

A
MONTHLY
RECORD
OF THE
ABORIGINES
INLAND MISSION
OF AUSTRALIA
FOUNDED :
August 1st, 1905.



OUR AIM:
To give Light to
them that sit in
darkness.

THE FIELD:
The
85,000 Aborigines
of Australia.

THE COMMAND
Matt. 28: 19-20.

Registered at the G.P.O., Sydney, for transmission by post as a newspaper.

[Edited by Mrs. L. W. LONG.]

VOL. XIV. No. 11.

JULY 18, 1921.

Price: ONE SHILLING per year.

IF YOU FAIL HIM--WHAT THEN ?

"HE IS COUNTING ON YOU".
ON A LOVE THAT WILL SHARE
IN HIS BURDEN OF PRAYER
FOR THE SOULS HE HAS BOUGHT
WITH HIS LIFE-BLOOD: AND
SOUGHT
THROUGH HIS SORROW AND PAIN
TO WIN "HOME" YET AGAIN:
HE IS COUNTING ON YOU,
IF YOU FAIL HIM--WHAT THEN?

"HE IS COUNTING ON YOU"
OH! THE WONDER AND GRACE
TO LOOK CHRIST IN THE FACE
AND NOT BE ASHAMED;
FOR YOU GAVE WHAT HE
CLAIMED,
AND YOU LAID DOWN YOUR ALL
FOR HIS SAKE--AT HIS CALL
HE HAD COUNTED ON YOU
AND YOU FAILED NOT--WHAT
THEN?

The Aborigines' Inland Mission of Australia.

OFFICE: 264 PITT STREET, SYDNEY. **DIRECTORS:** MR. and MRS. L. W. LONG.
 (Private Address: "Beulah," Devonshire St., Croydon, N.S.W.)
WATCHWORD: Our God is Able.
OBJECT: The Evangelisation of the Aborigines.
CHARACTER: Interdenominational, and accepts candidates who satisfy the Council as to their soundness in the faith and their call to the work.
MESSAGE: Salvation to the uttermost through Christ alone—Acts 4, 12
SUPPORT: The Mission is supported by Freewill Offerings given unsolicited in answer to prayer.

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Friends of the Mission are invited to join in intercession for the work on the **FOURTH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH.**

SUBJECT FOR JULY:

BULGANDRAMINE.

Next Prayer Day—July 28.

Monthly Prayer Letter on the subject allotted for prayer on application to the Prayer Band Secretary.

ON DEPUTATION WORK:

MISS K. SIMMONS. MISS M. BROWN.

MONTHLY PRAYER MEETINGS

of the A.I.M. are held as follows:—

N.S.W.—On the 4th Thursday at 3 p.m., in the Ashfield Bapt. Tabernacle.

VICTORIA—On the 4th Thursday, 3 p.m.—Mrs. Ellis' Residence, 43 Hardiman Street, Kensington.

Prayer Meetings, every Wednesday at A.I.M. Office, 264 Pitt Street, 1.30 p.m.

OUR AIM.

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The name and address of the business manager.

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With thanks,

EVELEEN N. GEARY,
Business Manager.

10/7/21.

Editorial.

NEW DATE OF PUBLICATION.

For a long time our printer has found it impossible to get "Our Aim" ready for publication at the end of the month. In consultation with him it has been

decided to publish in the middle of each month instead of at the close. Our readers will bear with us, I am sure, during the re-adjustment, for it has caused June issue to be very late. We are posting June and July under the same wrapper. The change of date should be more convenient and helpful, as the paper will now reach the readers' hands before the Mission's prayer-day each month, and no doubt subjects for prayer will be suggested to your hearts and minds as you read the news of the work.

* * * *

We purpose changing the matter on page 2 to give you a clearer idea of the extent of the work, and to allow of fresh information being given.

We feel the need as keenly as ever of our readers' help by prayer that our Mission's organ may always give clear testimony to the power of the Lord Jesus to save and uplift from the uttermost depths, and also to the grace He so fully makes to abound to His servants in every circumstance into which their work leads them.

GIVING TO THE LORD'S WORK.

