He Traineth

Are children trained
Only that they may reach some higher class?
Only for some few school-room years that pass
Till growth is gained?
Is it not rather for the years beyond
To which the father looks with hopes so fair and fond?

He traineth so
That we may shine for Him in this dark world,
And bear His standard dauntlessly unfurled:
That we may show
His praise by lives that mirror back His Love:
His witnesses on earth, as He is ours above.

Not only here
The rich result of all our God doth teach
His scholars, slow at best, until we reach
A nobler sphere:
Then, not till then, our training is complete,
And the true life begins for which He made us meet.

Look on to this
Through all perplexities of grief and strife —
To this, thy true maturity of life,
Thy coming bliss;
That such high gifts thy future dower may be,
And for such service high thy God prepareth thee.

— F. R. Havergal
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Annual Subscription — 3/6
Edited by Mrs. It. Long

FRESH MOTOR FACILITIES
FOR THE LORD’S WORK.

Our Palm Island Missionaries, Rev. and Mrs. J. Lloyd, have been praying for a small launch, and the Lord heard their request. They have recently purchased a 17-ft. boat with an outboard motor.

Mr. D. Walter’s desire and that of the Mission has been granted, and he has been enabled to purchase a suitable truck for the work in Northern Territory. It was previously owned by a brother in the Southport Assembly, Brisbane, and used in the Lord’s service. It was in need of some repairs which Mr. Walter, a motor mechanic, can do. He is now working on it and getting it ready for the journey he and Mrs. Walter will make from Brisbane to Katherine, Northern Territory.

The Rev. E. McQuaid has been able to replace his small car, which he found unsuitable for long journeys, with a Holden, in which he and his family travelled to Fingal for their holidays.

BRISBANE NOTES.

We rejoice to hear that Mr. G. E. Lean, with Mrs. Lean and Gladys, has been able to take a month’s holiday at Caloundra (Q.). Their strenuous activities have compassed much service in the A.I.M. They have given hospitality and much other service to our many Missionaries who pass through Brisbane.

We regret the resignation of the President of the Brisbane Ladies’ Auxiliary, Miss Abbott, who has served in that capacity, and has given faithful, acceptable service. Her removal to Maryborough (Q.) has brought about her loss to Brisbane. May the Lord bless her and open up fresh service for her in her new surroundings.

Mrs. Elms has kindly consented to fill the the place of Queensland A.I.M. Treasurer, made vacant by the acceptance of Miss J. Gadd as a Missionary of the A.I.M., who will shortly leave for an appointment on the Field. Moneys for the Mission may be left with Mrs. Elms, or posted to her at that address.

This year’s Annual Picnic for our Brisbane people on December 6 was a splendid gathering, in numbers and spirit. Miss Shankelton was able to be present and also Miss L. Carten, Miss C. Phipps, our Brisbane worker, and other helpers were gratified at the people’s response.

The following Tuesday night the Wacol people enjoyed their Christmas Tree in the open air. Mr. and Mrs. Lean drove Miss Phipps and Miss Shankelton out to the appointed place, and Mr. G. Smith, who is looking after the work at Wacol, drove out in another car.

Mrs. Barbara Scully and her family, from Darwin, now living at Wacol, were delighted to see Miss Shankelton, and the joy was mutual.

Siftings . . .

In the darkness there is only one light—the light of the love of God that shines from the Cross. But that light nothing can extinguish.

The bed of roses on which we see the other fellow reclining usually hides a great many thorns.

If we are to grow with God, we must learn the exceeding sinfulness of sin.

We are not preaching Christianity—we are preaching Christ, and His presence in the heart produces true Christianity in the life.

Let us each turn the searchlight on our own lives. Let us consider our own mistakes and faults. Let us be critical of ourselves; when we get through with that job we will have no time to be critical of the faults of others.

The best measure of a spiritual life is not its ecstacies, but its obedience.

We have to trust in God, whether He sends us money or not, whether He gives us health or not. We must have faith in God, not in His gifts.

Allow God to carry out His plans for you without anxiety or interference on your part.

God does not pay as others pay, In gold or land or raiment gay, In goods that perish and decay, But God’s high wisdom knows a way And that is sure, let come what may, Who does God’s work will get God’s pay.
Our Motto -
OUR GOD
IS ABLE

The Aborigines Inland Mission has for its object the evangelisation of the Aboriginal and half-caste people of Australia. It seeks to carry out the Lord's command, 'Go ye therefore and teach all nations . . . Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.' Matt. 28:18-20; with the establishment of an Indigenous Church and Native Ministry ever in view.

