of the con- educational formation and THAT the churches refuse to members concerning

We call on this conference on

should be available to recognition of the rights of problem of Aborigines in Aboriginals to the ownership of Australia as a matter for con-

EXPOSE the olight of the

URGE Australian churches to



This was how women the "traditionally-given God.

fathers' have told the 'church

ference in Melbourne reported ing tenderness, and serving "Now many faithful women see that these structures, at-What is sought is an expan- titudes and style are not God-"As women within the ding role for women. "We are made but man-made. new ways to find and express

-- UCNNS, Melbourne



TRAVEL CONSULTANT (SENIOR) Christian Youth Travel wishes to appoint to their TRAVELWAYS AUSTRALIA division two fully qualified Travel Consultants with international ticketing and at least two years IATA accredited agency experience. The positions would best suit someone who is a committed Christian. Duties will include planning, co-ordinating and documenting both group and individual travel arrangements. Interstate interveiws will be arranged,

For further details write or telephone: Mrs Isberg,

Christian Youth Travel Association. 16 The Crescent, Homebush, NSW 2140. Telephone: (02) 764 1700

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The Tweed Coast Parish of the Uniting Church is seeking a married couple, with strong Christian commitment, to manage its Homeless Persons' Hostel/Motel situated on the southern Gold Coast.

It is a demanding position involving general oversight and management of the hostel, catering for and preparation of meals and liaison with residents. It is a full-time position with live-in quarters provided.

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PAGE 8 - Forward, June 11, 1980

MY WIFE must be the only

person in the world who isn't devoted to books. She gets quite with a few marvellous new ones or some bargains from the second-hand shop -- even a

She says I haven't read the In By the Way on ABC

very occasional free sample! ones I've got - which is quite irrelevant. Books are the basis and 3). This year the theme is of so much media and there's always interest in knowing spiritual values and the "gifts" about books: books shape lives. Radio 2 and 3 at 10.20am from Monday, June 15, Canon the world who have responded Robert Ray of Adelaide will to the call of the Spirit of God. talk about books which have influenced him and he will read some samples. The series is called. When I need to read.

Whither or wither

CHRISTIAN educators, John Westerhoff III (his book, Will our children have faith? is one I really have read) and Donald and Patricia Griggs will be in Sydney on the weekend of June

In Cross Ways (ABC Radio 2) on Friday. June 20, at 10.15pm Professor John Hill, The programs look at such vice-rector of St John's College in the University of Sydney talks about moral education in Australia. Can Christian moral values be part of Australia's education? On the following

Books to consider

BRING YOUR LOVED ONES TO CHRIST: by Don Wilkerson, Revell \$7.50. DON WILKERSON is the Executive Director of Teen Challenge in Brooklyn, New York.

As such he encounters many prodigal sons and prodigal parents. He makes the claim that as children, husbands, wives, parents, grandparents, nieces, nephews, uncles and aunts we all belong in the kingdom of God. Those who are our own flesh and blood can also become our spiritual kin. The book outlines in simple

and practical ways methods of witnessing in the home Do you have a rebellious

child? Is your spouse an unbeliever?

As a young person do you have parents who don't know Christ?

If you answer these questions "yes", then this book is for you.

REVELATION UNFOLDED, by Jack B. Scott. Tyndale House \$3.95. Reviewed by Naida Brumfeld. THE BOOK of Revelation is very special for our generation of believers, and its message is vital for every Christian to hear and understand today.

Through capturing the way John thought and felt while writing the Revelation, the author advances not his own, but John's understanding of that great vision. The dramatic events of the end times are vividly portrayed as an . unravelling of the mysteries of the apocalypse.

The book is engrossing and provocative. The easily readable style conveys an interpretation of its meaning and SHALOM AND COMBAT: a significance both for the age in which it was written and for our age as well.

BEING MADE WHOLE, by John M. Robertson, Tyn- Brian Wells. dale House \$2.65. Reviewed A SLIM volume of 50 pages Unichurch Books by Naida Brumfeld. A VERY helpful book of testimony of one man's struggle Phone: (02) 26 5650. prayers and promises for against racism in his own life.

Radio & TV with John Fleming

Friday the topic is tertiary theological education. The program, Theology and Education main work is with Greek, agitated when I arrive home is an analysis of a consultation held in Melbourne in April.

> The ABC's program for use in religious instruction or scripture classes is Religion and Life, broadcast Wednesdays during school term at 10.20am (radio 2 Spirit and it's an introduction to and "fruits" of the Spirit.

Term two is based on the lives of men and women round On June 11 there's A Man o Vision (Flynn of the Inland), June 18 A Faith Which Overcame (George W. Carver) and June 25, A Gentle Mystic (Sadhu Sundar Singh).

Multi-culturalism

MICHAEL Liffmann, a community educator with the Ecumenical Migration Centre Melbourne, discusses different aspects of multiculturalism in Australia in By the Way (ABC) from June 23. issues as immigration and community relations and there's also an historical overview. The Ecumenical Migration Centre is associated with the Victorian Council of Churches

and is funded by various government departments. Their Turkish and Asian communities, with particular emphasis on education.

Musical

YOU missed the BBC IF musical David and Goliath in Encounter broadcast ABC in September last year, there's a chance to hear it on Sunday, June 22 (Radio 1, 8am; Radio 3, 10.15pm). This composition by Alan Dixon is performed by children from St Barnabas and St Philip Church of England Primary School in London.

It's a cantata for children's voices and two adult soloists (Goliath, and a recitative for female voice). Musicians from the Royal Shakespeare Company provide the backing.