The plain fact is that we are never safe unless we begin by resolutely devoting a definite portion of income to the Lord's work. It is the only path of safety. If we trust to any haphazard method, the adversary will deceive us, for we are not ignorant of his devices. It is not of the precise amount that we are thinking, but the establishment of the principle. We think it would be unwise to lay down any hard and fast rules as to the amount that should be set aside for the Lord; He has given us perfect liberty, and we must be led by His Spirit; but we are quite certain if some proportion is decided upon, and faithfully observed, we shall be giving a great deal more each year to the Lord's work than we do at the present time. Even young believers should be encouraged to give in this way. It is a healthy method, and it will guide them aright when riches increase. It is something more than a coincidence that the men who began their career by adopting this principle have been exceedingly prosperous in the Lord. The Lord will be debtor to no man.



The .
Harvest .
Field. . .

NEWS FROM OUR MISSION STATIONS

BULGANDRAMINE.

For many months past, we have had battles with the evil one, we have felt his power and the awful sway which he holds over our poor people—but greater is He who is for us than he who is against us, and now I can tell of victories won. Our hearts are full of thankfulness and praise, for we have the joy of seeing some who once took a stand on the Lord's side, but drifted away, now returning. They have made a new surrender. One of our young men who has a contract a little distance out from the Mission, has quite a little band of Christians round him, and at their camp they hold meetings almost every night. How they make their voices ring out through the stillness of the evening when returning to their camp after attending our meetings! Also a number of men have banded together to use their power to stamp out evil which has caused much trouble amongst us, and at a meeting which they held amongst themselves decided not to allow gambling within half-mile of Mission.

Recently I was called aside to rest awhile, and during that time the pain I suffered was intense, but the joy I had far outweighed the pain, and I can now truly say I am thankful, for it was a time of great blessing. The love which my flock showed towards me was very touching—women and children came to see me—men made many inquiries for me. Two of our men regularly keep us plentifully supplied with wood, but during this time others came and offered their services, which were gladly accepted. During this time one of our young men conducted all our services and meetings, which were well attended. This was a very great joy to me.

I will now take this opportunity of thanking the Burton Street J.C.E. for the parcel of clothing sent, which was much appreciated, and I will also thank all kind friends who contributed towards our mission tank. We now have a 400 gallon iron tank, almost new—it will be a wonderful blessing to us during the summer months—We thank God for all His wonderful goodness to us.

—R. TAYLOR.

BARHAM.

One afternoon one of our Christian women came to the Mission House and said she and her children were likely to go to Barham for the midwinter holidays, and she thought it would be a good chance for me to go if suitable conveyance—another horse and harness and a pole—could be secured. I told her I would be very glad. She succeeded in getting what was wanted, and sewed bags together for a small tent. The start was not made, however, without a few hindrances, such as a horse refusing to be caught, harness going wrong, a narrow escape from an upset, etc. Nevertheless we got safely to Barham, about 50 miles journey, in time to have a service on Sunday morning. School and another service were held in the afternoon. At the latter service Mr. E. Atkinson, from Cummeragunja, addressed the meeting. It was a great joy to meet our people here, and have worship with them. Other meetings have been held since, one of which was conducted by white friends who brought an organ over and used it for the benefit of those present. The Anglican minister, Rev. McKenzie, who has given our people services before, would have officiated, only he had been called away. It is good to see the way the Christians here interest themselves in the spiritual welfare of the half-castes who are here. The children are welcomed to the Sunday School and Sowers' Band.

While here I have been the guest of Mrs. Vincombe, who has done all possible for my comfort. There are several cases of sickness here, which may lead to the visit being prolonged beyond the week. There are indications that it is at the right time we have come, but of course we know the Lord always leads so. While I am away Miss Wiesner is holding the fort at Moonah Cullah, to which place some more of the families have returned. We pray for guidance for the others who are still in other parts.

—M. I. CREBBIN.

CONDOBOLIN.

Things are much brighter here now. One young man who had wandered from God came back to Him on Friday; then a Moonah Cullah boy and one of our women got right with God on Sunday afternoon, and another on Sunday night. Praise God. There is a lot of sickness just now, and a death occurred last week.

I have received a splendid lot of papers through the post, and also books for the people and myself, and ask the senders to please accept our hearty thanks. It has encouraged me to hear of the dear friends in Melbourne gathering things together for my comfort at Trida.