It is interdenominational in character. Membership is based on Absolute faith in the Deity of the three persons of the Godhead Absolute belief in the inspiration and authority of the Old and New Testament Scriptures and Absolute faith in the power of God to meet every need of His servants and His work.

The Mission is supported by the unsolicited freewill offerings of the Lord’s people given in answer to prayer.

The Rigour of the Everlasting No

"The Lord Appeared to Abram"—From "Not Knowing Whither"—By Oswald Chambers

"The Word of the Lord came unto Abram in a vision." God's method all through seems to be vision for the reality, but in between the vision and the reality there is often a deep valley of humiliation, as in Chapter 15:12, "Lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him."

How often has a faithful soul been plunged into a like darkness; after the vision has come the test and the darkness. Wherever God gives a vision to a saint, He puts the saints, as it were, in the shadow of His hand, and the saint's duty is to be still and listen. Chapter 16 gives an illustration of the danger of listening to good advice when it is dark instead of waiting for God to send the light. (cf. Gal. 1:15-16.)

When God gives a vision and darkness follows, wait; God will bring you into accordance with the vision He has given if you will await His time. We try to do away with the supernatural in God's undertakings. Never try and help God fulfil His Word. There are some things we cannot do, and that is one of them.

Never try to anticipate the actual fulfilment of a vision; you transact some business spiritually with God on your mount of transfiguration, and by faith see clearly a vision of His purpose, and immediately afterwards there is nothing but blank darkness. You trust in the Lord, but you walk in darkness. The temptation is to work up enthusiasm, you have to stay on God and wait (Isaiah 50:10-11).

If darkness turns to spiritual doldrums, you are to blame. When God puts the dark of "nothing" into your experience, it is the most positive something He can give you. If you do anything now it is sure to be wrong, you have to remain in the centre of nothing, and say “thank you” for nothing.

It is a very great lesson, which few of us learn, that when God gives us nothing it is because we are inside Him, and by determining to do something we put ourselves outside Him. Abraham would not stay in the land when the famine came because there was nothing. He would not trust God for a child because there was not one. God kept giving Abraham "nothing," i.e., Himself, and by determining to do something Abraham jumped outside God, and came to find that he was putting himself in the relationship of the Everlasting No. There are things God tells us to do without any light or illumination other than just the word of His command, and if we do not obey it is because we are independently strong enough to wriggle out of obeying. All God's commands are enablings; therefore it is a crime to be weak in His strength.

THE DIRECTOR'S ILLNESS

It is regretted that an issue of our A.I.M. was not published in January, but it was decided to make this issue's cover January and February.

This was owing, firstly, to the printers closing over the holiday period and into January; and, secondly, to the serious illness of the Director, who is the Editor of our A.I.M.

Mrs. R. Long took ill on January 21, and was in a critical condition for some days. But special prayer was made for her and the Lord heard and delivered her. Although she suffered a relapse, Mrs. Long, at the time of writing, is progressing satisfactorily, and is grateful for all the service rendered by the Lord's own to her and to Miss Long in the time of need.
CHRISTMAS ON OUR STATIONS
ON THE BAGOT RESERVE

Oh, what joy to be on the field again at Christmas time! It was a new experience for me being here in the Children’s Home in Darwin and also working on the Bagot Compound, situated right next to the Home.

Tuesday evening of the twenty-third of December we had the Bagot school verandah all decorated so nicely with multi-coloured streamers and bunches of cardboard carrots full of sweets hung around.

Gifts were hanging on the wire netting and round the wall. We did not need to ring the bell when all was in readiness, for the children were ready long before we were.

After singing Christmas carols and choruses and thanking our Heavenly Father for the lovely gifts He had sent us, the gifts were given out. We could not close the evening without the usual cakes, biscuits and cordial. A very happy time was spent among our people.

Christmas morning we gathered for a short service. It was lovely to see most of the young people leave their football and come in for the service.

It does not satisfy us just to see them come to the service: we long that they might come to the Saviour and serve Him.

On Christmas morning early it was my privilege and pleasure to join in the Christmas festivities of the Retta Dixon Home.

My small family of little boys of the Home, who have been placed in my care, have now gone away for a short holiday, but I have their gifts to mind during their absence—motor cars, trucks, boats, etc, — are here in my room until such times as the rightful owners return home again.

Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness and for His Wonderful works to the children of men. O magnify the Lord with me, let us exalt His Name together.

A. CAVANAGH.

FINGAL HEAD (N.S.W.)

“The Lord of Hosts is with Us.”