The first broadcast brought a large response from churches round Australia. Of course it's a great story for Sunday School activity and in this production "the slight young shepherd boy has to face a great big, very big whopper of a fellow"

I'm partial to another account of the story set to the hymn tune Houghton, with the first line, 'Goliath of Gath with hith helmet of brath'.

Worship and song on the ABC

June 15: 11am ABC-TV - Divine ser. vice, St Andrew's Anglican Church South Brisbane 11am ABC Radio 2/3 Divine Sar. vice, St Philip Neri Roman Catholic Church, Northbridge Sydney
6.30pm ABC Radio 1/3 Community Hymn singing Combined Churches of Mt Isa Queensland. June 22:

11am ABC-TV - Divine Ser. vice, Wesley Uniting Church Melbourne • 11am ABC Radin 2/3 Divine Service, St James' Anglican Church, Mt Isa Queensland • 6.30pm ARC Radio 1/3 Community Hymn Singing, St Stephen's Pres. byterian Church, Canterbury Melbourne.

... AND ON 2CH

June 15: 7.30am Morning Service with Mrs Major Olwyn Everett 7.30pm Evening Service with Rev Brian Telfer.

June 22: 7.30am Morning Service 7.30pm Evening service.

... AND ON 2UE

Sundays at 8pm -Stephen's Uniting Church Macquarie Street, Sydney June 15 with Rev Fred McKay and Rev David Gill . June 22 with Rev Fred McKay and Rev Max Griffiths.

CTA HALF HOURS No details supplied.



hospital patients.

On a personal visit, share together by reading the short Bible passage and prayer and leave it with the sick person as a help and hope to see them rough

Albert van den Heuvel

If unable to make a personal your support and encouragement.

personal struggle against racism, by Albert van den Heuvel. Risk Book Series No. 5 World Council of Churches, Reviewed by Rev

For those concered with the World Council of Churches Special Fund to combat Racism this book is required reading.

Don Wilkerson

Sharing the controversy caus source of God's strength, peace, ed by letting his church to Martin Luther King for a meeting and his own growth out of that experience, Heuvel makes the visit, you could mail this little valid point that nothing can book to a sick friend to show replace contact with the people we criticise as different.

Only when they can tell their own story and formulate their own expectations, are we con fronted with their problems. The balance of the book looks at the way the ecumenical movement has sought to come to terms with the issue racism.

JESUS AND THE CHILDREN, by Hans-Ruedi Weber, John Knox Press \$5.20. Reviewed by Naida Brumfeld.

BOOK for adults preachers, teachers, parents, or a group interested in Biblical study with practical action to follow.

Selected Biblical passages about Jesus and the childre give the basis, and the studies interpret these encounters, r exclusively in a metaphorical way, but as the actual special relationship Jesus had with children.

What does this relationshi teach us in our present world? Are there things to be learnt in connection with the important personal and social ethical decisions to be made?

Study outlines an worksheets give you the opportunity to work the subject through for yourself, or in your group. Extra resources are fered. Also included are sugges tions as to how study groups might proceed from Bible study to worship and action.

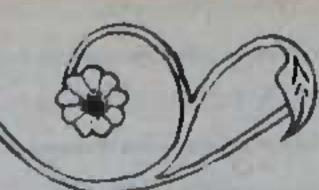
The book presents radical challenges to adult Christians.

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which contains a frank 27 Wesley Arcade Sydney.

Good Christian book are worth reading





With the church in mind

to let him go.

each other.

his and ours.

or even our hurt.

crying tonight!

We are your children;

but, listening to us.

to cut the cord,

The family

My heart is crying tonight, Lord.

Truly the tongue is a little member "but life and death are in its power". How can we let ourselves hurt each other so much that a relationship,

born only of love and joy. can yet bring such hurt and sadness. He is my son, Lord,

- your precious gift to me, an extension of myself -
- Perhaps this is why I feel so torn,

so disintegrated. Lord, he feels we do not trust him,

or respect him, or love him enough. He still needs our love, Lord, as we do his.

though he is young and confident in himself. And we, Lord, cannot keep silent.

- We see the pitfalls ahead of him. and yearn to spare him the problems
- and the pain. We are hurt and saddened that he resents our concern,

that he does not respect our experience. He does not understand our feelings.

How could he, Lord? He is not yet a parent.

Perhaps, without suffering, man cannot grow in spirit. In trying to spare him the problems Are we delaying his growth? Are these, Lord, but the birthpains

A child of God

I am a child of God. made by his design; to him we all are special and should be of one mind.

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The Lord has just one body with many, many parts; if we don't work together we'll tear our Lord apart.

If you're to love each other then you've got to love yourself: in accepting what you are, you can accept someone else.

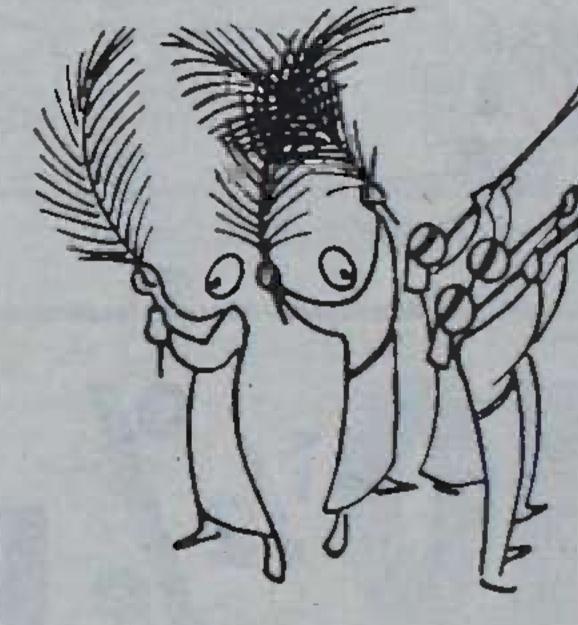
The Lord he does love me no matter what I do: because the Lord loves me now I can love you.