—F. GINGER.

COWRA.

Psalm 72, 18-19.

Truly the words of this psalm are applicable to what has transpired on our reserve this month: "Blessed be the Lord God . . . who only doeth great wonders. Blessed be His glorious name for ever."

We have had the shady side, for the drink fiend has been busy. Death has entered our ranks, taking one of our brightest boys, he had made a profession some time ago, and we trust it was real, and that to-day he is rejoicing in the presence of his Lord. He leaves behind a heart-broken father, and we would ask the prayers of God's children for him—that this time of bereavement may be a time of spiritual blessing, and be the means of drawing the family nearer to God. But the sunlight of His presence and the power of the Holy Ghost, has chased all shadows away; and we can only bow before Him as we utter the words of the greatest, and yet the least of all the apostles—"Unto me who am less than the least of all saints is this grace given, that I should preach the unsearchable riches of Christ." We have witnessed a Pentecost—souls swept into the kingdom—Thirty out of about forty people standing to testify either that they were saved or desired to be saved. Oh the wonder! the joy of it all!—words can never express it; pen fails to describe it. Only He who reads and understands our hearts can comprehend it, as we say, "Not unto us, but unto Thee be the glory."

Amongst those who stood were some for whom special prayer has been made—so our praying friends can still pray on, knowing God answers prayer. Brethren, pray without ceasing.

—M. HUGHSON.

TERRY-HIE-HIE.

This month has been a wet one; meetings and services have consequently not been so well attended. At the beginning of the month a request was made by the men and lads for a night school. It was arranged that they should meet for school on three evenings a week. Much interest is shown in their work, and we trust good progress will be made. Questions are asked from time to time, and the replies listened to with an interest that shows a deeper desire to understand more clearly the Word of God. A great gloom was cast over the reserve when news came that Mr. Cory, of Terry-Hie-Hie Station had passed away; he will be greatly missed. Most of the people living on this reserve had been about the station from childhood. As the funeral passed through the reserve they reverently followed for a long distance, and many expressions of sorrow and sympathy were uttered by them for his family. Some of our people who were in Moree attended the funeral there. The hearts of all were

sad, for only just a fortnight before old Mr. Combardillo, one of the last of our old people on this reserve, passed away. A few days before news came through that he was ill in Moree Hospital, but owing to the very bad state of the roads it was impossible for anyone to go in. This month we had a visit from Mrs. Bowen and my sister. They were pleased to see the improvements made to the Mission House and grounds by one of the elder men, who has worked hard and willingly on many odd jobs that needed doing very badly. Our thanks are also due to those who have chopped us such good supplies of wood throughout this wet season, and to the friends in our neighbourhood who have so kindly supplied us with meat, milk, and vegetables. Literature and gifts in kind and money from friends afar have been received, and their thoughtfulness greatly appreciated. "Let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His Name." —F.B.B.

KARUAH

The falling leaf and the bare trees around make us realise how quickly time is flying, and these words are ringing in my ears: "Oh, ye saints, arouse, be earnest, up and work while yet 'tis day." I have much to praise God for, and do thank Him for sending Mrs. Deuchar into our midst, and I truly appreciate her help and cheerful presence, and pray that God will abundantly bless her in her labour of love for Him. We have been well supplied with firewood during this cold and rainy season. A local friend also sent along a nice donation of groceries, for which we were truly grateful, and many other little kindnesses have been received. We were pleased to have Mr. Long in our midst lately. The object of his visit was to unite two of our young people in marriage. We congratulate the young couple, and pray that God's blessing will rest on this union. Some few weeks ago, two of our little baby boys, Joe and Roy Dates (twins) celebrated the first anniversary of their birthday, and their parents desired to have a little thanksgiving service. It was held in the church, and quite a nice number of our people gathered together in the church to rejoice with the parents, and during the evening refreshments were provided. We held our business meeting on the last Saturday night of June, and it was decided to send half our offering money from the church to Missions, so as to help forward the extension of the Kingdom. This time a portion (£1/10/3) was sent to help the work at Trida. We feel that the way is brightening in our midst and some of the difficulties are melting away. Continue in prayer. Many thanks to friends for magazines and papers received, they are always most useful and welcome.—M. ACLAND.