Yes, we have just celebrated the birthday of Emmanuel—“God with us.”—Early on Christmas morning, 4.30 a.m., we were awakened by the strains of music coming from the corner of our Church member, Brother Jim Lomas, who heralded the day by playing Christmas carols.

At 10 o’clock we held a service in the Church, at which were present Mr. and Mrs. Wall, of Brisbane, and Mr. and Mrs. Cardinal and family from Wynnum. It was an added joy to have their fellowship. Both Mr. Wall and Mr. Cardinal are preachers and so the following Sunday they occupied the pulpit the former at the morning service and the latter at night. Both services were very well attended, increased in the morning by the addition of a number of white visitors who are camping at Fingal.

I haven’t mentioned the Christmas Tree yet. This was the children’s night. The Church was filled. The children performed very well their items in singing and recitations. The Christmas Tree was loaded with lovely gifts, and the children were very excited and happy as they received their presents. A short message was given. Altogether we have had a busy, bright and blessed Christmas.

Now for some “ancient” history. Since a last report was seen from Fingal, we have had three excursions by bus to other places. First, we had a long trip—somewhere about 170 miles in the one day, to be present at the Native Convention at Cubawee in October. It was a joy to renew our acquaintance with Mrs. Grant and Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay Grant, whom we first met at Cowra. Mr. Grant was one of the speakers at the Convention. He is our Native Worker at Leeton.

The next trip was to Murwillumbah to be present at a C.E. Rally at which the Fingal Choir rendered an item. Rev. E. Potter of the Queensland Bible Institute was the speaker.

We also took a very large bus load of adults and children to the Sunday School picnic at Kingscliffe at the end of November. It was a happy day for the children.

Major and Mrs. Thompson of the Salvation Army, Murwillumbah, and their family were present at one of our Church services while spending a holiday at Fingal late in November. They also took part in an open-air meeting which preceded the service. The Major very kindly offered to “operate” on our sick Church organ and spent several hours one day taking it to pieces to find the trouble, and to rectify it as far as possible.

K. BOWEN.
NEWCASTLE WATERS

The problem of how to get the heavy suitcase of Christmas goods over to the Station huts was overcome in answer to prayer. A recent Daily Light reading had said— "Be careful for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God."

Rising from my knees, I saw one of the men, Bennett, arriving next door, and he readily shouldered the case. There had been a Christmas Tree party given at the Cattle Station, and by comparison my gifts seem small, and yet they were accepted with such grace.

Blind Carrie, Bennett’s mother, was seated outside her hut in the middle camp, alone but not at all depressed on that account. She is without a piece of soap, so I was going to take her a piece the next night. "Gifts for the poor," in the giving, bring one of life's most cheering experiences.

However, a burst blood vessel kept me anchored to the house the next day—a piece of wood while chopping piercing the vein and so it came about that the people on the hill camp came to the house, from where I distributed most of the remaining parcels.

The men made up the greater number, as they often did in the earlier days.

C. A. MAIN

NORMANTON (N.Q.)

The Christmas season passed very quietly.

The people enjoyed their usual "Christmas Tree" and were pleased with the gifts sent by Christian friends.

After the children had shyly sung “Jesus Loves Me” we gave thanks to God for “His Unspeakable Gift.” When the presents had been distributed all partook of cordials and cake.

Some of the local residents who were present assisted in cutting up the cake and the bank manager rendered good service in opening the bottles while the dark men served the drinks.

A local storekeeper very kindly donated two boxes of sweets and the cordial manufacturers let us have the cordials at wholesale price.

We closed by singing the Doxology. We were also favoured with cool weather on Christmas Day.

M. E. McAULAY

THE NATIVE WORKERS TRAINING COLLEGE

SINGLETON

We have never known a Christmas when so much was received for our students. It was wonderful and a great encouragement to know that so many thought of them.

We had kept all the packages that had come in the mail and they were piled up under a big Christmas pine tree given to us by Mr. Collard of Lower Belford. Christmas morning everyone had a pile beside them and then opened theirs in turn one after another.

Quite a few friends had sent money gifts. We put these altogether and bought each one of the students a substantial useful gift. For instance, the one who graduated, Linda Fogarty, needed a suit case so we bought one for her. Another wanted a camera, another a case for her camera, another a fountain pen. We were able to meet each of these from the combined gifts.

During December Linda Fogarty graduated. The service was held at the Maitland Road Church in Newcastle. It was a splendid meeting with Miss Shankelton as one of the speakers and the students presenting a Christmas play. Linda received a diploma and also a Bible.