Don't go judging other people. for they're a part of you: Jesus, he does love them as much as He loves you.

I needed to be something. I longed to be someone; but now all I need is the Lord with perfect love.

The next time you are thinking what you're really worth, think about the love that brought God to this earth.

Keep your eyes on Jesus, keep your thoughts in line on the way he served us, keep Jesus on your mind.



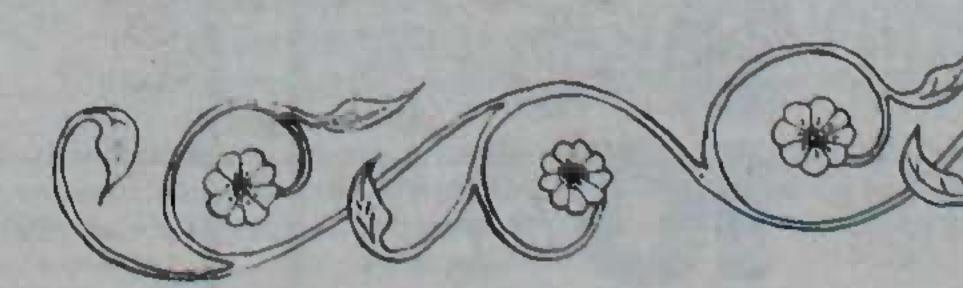


As time keeps pace with me along the years I need a courage, Lord, to face my fears. Oh! Grant me blessed peace of heart and mind, Take bitterness away and make me kind.

If I can always hear the song of birds, The falling rain, the melody of words Inspired, that flow from some enchanted pen, I'll count myself the happiest of men.

Oh! Touch mine eyes, that I shall always see In ev'ry tiny plant, in ev'ry tree A quickening in Spring. The age-old birth Of life, that stirs the sun-warmed winter earth.

A love to give to others, give to me. A forgetting of myself in love of thee, Breathe it deeply down into my heart. These things I pray for. Lord, ere I depart.



Mrs Judith Nathan

as his manhood seeks its independence? Am I suffering because it is hard for me

And he because he hesitates to leave the warm familiarity of dependence. and birth is a launching into the unknown? But you know, Lord. how truly we all love

It is our tongues that are the problem,

They have no patience, no gentleness,

no respect.

They do not communicate our concern

They do not seek to build a bridge of love across the chasm of our misunderstandings. They send forth firey barbs that wound and sting, and make us draw back from each other. And so, in bitterness, the gulf widens . O Lord of love, how your heart must be

who would wish to join your family? We are such bad advertisements for your way, your Way of Love,

and Peace.

and Joy.

My heart is crying because we have let you down. O, Lord, forgive us for the pain we unthinkingly inflict on your father-heart, in hurting one another.

Lord, you understand the meaning of suffering. You endured even the cross, that we might share your joy in receiving the new life of your spirit. Thank you for the reminder that joy, and new life, may follow pain.

Thank, you for your loving patience with us.

Thank you too for the parable of the loving father. patiently watching for his wayward son's return, seeing him while he was still afar off. running to meet him. welcoming him with a kiss. We are not worthy of so much love, Lord.

Thank you for human families, for your great spiritual family, for wanting us all to become one with you. and with each other. in its fellowship, and in the joy of your presence.

I put my hand in yours, Lord; you are the Way. As I walk more closely with you help me to grow into your likeness. so that I may reflect, and my tongue express. only the love and joy and peace which you have given to me.

F.M.K.

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From bard to verse

We sometimes hear that bards were folk who lived in times of yore But modern folk keep showing us things is as was before. It's thyme for rhyme at kitchen sink, in manse and garden too. The faithful go from bard to verse, old thoughts in couplets new. We hope you've time to read their works, and hope one strikes a chord, We had good fun in choosing them - we know you won't be bored. We didn't ask for these fine works, they just keep rolling in. When next we get a pageful, we'll print some poems agin.

We are ...

We are the mediocre. We are the half givers. We are the half lovers. We are the savourless salt. Lord Jesus Christ. restore us now to the primal splendour of first love. To the austere light of the breaking day. Let us hunger and thirst. Let us burn in the flame. Break the hard crust of complacency. Quicken in us the sharp grace of desire.

Caryll Houselander



Make a great gift for dad

HERE'S a fun gift to make for dear old dad - an attractive paper weight he can take to his office.

Start by finding a large flat stone about the size of a big

potato. It doesn't matter if it's heavy, because that's what paper

It's egg

siting time

WHEN Columbus wanted to stand an egg on end. he smashed it against the table first. But there's a much easier way of do- an activity camp at Kaloona, on ing it.

on the table-cloth. If the table- May school holidays. cloth is white they will be invisible.

You will be able to balance the egg on end quite easily, using the grains of salt to steady

Others trying the trick will fail if they don't know your secret!

weights are supposed to be. Clean your stone very thoroughly with a scrubbing brush, hot water and washingup liquid.

Now collect lots of tiny shells, or pretty colored pebbles and make sure these are clean,

Stand the large stone on .

sheet of newspaper and cover thickly with a strong glue. Press the shells or other decoration firmly into the glue, keeping them very close together.

Wait until the glue has set, then cover your paper weight with clear varnish. It'll make a great gift for dad - and what a

Fun by the river

THIRTY-FIVE boys and girls aged from 71/2 to 12 attended the bank of the Shoalhaven Gapes of the Board of Educa-Sprinkle a few grains of salt River near Nowra during the tion, who watched over things

The children left Sydney by train on Monday morning, and returned on Saturday afternoon. In between, they hiked, canoed, visited a glowworm cave by night, and explored the delights of sliding into waters of the Shoalhaven down a muddy river bank.