Scripture Message for Month. Jer. 1-19

THEY SHALL FIGHT AGAINST THEE; BUT THEY SHALL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST THEE; FOR I AM WITH THEE, SAITH THE LORD, TO DELIVER THEE.

THE QUEENSLAND AUXILIARY OF THE A.I.M. OF AUSTRALIA.

The interest of Queensland Christians in the work of the A.I.M. has been steadily growing since it began in a very small circle, through the first visit of the Directors nearly 12 years ago. The friends who attached themselves to us then have stood the test of years supporting us by prayerful fellowship and co-operation. It was a pleasure to meet so many of them again during our recent visit. The Mission made two attempts to establish a mission centre at Herberton, and each time through retirement of workers had to withdraw. But confident that the Lord desired them to take a hand in making Jesus known to Queensland's 20,000 Aborigines, 3½ years ago a third attempt was essayed. This time one of the senior missionaries, capable and experienced, offered herself to lead the way in the new effort. After a time in Brisbane, seeking to stir up and deepen the sympathy of the Lord's people, Miss Stewart went up to Gayndah, in Central Queensland, and has heroically forged a way through until now a successful mission centre has been established. Miss Stewart has since been joined by Miss Campbell, and more recently by Miss Mary McAulay. For a few months Miss Tomkins laboured at Gayndah also, but pressing need of workers in N.S.W. necessitated her taking up work on a station there. Miss Acland, another senior missionary, has been set apart to open a new district in Queensland, viz., Ingham, but for the time being is needed on an important N.S.W. station. Yet another missionary, Miss K. Simmons, is about to take up work in another part of Queensland.

Seeing the Mission has now a footing which has had to be fought for and won from the enemy, we considered the time had come to unite and consolidate the increasing interest in the work of the A.I.M. Taking the invitation to participate in the Missionary Exhibition held June 13-17, as an indication of the Lord's leading forward, Mrs. Long followed, and at the close of the Exhibition invited those on whose hearts the evangelisation of Australia's Aborigines was laid, to meet her at the Queensland Missionary Depot, on Thursday, June 23, at 7.45 p.m.

By means of a blackboard the Mission's operations in N.S.W. were portrayed, and then

the need of Queensland was presented to the friends who had come with full purpose of heart to help. All present gave their names and addresses as willing to become members of the Auxiliary. Mr. Albert Chisholm was elected secretary of the Queensland Auxiliary, and Mr. P. Gribble volunteered as Queensland State Agent for "Our Aim," and several others indicated their willingness to become local agents. Rev. L. Jagers was a helpful participant in the proceeding. We do not know whereunto this will grow, but we do most earnestly lay this new venture at the Master's feet and pray that He Himself who has so far led, may be Himself the foundation and the builder and the Captain leading on till His Name be known in all the earth.

BUNDABERG.

An undelivered telegram caused our arrival in Bundaberg to be altogether unexpected on Monday night, June 20. But Mrs. Schmidt, the devoted succourer of the Lord's children, made the best of the circumstances, and gathered together a small company of missionary-hearted friends in the Presbyterian School Hall on Wednesday, June 22, at 3.30 p.m., with Pastor Reuther as chairman. Surely a better could not have been found, for our brother was born on an Aboriginal Mission Station in Central Australia, of which his parents were the missionaries. As he himself expressed it, he "has a heart for the Aboriginal, and it ever goes out in love at the sight of one of them."

After an address telling of the extent of the Aboriginal field and the A.I.M.'s portion of the work, and the blessing which has followed the proclamation of the gospel, it was thought advisable to form an auxiliary of the A.I.M. in Bundaberg. Miss E. Lightbody was chosen as secretary, and it is her intention to call together as many as possible on the fourth Thursday of the month for prayer and the furtherance of the work.

We had the privilege also of addressing the Methodist C.E. Society on the Tuesday night, and at the close several spoke words of cheer and fellowship, and one proposed that 10/- from its funds be donated to the A.I.M. It was refreshing to meet these bright warm young people, who were discussing with earnestness and spiritual discernment the subject of "Life Service."