We are all looking forward to our holidays in January. The students are going to the Gospel Fishermen Headquarters at Taree, Port Stephens, with Miss Jocelyn Gadd. We have taken a small place on Lake Macquarie for the same period and the McQuaid family have already left us for Fingal, for their vacation.

EGERTON C. LONG.

BLESSINGS IN THE WEST OF N.S.W

We have just concluded a week of encouraging meetings in the district. I have had the help of Fred Ferguson, and Jim Simons of Taree, who have taken meetings or at least taken part, and have done a good deal of the driving for me. We have travelled over 300 miles this week.

At Gilgandra where Mr. and Mrs. Naden accommodated the Simons family for several weeks, much blessing has been witnessed. Mr. and Mrs. Naden have been wonderfully encouraged in the Lord, and have had the joy of seeing two of their boys come to the Lord, and other relatives blessed. They are holding daily prayer meetings in their home and services nearly every night.

(Continued on Page 7)
On The Murrumbidgee

DARLINGTON POINT (N.S.W.)

On December 20th the little Church was the scene of bright activity as boys and girls watched the tree being brought to be decorated with pretty packets and parcels—truly lovely gifts for 75 children—and in the "Kinder" room, drinks, sandwiches and cakes were prepared.

At 4 p.m. the signal was given and the boys and girls lined up and marched into their seats, followed by the adults. The tree looked very pretty and there was much happy chatter and speculation as to what it held for each individual child.

All were reminded of God's great Gift, God's Son to be our Saviour, and that these gifts were the outcome of love in the heart for Him. Once again the old, old story was prayerfully told, some choruses sung and a prayer of thanksgiving offered.

Then came the distribution of gifts and many were the happy surprises as the beauty and quality of the gifts were realized. Dolls which were somewhat scarce last year, came to us plentifully this year and one of the happiest sights was a row of little girls in the front seat—each holding a doll of her very own. I wish I could describe the sweet content and wistful happiness on the faces of these little ones and the joy of all the boys and girls, for the gifts were of excellent quality.

On the platform behind the tree was spread a table with gifts for the mothers, who filed past choosing their own gift as they went.

After a while everybody was so busy excitedly opening up their treasures and enjoying them, and then the feast began. It was a happy time and some of the adults expressed their appreciation; one remarked: "It was all lovely and its the one day of the year when we all meet together." It was a tender touch and thus the Master speaks and cheers our hearts. We send our thanks to all who gave because of God's great Gift, and say God bless you.

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GRiffith (N.S.W.)

En route to Griffith (21 miles distant) we stopped to distribute gifts to little wayside Sunday School children, who were unable to attend any of the Trees. This gave great pleasure to the five children and one little visitor and of course to the parents.

On arrival at Griffith I found our faithful little helper Elsie Williams (now 15 years old) busy with another helper cutting sandwiches for the party. Together we worked and then proceeded to the shady spot where another dear girl, Alice Charles, had placed a tree under the shade of a big one.

In front of this we spread the canvas rug on which the children sat and watched with interest the gifts and decorations being hung. By the time this was finished and the tree looking very colourful and gay, the adults had arrived and our service of thanksgiving commenced.

The distribution of gifts brought very real joy to about 60 children and one of the girls remarked she had "never seen such beautiful gifts!" The children were almost too excited to partake of the lovely tea party but finally did realize that there was more to follow and settled down for the feast. Afterwards they were quite reluctant to leave the festive spot until told they could take their treasures home.

Once again the car was on its way, this time to Leeton, 38 miles distant.

LEETON

Here it was my privilege not to have all the hard work of preparation for a happy band from the Y. P.S. C. E. of the Baptist Church, under the leadership of Mr. Morrieson, had brought and prepared beautiful gifts.

On Christmas morning, about 9.30, cars and trucks speeded across to Aynesbury with a "Tree" on a lorry which was afterwards decorated with gifts.

The young people visited every home with the result that both children and adults gathered under the shady trees by the big canal and a lovely service was held. Choruses led by Maurice Amey, a message to the children given by Mat Copland and to the adults by Monty Power were followed by the distribution of beautiful and costly gifts, it being my privilege to present them to nearly 100 children, white and dark. Then followed a bountiful supply of ice cream and soft drinks.

One of the prettiest sights was two beautiful little curly-headed toddlers seated on car bonnets being fed ice cream by two of the young people, nurses from the Leeton District Hospital.

Thank you, young people, and God bless you.