Accommodation for the children was in huts. Director of the camp was Beverley with nine group leaders.

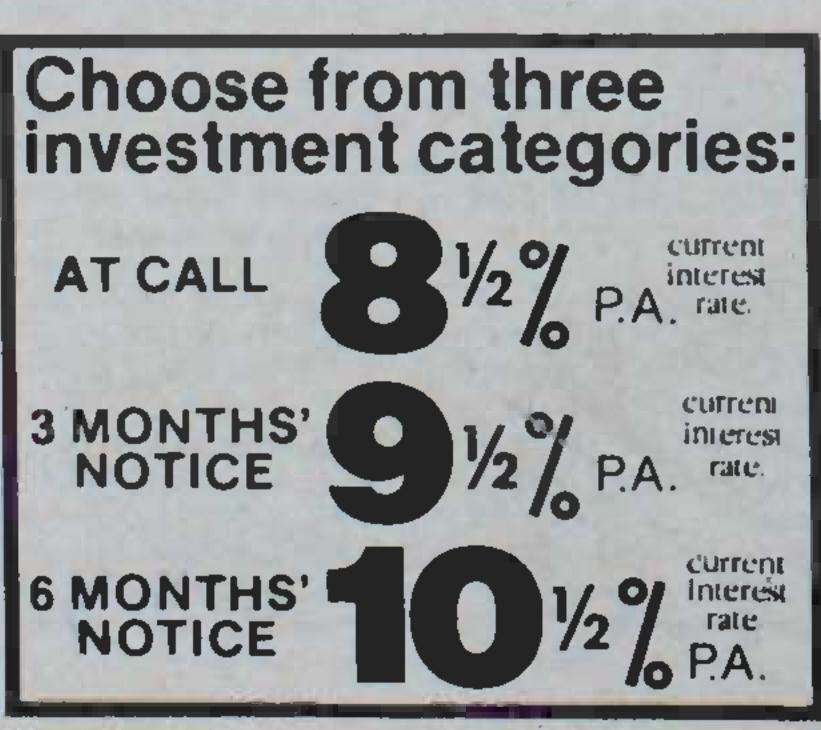
During the week, there were lighthearted studies on names. friends and happiness and other subjects. One was on the theme of How 10 Hug a Hedgehog. How do you hug a prickly creature like a hedgehog? Says Bev Gapes: "With love in your heart, you can do anything."





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Colour this fun picture of a witch in full flight.



Cold cure had a big drawback

MY FRIEND told me of a wonderful cure for the common cold - 1 had to drink a glass of hot milk after a hot bath. Did it work? I don't know

yet. I still haven't finished drinking the bath!

WORSE STILL! MUM: Your 'flu must be terrible. Your eyes are bloodshoot! SMALL SAM: You should see them from this side!

OUT OF SIGHT KIT: 1 can't see my invisible

hairnet anywhere. KIM: Here it is - behind the vanishing creamt

WELL SUITED! TINY TIM: There's a salesma at the front door with a bald

DAD: Tell him I've already got one!

Jayseq alse M 9 'pua yoog Following the convention, S Jueld & Samen sseldard & oth Australians and overseas .Jegates will have the oppor-Jip au jods of SNAMSNA mity of further fellowship



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Answer these!

Q: Where do you learn to make ice cream? A: At sundae school!

Q: What do you call a man who runs an orchestra in a beehive? A: A buzz conductor!

Q: Where do sick lemons go? A: To the lemon-aid centre!

Q: What do you get when you cross a frog with a calendar? A: Leap year!

Q: Why shouldn't you grow potatoes close to onions? A: Because the potatoes would cry their eyes out!

Cracking up!

THE Californian sea otter an unusual way of getting food. He uses a rock to break the hard outer shells of the sea urchin and sea anemone.

Seeing the world

Americans planning to attend our conference

By Carol Spratt **REOPLE** in 22 cities broughout America and ada now know about the ional Christian Youth Contion. Focus '81, to be held in tralia on January 4-10, following the recent orth American tour of Arthur lick of the Board of ICALION.

a four week whirlwind r that aroused enthusiasm in quarters, Mr Gullick oke to church leaders of all ninations about sending ng delegates to Focus '81. Among those who received were Rev Cliff Kolb of the ard of Discipleship of the Inited Methodist Church, Mr Geoffrey Utter of the Board of forld Ministries of the United urch of Christ, the Anglican shop of Montreal and Grant of the Camping and h Ministry of the United

thurch of Canada. In Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Rev Roger Grussing broadcast r Gullick's message on his hurch's own radio station. Mr Gaussing was later promised se from his church duties next Christmas night to ng a group of young people the convention.

A further 200 churches of all inominations have received formation about Focus '81 in k San Francisco and Oakland as of California.

Focus opens at the Hordern avilion at Sydney howground on Sunday,

hrough post-convention tours hich offer choices between ravelling across Australia on

"Americans would like to me to Sydney either to escape temperature - 30 or 40 klow freezing — or because ey are fascinated by ustralia," Mr Gullick says. focus '81 offers a real reason,

QUIET RELAXING HOLIDAY lose to water and all services. potless s.c. flats. Acc. 4-5. James Room, Covered BBQ. leasant views. Car ports. ochure available Le-Joy Flats, 1 St, Laurieton, Hosts Stan and eima Broome (065) 59 9082.

especially in a group.