M. CAMPBELL.
TINGHA (N.S.W.)

"He faileth not,"—how true are these words and as we look back, over the past year, we can praise the Lord for all the way He has led us and for all His mercies and blessings given to us. We are very thankful for answered prayer for two babies who were very ill but now are going along quite well.

We do praise the Lord for all His provision for us over the Christmas period and we are thankful to everyone who sent us gifts for our Christmas Tree, especially Epping Baptist and Croydon Park Methodist C.E. Societies.

On Monday 22nd, Mr. Symes, a neighbour, kindly took us and our gifts out to Southern Waters, where some of our people had prepared a bush shelter and a tree for us, all of which we appreciated.

Mrs. Blair, one of the Christian mothers, helped us decorate the tree and about 50 adults, young people and children gathered.

We started with a service and others helped distribute the gifts. A nice picnic was enjoyed although the weather was not the best, we were thankful that the Lord kept the rain away and gave us a blessed and happy time.

During the week, two of the people came here needing the Lord. Both made profession of receiving help from Him. Please join us in prayer for them and for many others who need the Saviour very much.

I. ARGERAKIS

BLESSING IN THE WEST—(Continued from Page 5)

Henry Solomon has been restored again and is a great help to Mr. Naden. Doreen Towney of Peak Hill is another who has come into blessing and is taking a Sunday School out at Gilgandra each week.

UNITED RALLY AT GILGANDRA

To climax the successful meetings held in the district, a Rally was held at Gilgandra on Sunday the 30th November. About 150 people gathered in the Name of the Lord to have fellowship together. Several carloads came from Wellington and Gulgambone and from Dubbo a bus and two cars carried the 60 odd people who spent the day at Gilgandra.

Mr. Naden, with the aid of Mr. H. Solomon, and others, erected an open-air auditorium with comfortably seated all who attended the meetings. The built-up pulpit and the public address system enabled all to see and hear the speakers.— W. R. Caddy

DELISSAVILLE (N.T.)

It was with gratefulness and praise that we pen another brief report of the doings of the past month. It has been a busy time, but we praise the Lord, whose we are and whom we serve. At all times we have been able to recognise His hand of love and blessing.

On the 2nd of December we recorded the return of one who for some time has been in the far country. This man was one of the foundation members of the Church. His was a humble confession of sin, and he has run well since. We pray on for the other four who are still out of touch.

On 6th December we rejoiced to have brief but happy fellowship with members from the United Church, Darwin, who came over with the Sunday School children for a picnic and treat for the native children here.

Miss Holley, a valued worker in the House at Darwin, was able the same day to spend the time with us. We were glad indeed to thus have fellowship with others in Christ Jesus.

The Christmas treat for our people took the form of a party, and then a Christmas tree at night with gifts for the children. Prior to the day set, we were found busily engaged pounding out 24 pounds of flour into biscuits, cakes and pastries, and on Christmas Eve most of the population of Delissaville enjoyed a rare treat. The young folk played games whilst the older ones sat around in the shade of the Church. Then in the cool of the evening the food and drinks were dispensed.

After a brief interval, a very happy lot of people gathered in the Church, and we sang the praises of God who became flesh and dwelt amongst us. The Church building was crowded out and our hearts were touched, when with the aid of the Flannel-graph the old, old story was told. Bobby read the Scripture for us that night.

Bobby's testimony is bright, praise the Lord. He with Roy, recently returned from backsliding, and a number of children decorated the Church. We rejoiced to have help and practical fellowship in the work. The Church was a lovely sight, and a well-laden tree at the pulpit spoke to us of many others "down south" who had shared in making the Christmas Season 1952 another to be remembered by all.

We praised God for the many who came who at other times have never been near us, to listen to the Word for many a long day. We trust that they might learn to love God's greatest of all gifts.

Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift!

M. PATTEMORE
CHERBOURG
VISIT FROM A FORMER MISSIONARY
Miss M. Shankelton, who had been on furlough from a strenuous ministry as Superintendent of the Children’s Home at Darwin, paid a brief visit to Cherbourg on her return journey early in December. She was accorded a very warm welcome by all. The first day was taken up in visiting some of the homes on the camp where cottage meetings were held.

At the first meeting where a group of children had gathered together with a number of the Christian mothers, Miss Shankelton appealed to the mothers to set up family worship in their homes, pointing out how the Lord would be honoured and their home life sweetened in so doing. A special story was told for the benefit of the children. Two other cottages where numbers had gathered were visited, and in both places Miss Shankelton opened up the Word of God to those present.

The same evening there was a special welcome back meeting in the Church, which was crowded. Slides of Darwin and the work there were shown, and later Miss Shankelton addressed the gathering, basing her message on the text: “The night cometh when no man can work.”

On the day of her departure the hospital was visited when the Matron personally conducted Miss Shankelton over the building and to see the patients. We believe that the Lord had a very real purpose in bringing back His dear child to her former field of service, even for so brief a time, and we believe that the result of her visit has, and yet will, redound to His honour and glory.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE
Last year, owing to the absence of the Missionaries in Victoria, it was not possible to have a Christmas Tree for the children, although our Native Worker, Mrs. Demlin, had provided another little treat for them. This year, however, everything worked together for a good time for the children. An unusually large number of gifts came to hand, yet even then not quite enough for the crowds of children who attended. The few who missed out have since received gifts.

Before half past five on a lovely summer afternoon upwards of one hundred and thirty children were seated on the grass on the east side of the Church where they received soft drinks, sandwiches and cakes. Later they adjourned to the Church where some of the children gave items, all based on the Christmas story.

The gaily decorated Christmas Tree was in the middle of the platform and choruses were sung pending the arrival of Father Christmas. His appearance was greeted with cries of joy from every part of the Church where many more children had gathered. He and Mr. Living had an impromptu dialogue before the gifts were given out, and this was the occasion for more joy! By the time the Christmas Tree was shorn of its gifts dozens of little hearts were happy because of the loving kindness of the Lord. “Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift!”

CHRISTMAS VISITORS
A warm welcome was accorded to Miss Rene Moore, who is a foundation member of the Business Women’s Auxiliary of the A.I.M., Sydney, and to our brothers Willie Brook and Ken Langdon from the Woorabinda Settlement. Miss Moore’s contribution to the ministry was deeply appreciated and blest of the Lord.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES
Three services were arranged for Christmas Day. The morning service was one of worship and praise to Him whose Name Isaiah predicted centuries before should be called WONDERFUL. “O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.” A small group met in front of the hospital and conducted a service for the benefit of the patients. Gifts were afterwards distributed.

The evening service was largely attended. The guest speakers were Rev. Ralph Hodgson, of Murgon and Mrs. Hodgson, late of India. Mrs. Hodgson gave an interesting account of customs in India. Mr. Hodgson, in his message on the Christmas story, emphasized the need of “pondering” on the things of the Lord as Mary did. Miss Moore’s flannelgraph on “The Shepherds” was a welcome addition to a worthwhile Christmas night service.

WELCOME BACK TO MISS LINDA FOGARTY
The Church was happy to welcome back Linda into the fellowship again after finishing her course at the Singleton College. In her response, Linda spoke of her desire to go into full-time service for the Lord when the time came for her to do so.

A COLOURED WRAPPER?

SUBSCRIPTION DUE!
PHILLIP CREEK (N.T.)

We have much for which we praise God at Phillip Creek. For over two months we only held about three services, and then perhaps had four children and two women. Prayer was made constantly, and now we are once again holding regular meetings, and we rejoice that we are able to visit the people in their camps.

I cannot say we have good attendances, either of children or women. We may have 15 children and 8 young women, but we do rejoice that there have been several who have hardly missed a service for two months. We rejoice that one Christian young woman, Annie, has been most faithful—how we long that other Christians will return and acknowledge their Lord by their boldness to attend Church services.

We, Miss Knox and I, rejoice to see the Lord removing obstacles and leading us on, one step at a time. I am unable to give a record of attendances at Phillip Creek because I have been sick for quite a little time. I am, however, most grateful for the many blessings which have been sent to us, and I ask God to continue to bless our work.

A. M. Fairfax.

CONDOROBLIN (N.S.W.)

MR. GOULTER ASSISTS.

I was able to get a nice Christmas Tree and help with the gifts, most of which were tied on to the many branches. All the young folk and several older people had a very happy time on Saturday afternoon.

On Sunday, Miss Fletcher having some throat trouble and reaction after her extra work, I took the meetings and had a nice time with the children at Muri, 23 of them, and with 17 on the Reserve, and had a meeting for all (about 30) in the afternoon.

In the evening, Mr. Naden, Native Worker from Gilgandra, and Henry Solomon, took the service, when about 70 were present. They showed some films, one of the Crucifixion. The speakers gave the Gospel message and appealed very earnestly. There was no visible response, though before the service they dealt with a man who had been drinking, and he came forward to show he is now trusting the Lord, and seems very happy about it.