"Young Americans seem very interested in meeting people from other countries, and Focus '81 will provide this opportunity. Delegates are expected from New Zealand, Fiji, New Guinea and New Hebrides and inquiries have been received from Zimbabwe, South Africa, Ireland, the UK and

Inquiries about the convention and optional tours to the Focus '81 office, 3rd floor, 139 Castlereagh St, Sydney or Crossways Travel, 6th floor, 210 Pitt St, Sydney.

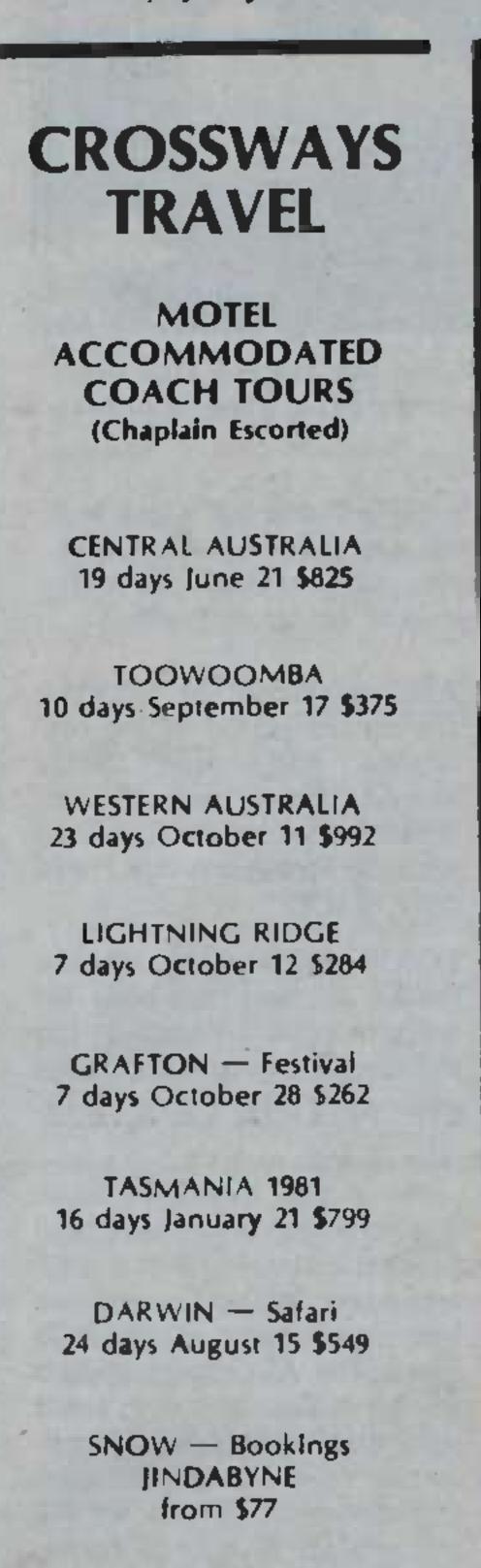
church.

ly members get no chance to be in the writing. together. The State government

ACIS

\$721 from Brisbane.

THE FOCUS '81 tour was Mr was cutting funds for promoted to travel agencies the rate to US and Canada makes Gullick's third trip to America psychiatric hospitals and is clos- idea of sending groups of people travel to these two countries in as many years, and he made ing many. Former patients from some interesting observations. such closed hospitals, he said, Travel to look after during their travellers. Prices for most things The most striking and shocking were just left to wander the to him was that in California, streets without care. He also Good Friday and Easter Sun- saw that beautiful San Franday are normal business days, cisco is deteriorating in some night, and host them with Christians being allowed parts, and that New York seems two hours off on Friday to go to to be overcoming some of its problems. New York subways He said 24-hour daily trading and trains, however, still suffer for many small businesses in vandalism: train windows are so California meant many family much written on, that to see break-ups: because of the hours what station you are at, you they are rostered to work, fami- must peer through a small hole During his visit, Mr Gullick



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SYDNEY Office: 6th Floor, 210 Pitt St, SYDNEY. (02) 212 1103, a.h. 909 3785

(Licensed Travel Agent B974)

2. A.C.T.S./SM TOURS VISIT CHINA **1980 TOURS**

1. Departing July 5th - 22 days - Hong Kong (4 nights); China (17 nights) visiting Kwangchow, Sian, Peking, Changsha, Kweilin, Group limited to 24 members - Leader Mr Tom Paterson - former Director Road Transport in the Commonwealth Department of Transport. Price: from Sydney \$2485.00.

2. Departing October 23 - 22 days - Hong Kong (3 nights); China (16 nights) visiting Kwangchow, Hangchow, Shangha, Chengchow, Peking; and Manila (2 nights). Group limited to 24 members. Price: from Sydney \$2417.00.

3. GRAND TOUR OF BRITAIN

Departing August 1 we spend 30 days touring in Britain -Devon/Cornwall, Wales, England and Scotland with visits to the Isle of Skye, Iona, Edinburgh Military Tattoo, with a four day stopover in Kuala Lumpur/Singapore on the return journey. Leader: Rt Rev G. A. McC. (Pat) Wood. Price from Melbourne or Sydney \$3629.00.