—A. C. Goulter

A HAPPY RE-UNION AT EIDSVOLD QUEENSLAND

By Mrs. W. Wilson

(Mrs. Wilson who with her husband spent some years as a missionary at Eidsvold, recently had the joy of a visit to her old station. She gives the following account of her happy experience.)

I think my recent visit to Eidsvold will be one of my happiest memories.

With the joy was mixed a sadness that we no longer served God and our people there as we have sought to do in the years that are past.

Through the kindness of my dear friends Mr. and Mrs. Bettson, I journeyed to Gayndah with Mrs. Bettson and Khamla late in November to visit my sister, Mrs. Cribb, and family. Early in my visit Mr. Cribb drove us to Eidsvold where I stayed for a few days with friends.

A dear sister in the Lord Mrs. Beezley, one of our women, constituted herself as my guide and companion. In her car she drove me to each home and with her help I was able to visit a family at Eidsvold Station and Hollywell.

On Sunday afternoon we arranged a service for our dear people and we thank the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Lee for the use of the Church. A goodly number came, adults and children, all with happy expectant faces. In spite of the heat, for we were in the midst of a real Queensland heat wave, all enjoyed the service. Choruses and hymns were sung with the keenest enjoyment.

To me it was a peculiar joy and privilege to minister once again the Word of Life to the people I had known and loved for seven years at Eidsvold.

Each child was given a scrap book by Headquarters.

At Mrs. Beezley's invitation I again paid a brief visit to Eidsvold the day preceding my return to Sydney. In this dear sister's home the people gathered that night to bid me farewell and at their own request to have a meeting. Many came—over 50—it was a gathering long to be remembered. Such singing and earnest attention to the Christmas message! Two little ones were presented to the Lord in a Dedication service.

At the close we had happy fellowship over a lovely supper and sweet indeed was the fellowship with this one and that one. To me it came that by God's grace the seed sown, often in weariness and pain, will yet bear fruit, for in many was sensed a softness and longing for the things of God.

That night I spent in Mrs. Beezley's home. Early next morning, 5 a.m., I left on the long rail trip to Sydney. But not alone! With me a very precious little bit of Eidsvold—a little girl—Mavis Pope, lent to us by her parents and now sharing our home at St. Ives, where we pray by God's grace she will enter into a blessed experience of Christian life.

Pray for Eidsvold, that the people there will be kept by God and that He will, in His own time, send forth His shepherd to care for His flock.
Mr. and Mrs. COLLINS left for their furlough on Boxing Day. They attended the Belgrave Heights Convention en route, and left by boat from Melbourne for Tasmania on January 5. Their two sons, David and Roger, are staying with friends until their return.

Mr. and Mrs. BOWEN also commenced their furlough with the New Year, and came down to the Basin, near Palm Beach, N.S.W., with their four children, Paul, Beth, Ruth and Peter. The older ones will be returning to Fingal for school.

Several of our Missionaries are taking their annual three week's holiday this month: Mr. and Mrs. Living, of Cherbourg, are having theirs on the Queensland coast; Miss Fletcher, of Condobolin, is in Brisbane with her mother and relatives; Miss Dinham, of the Retta Dixon Home, went across to Mr. and Mrs. Pattemore at Delissaville; and Mr. and Mrs. McQuaid and Bob, Judy and Keith, went to Fingal, N.S.W. for theirs. The College students have gone to Tanilba for their vacation, with Miss J. Gadd.

Mr. and Mrs. WATSON and their two little girls, Ruth and Naomi, expect to leave Sydney for Normanton, at the close of their furlough at the end of January. A farewell gathering of their Concord (N.S.W.) friends and others will be held in the East Concord Methodist School Hall on January 22.

Mr. A. C. GOULTER spent the Christmas season helping with the festivities at Condobolin. He then went to Griffith to make preliminary arrangements about the building of the Mission House there, and will be returning to begin operations.

Mr. STRETTON has made progress with the Mission House building at Katherine, Northern Territory, in very great heat just before the rains commenced.

He went up to Darwin to help with the holidays of the boys at the Retta Dixon Home.

BRISBANE LADIES' AUXILIARY.

The closing meeting for the year 1952 was both a sad and a happy occasion. Sad because we had to say good-bye to our dear President, Miss Abbott, who is leaving Brisbane to reside in Maryborough, and happy because we had with us Miss Shankelton to tell us of the work in Darwin. The Bunyaville ladies kindly united with us, so we were a nice number present.

Miss Abbott gave us a helpful message on "grace" and "peace" from 2 Thessalonians. Sister Grace, our Vice President, on behalf of the ladies, presented Miss Abbott with a book of daily devotional messages, and spoke of the love and esteem in which we held our President, and the gap which we shall feel. Miss Abbott feelingly responded, and thanked the ladies for the love and co-operation, and the unity she had felt in our meetings, and said she hoped to come down and visit us occasionally.