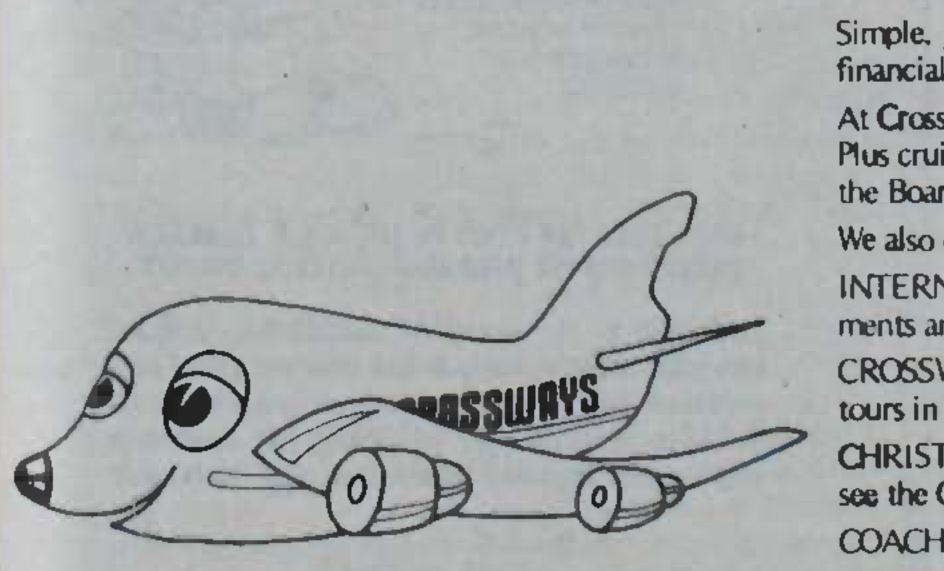
4. LANDS OF THE BIBLE TOUR

Departing on August 5 we spend 11 days in Israel, nine days in Greece including a three day cruise, and six days in Rome/-Pompeii/Sorrento. Our leader is Mr John Pocock of the Christian Missionary Alliance in Canberra, and the tour price is \$2825.00 from Melbourne or Sydney.

5. VISIT ALICE SPRINGS & THE RED CENTRE

Leaving on September 17 by air to Alice Springs with liberal local sightseeing before returning by coach via Victory Downs. Goober Pedy, Port Augusta, Flinders Ranges, Broken Hill, Mildura and Narrandera. An alternative is to travel to Alice on one of the final journeys of the Ghan.

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from NSW parishes to look somewhere of local interest.

Crossways Travel plans a tour to TV evangelist Dr Robert Schuller's Crystal Cathedral at Garden Grove, California in September and to other beauty spots of the western US.

to Australia, for Crossways favourable for Australian visit. Crossways will seek offers but accommodation are reasonable. Both America and after such groups for a day or Canada are shoppers' paradises and there is no language barrier for Australians. Visitors seldom have to haggle, or fear being

NSW parishes willing to host a group of American tourists are invited to get in touch at Sydney office, 6th floor, 210 Pitt St, or the Wollongong office, 2nd floor, Lombard House, Mr Gullick said the exchange 176 Keira Street.

6. U.S.A./CANADA TOUR

We leave by Pan Am on September 5 with Tom Paterson for Honolulul then on to Canada, through the Rockies, to Salt Lake City and Yellowstone National Park, to Toronto and Niagara, then Montreal, New York, Washington, New Orleans, Phoenix Grand Canyon, Las Vegas, Los Angels, Disneyland etc. This 37 day tour is good value at \$3349 from Melbourne.

7. BEST OF TASMANIA TOUR

This popular tour leaves on October 5 and we spend 11 days touring Tasmania visiting the most interesting places. All meals (except one lunch in Hobart) are included. Price: from Melbourne \$679.

8. SOUTH EAST ASIA TOUR

This tour is a little unusual. We leave on October 6 and spend two nights in Singapore, five nights in Burma, 10 nights in Thailand, four nights in Nepal and four nights in Hong Kong. There is liberal sightseeing and adequate free time, with an optional flight over Mount Everest. Our leader is Mr George Glazier, President of the NSW Branch of the Pocket Testament League, and the price is \$1990 from Melbourne or Sydney, and \$2014 from Brisbane or Adelaide.

9. WEST AUSTRALIA AT WILDFLOWER TIME

Our 18 day tour leaves on October 20 and all travel is by coach apart from two nights crossing the Nullarbor by train one way. This is one of our most popular tours and the prices are - from Melbourne 1st rail \$1111 (2nd rail \$1070); Adelaide \$984 (943); Sydney \$1143 (1077); Brisbane, \$1253 (1187). Concession for pensioners available.

10. NEW ZEALAND IN THE SPRING

During October we will repeat our popular 18 day tour of both islands of New Zealand, with an optional extension to the Bay of Islands. Prices are from Melbourne \$926; Sydney \$901; Brisbane \$921.

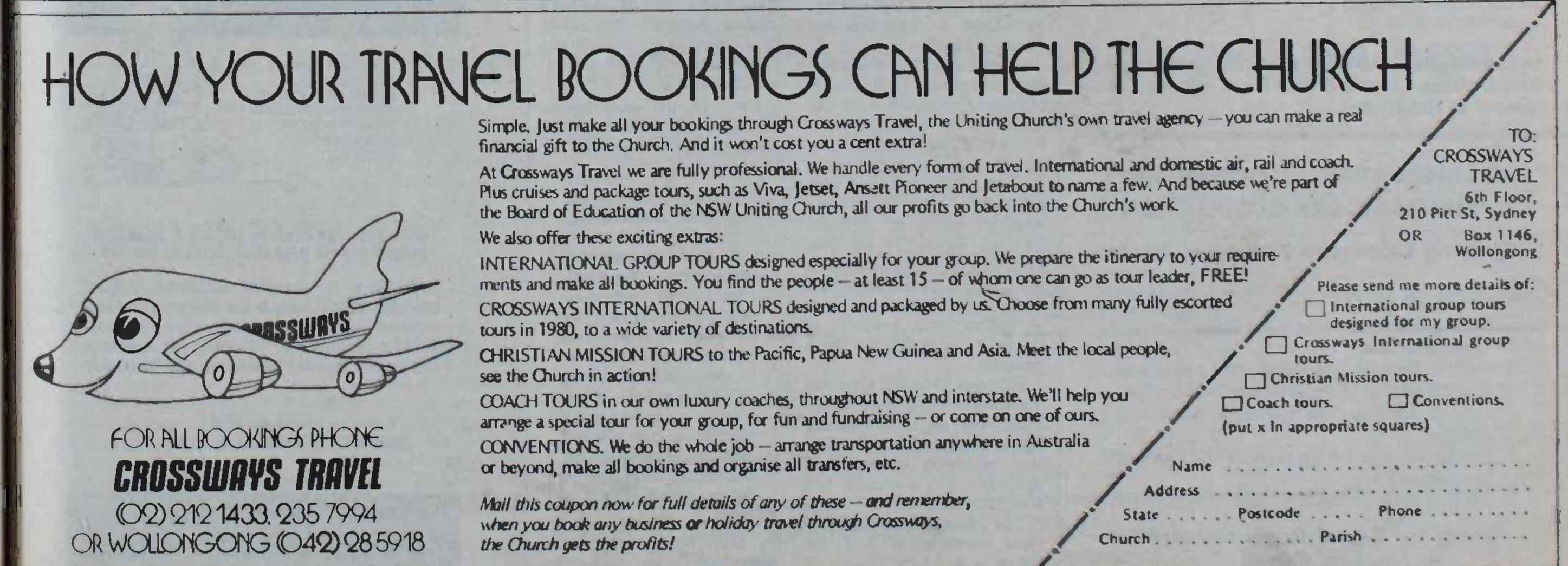
11. OBERAMMERGAU 1980

We have some vacancies on tours departing in May, June, and August. Send for details.

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1. TOUR TO CAIRNS WITH A.C.T.S./TRANS OTWAY

Leaving from Melbourne on August 23rd this 26 day coach tour travels via Sydney and Brisbane to Cairns and return with little duplication of route. The generous sightseeing includes visits to Hayman, Daydream, Green, Magnetic and South Molle Islands and a cruise through Whitsunday. This is a good value tour priced at \$1275 from Melbourne; \$1018 from Sydney; and

National and overseas

Dr Potter 'was not smuggled through Sydney': ACC

ON PAGE 2 of this issue, the editor, Paul Lynch, complains that Your Kingdom Come, the WCC conference in Melbourne. was poorly publicised, and criticises the Australian Council of Church's publicity efforts. Jean Skuse replies for the ACC:

AS GENERAL SECRETARY of the Australian Council of Churches may I express my regret that Forward wasunable to obtain some of the information it sought regarding the World Council of Churches conference on mission and evangelism.

This has been the most significant ecumenical event ever to be held in Australia. We have been delighted with the coverage of the conference given by the Melbourne based church media. The hosting of the conference in Australia placed heavy demands on ACC national staff. Our part-time publicity officer, Russell Rollason, organised the press room for 90 press people from all round the world, handled all pre-conference publicity, including the distribution of press kits to all rational and church press.

He endeavoured to give personal attention to each and every one of the Australian church press. For example, he personally wrote to Mr Leon Gourlay, general secretary of the NSW UCA board of communications services, some four weeks prior to the conference inviting coverage of the conference. He subsequently phoned from Melbourne to check if any decision had been made, only to discover that it was not possible for the Uniting Church in NSW to appoint a press representative to the Melbourne conference. Mr Gourlay indicated that Forward would receive news from Rev Warren Clarnette of the Victorian Uniting Church paper, so Russel redirected his attention to assisting Mr Clamette.



CAA plan for third world war

IN THE WAKE of Your Kingdom Come's dramatisation of the gospel to the poor, Community Aid Abroad organisa. tion is promoting a program of informal discussions to help Australians understand what it describes as the most desperate of struggles - the Third World war.

This is a battle for a higher prize than those sought in World Wars I and II, in CAA's view -- it's for the survival of mankind.

"The discussions will be held in private homes," says John Hughes, CAA education of ficer. "They will not be highpowered and formal:

Nungalinya graduates 5 students

CERTIFICATES of Theology were presented to five students at Nungalinya College's first graduation service in Darwin recently.

Each graduate was also presented with a message stick, traditionally carried by a messenger between tribes.

The five are: James Djilwuywuy (of Galiwinku, NT): Ken Minyipirriwuy (Milingimbi. NT); Peter Nyaningu (Emabella, SA); Silas Wolmby and McNaught Ngallametta (both Aurukun, Qld). They have had a regular commitment to study for at least four years, and have completed more than the required 400 class hours in Old Testament. New Testament, Theology and Field Education. All are continuing studies two are doing a bridging course in English, while the others have commenced the Diploma of Theology course introduced this year.

May I respond to the specific accusations.

THE ACC did not have a complete list of delegates or their travel itineraries prior to the conference. The first list of participants was completed during the period of the conference. In several cases, arrival times were not known until the person phoned from the airport.

THE ORTHODOX journalist who sought information on Orthodox participants was referred to the Secretary of the Standing Committee of Canonical Orthodox Churches of Australia and to the Melbourne Conference office where details were available.

HEADS of all major Christian denominations in Victoria gathered in Melbourne's new civic square to contribute 60-second sermons to the Churches Festival of Faith in association with-Your Kingdom Come.

Art and historical exhibitions and drama were featured during the festival. Our picture shows one highspot, the celebration of faith in

Mitchell. The assembly president was involved in nominating Uniting Church delegates to the conference. The full list of Australian participants was published in the March issue of In Unity and in a press release (sent to Forward) of April 15.