Miss Shankelton gave us a very interesting talk on the work at the Home in Darwin, and of the kind of children who are received, and of the work in general. We shall now be able to pray much more definitely for the work there since having heard her. Miss Abbott presented her with some gifts, and thanked her for coming to us. The last of our Christmas money was allocated, and we thank the Heavenly Father for His goodness to us throughout the year, and trust Him for the coming one.

— R. Thoday.
Building a Church
By J. O. Oakman
HOW THE LORD PROVIDED.
(Continued from last month)

Next day I started work; I noticed there were only 11 blocks on the place, and we wanted 15 for the building, and another four for the steps, plus another three for rooms which were going to be the home for the Missionary.

On the day of our arrival, there was a meeting at night to welcome the builder, and also for a powerful supplication to our Lord to supply all our needs. This meeting was held in the house of one of the people, close to the place where the church had to be built.

Miss Monks took the meeting. Everyone had to come to the front in turn to pray aloud, asking the Lord to provide all we needed to build His House. The children were a bit shy, but Miss Monks encouraged them to speak up aloud, saying: "Don't be afraid, the Lord is also our Father, and all the world belongs to Him, it's only just to let Him know we are ready to start building His House."

This meeting was simply wonderful; more than once I was hiding my face to wipe away tears could not help shedding when I saw the blind confidence they all had in Christ. I had never seen anything like it before.

The next morning I started digging holes for the posts, wondering if really it was of any use for us to expect any answer to that kind of prayers.

The following day, about ten o'clock in the morning, a man driving a dray loaded with posts arrived on the scene and started to unload. I walked up to him. "Are these posts for the church?" I asked. "Yes." "Who ordered these?"

"Nobody. I had them lying about the yard, and I thought Miss Monks may want them."

Well, what about it? The right number of the right length. Believe me, things began to upset me.

Miss Monks arrived to see what was doing, and also to tell me more money had come in, and she thought we had nearly enough to finish the timber part.

Just then they were busy building a new bridge over the Burnett River. A week before my arrival, a flood had carried away over £400 worth of material. The man in charge was sacked for negligence, and the Company sent another man, Mr. Cecil from Brisbane, in his stead. This gentleman was a real Christian, a Methodist, taking meetings in that church at Gayndah. Miss Monks had already met him, and naturally he was interested in the building of the new church, and promised Miss Monks, if need be, he would give a helping hand.

LIFE EVERMORE

It was with sorrow we heard of the death of Neville Krause, the 19 years old son of Mr. F. A. Krause, Headmaster, and Mrs. Krause, school teachers on Palm Island, who was killed in a road accident on November 1.

Neville's early life was closely associated with the A.I.M. on Palm Island, his parents having arrived there when he was 3 years old. He received his early Christian training when he attended the A.I.M. Sunday School and other children's meetings, and sat for the A.I.M. Annual S.S. Examinations.

He was sent to Thornburgh College and while there for 4 years completed his Senior University examinations, and at 15 entered the Senior Teachers' Training College. At the time of his death he was Head Teacher at the Lannercost School, in the Ingham district.

During his study years he took an active part in the work of the Woolloowin Methodist Church, and amongst the young people there. He also assisted in the Campaigners for Christ movement and was preparing for a Local Preacher's Examination.

He was very keenly interested in his military training and held the rank of Sergeant in the C.M.F. He had the ambition of one day becoming a minister of his church, and his parents believe his ultimate aim was to become a Padre in the army.

The funeral took place in Townsville, three members of his military unit and three O.K.S acting as pallbearers. A Memorial Service was held in the Ingham Church a fortnight later when all sections of the community and organisations with which he was associated were present, the church being filled to full capacity. The Minister, the Rev. Mr. Cassells, paid tribute to Neville's life as a Christian, a citizen, a soldier and as a leader.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Krause and their family. All through the years they have been faithful friends to our Missionaries, particularly following the complete destruction by fire of our Mission House on Palm Island, when they took our Missionaries into their home and succoured them in every possible way.

As Mr. Krause has said, their beloved son has been called to higher service with His Master, until the day break, and the shadows flee away.
Aborigines Inland Mission of Australia

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Offers of Service as Missionaries may be addressed to the Hon. Secretary of the Federal Council at Headquarters or State Councils.
General Inquiries should be addressed to the A.I.M Office or State or local Representatives.

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