REV DR PHILIP POTTER was not "smuggled through Sydney". He had an hour between flights to catch a connection to Canberra where he was scheduled to speak at a Press Club luncheon. The press were notified of his Canberra arrangements. TO SUGGEST that Daisy Gopal Ratnam and Bernard Spong were smuggled through the city is absurd. When we heard they were coming via Sydney, the ACC organised a luncheon at short notice, issuMelbourne's barn-like old Festival Hall when some 7000 people gathered for a special Sunday evening.

WCC secretary Philip Potter left a sick bed to speak, and sat while he gave his address. Our Melbourne reporter says cynical old rally veterans were impressed despite themselves.

> ABC, advertised in Forward. During the period of the conference, ABC news carried several items, and Russell Rollason had personal contact with the Melbourne ABC news chief of staff.

> FORWARD is still on our press release list and has been for several years. Forward has regularly received information about the Melbourne WCC conference.

No doubt there are some matters which could have been handled better. With more staff and resources there could have been much more attention to detail. The ACC operates on a smaller budget and with fewer staff than many synod departments. Yet the churches expect the impossible. In faith, we will still attempt it, open to correction and encouragement.

"This is an education program - not a fundraising one."

CAA plans to train leaders later this month, for the informal conferences, and invites urgent applications from people seeking the training - on Saturday, June 21 and the evenings of Monday and Wednesday, June 23 and 25.

The program itself begins in mid-July, with four successive weekly themes: The Fight for a Feed, The Battle for Jobs, Arms or Alms, and an attempt to achieve structures for further action, entitled So What?

Inquiries to CAA, GPO Box 1000, Sydney 2001. Telephone: (02) 235 7663.

Church looks at bequests

UNITING churches throughout South Australia have been asked to focus on the importance of wills and bequests on Sunday, June 8.

This will be done through a

UNITING CHURCH participants in the conference included Rev Dr John Brown, general secretary, commission for world mission; Rev J. Lavender, moderator, Victoria; Mr N. Marsh, moderator, Tasmania; Rev David Gill, general secretary, Uniting Church assembly; Mrs Ethel

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As from June 1, 1980, we will no longer produce Uniting Church Name Bars. We hope to resume in the future.

SPRING CARNIVAL COMMITTEE CHRISTMAS CAKE COMPETITION

conference for over six months. 2CH and the ABC religious department had both carried interviews and the ABC department had broadcast several programs on the conference. Included was the broadcasting of a By the Way series on the

ing over 100 invitations to

members of mission boards and

other church committees. Ber-

nard Spong came straight from

the airport to the luncheon

(which the editor of Forward at-

tended) at the ACC, and all at-

tending that meeting were in-

vited to meet further with Mr

Spong that night. Mrs Ratnam

preached at St Andrew's

Cathedral at the lunch-hour ser-

vice, and a number of other

meetings were organised for

THE ABC AND 2CH regularly

received press releases about the

her.

special leaflet entitled Determining By Choice prepared for synod by a working group comprising people familiar with wills, bequests and estate planning.

A special leaflet prepared for use on that day will outline reasons for preparation of the leaflet, which sets out the importance and benefits of making a will, and outlines types of bequests that can be made to the church.

- UCNNS, Adelaide.

In South Africa, a night of song

THE PRISONERS' roll of a central police station in Johannesburg took on a distinguished cast on a recent Monday, when 50 of South Africa's best known Christian leaders and the wives of two spent a night in the cells after a peaceful march through city streets.

Those arrested included Catholics, Anglicans, Methodists, Presbyterians and Congregationalists.

Council of Churches head, Bishop Desmond Tutu, already effectively imprisoned in his homeland by an earlier confiscation of his passport, climbed into a paddy wagon under the eyes of police armed with submachine guns. So did the Anglican bishop of the city, Timothy Bavin. So did Rev Peter Storey, superintendent of the city's Central Methodist Mission. Mr Storey is to speak in Sydney next January, at Focus '81 — if he still has a passport,

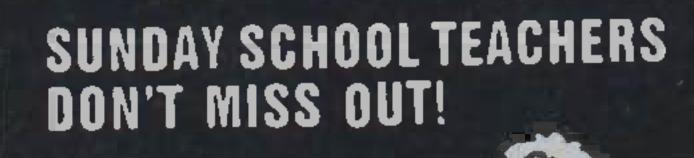
porting the nationwide school boycott by coloured and Indian children seeking an end to school discrimination. Mr Thorne was released several hours after his colleagues were

jailed. The 52 arrested, were released more than 24 hours after their detention, and will face trial on July 1 on charges. laid under South Africa's Riotous Assembly Act. They face possible maximum sentences of 100 days' imprisonment.

News of the mass arrests prompted this cable from the president and secretary of our assembly:

> Uniting Church in Australia shocked by

the church in South Africa was the subject of prayer on the Sunday that immediately followed the arrests.



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- 4. Entries become the property of the Carnival committee
- 5. Closing date: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

Board for Social Responsibility Support Group

All sang Onward Christian Soldiers as they accepted arrest: Peter Storey later told a Sydney friend, solicitor Peter Tebbutt, that the singing that ensued in the police cells overnight, had been "marvellous".

The 52 people arrested had been marching to seek the release of Rev John Thorne, arrested two days earlier for sup-

situation that led to arrests of church leaders in South Africa. We thank God for the courage of your people, the integrity of your churches, and their partnership with us in the worldwide family of Christian faith. UCA congregations throughout Australia will pray next Sunday for the people and churches of South Africa. Christ is risen.

In NSW, calls from synod secretariat to the presbyteries rapidly achieved agreement that

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