News Notes.

At the last Karuah Mission Church business meeting half of the month's weekly offerings was voted for Missions. After hearing the prayer letter read, it was decided to send the amount, £1/10/3, to Miss Ginger toward the expenses of a visit to Trida.

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Mrs. Bowen and Miss L. Barnett have been on a short visit to Miss Barnett at Terry-Hie-Hie. The people were all very glad to see them and gathered in large numbers for a meeting on the Monday night.

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Writing from Terry-Hie-Hie, Miss Knight says:—"The children are so good at the meetings; they put many white children to shame the way they remember their texts and answer questions on the previous lessons. No need to look them up for Sunday School; they arrive sometimes an hour before the time."

* * * * *

One of the old men at Terry-Hie-Hie seems to be always thinking of something to do for the comfort of the Mission House. He has made a bridge from the kitchen (which is a separate room) to the bedroom, so the missionaries will not get their feet wet; has cut all the long grass away from under the clothes-lines, and has also made two cupboards in the meeting room, one for books and one for Miss Barnett's papers.

* * * * *

We are sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Cory a station owner, the nearest neighbour of our Terry-Hie-Hie missionaries. He and his family have shown the missionaries many kindnesses and we are glad Miss Barnett was able to be with him in his last moments and to remain to be of some little comfort to his stricken loved ones.

* * * * *

During the month Miss Taylor was laid aside for some days with a bad shoulder and arm, and suffered much pain. The kindness of Miss Walker and also her flock lessened the keenness of the trial. We are glad to say she is better again.

* * * * *

Miss Brown left W.A. on June 11; and is spending a little time in Melbourne, taking opportunities afforded her to speak about the work.

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Some very precious gifts reach us. Miss Stewart has received beautiful bibles from children at the Petrie Terrace Baptist Church. They were won by them for bible-searching and

then given to the dark children in Miss Stewart's district at Gayndah.

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A lady noticing that one of our missionaries was without a watch, offered one she must have prized, having come down to her from her grandmother.

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We were cheered by the kind action of a friend of the Mourbanj Mission in India, who directed us to a printer for some necessary printing in connection with the formation of the Queensland Auxiliary, and then later came and very kindly paid the account.

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Further help was rendered by a young Endeavourer preparing very nice cards for use in the meeting to signify desire for membership of the auxiliary.

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We are also indebted to Mr. Tunley's representative for so kindly loaning us their room, free of charge, for our meeting, and for other favours cheerfully given.

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From a bed-ridden invalid:—

"I gave a friend a copy of "Our Aim" last month, and he was very interested and now he has secured two more subscribers. That makes 10 subscribers in all who get "Our Aim" through me."

* * * * *

From a young girl in a country place:—

"I have gained one other subscriber to "Our Aim," that makes 9, so will be glad if you will send this number."

* * * * *

From a helper at Tamworth:—

He asks for 12 copies for new subscribers in the town.

NO! NO ONE TELL ME 'BOUT HIM.

Poor old "Tinker," king of the Mercadool people, came in for a little while from the country. I was trying to explain to him "the Way." He said "No; no one tell me 'bout Him," when I asked him had he heard of Jesus. I had to tell the old, old story very simply; he followed every word and seemed to brighten up so, as he grasped the meaning. I had told him Jesus was the way to heaven, and he said, "No; me no know the way there." Poor dear old soul! Very specially pray for him, for the Holy Spirit can reveal the full light to him. He tried to say after me "Jesus Christ loves me." He could not pronounce the words properly, but I believe he grasped the meaning of them. He was going away and there was no further opportunity to speak to him. One just longs to be in every place at once. Oh, if people would only realise the need and could look into the faces of these hungry souls, they would not hold back.

—F. E. BARNETT.

GAYNDAH, QUEENSLAND.

Miss Stewart is home again. She is very tired and feeling the reaction a little, but is just full of joy and made our hearts glad telling us of the happenings in Brisbane. We have been very busy, such a lot coming and going; we had the Kellys and the Simpsons in from the bush. It was lovely to see them, and to find they had not forgotten what we had taught them when they were here months ago. The Simpsons are such a nice little family, six children so gentle and refined. I was telling them a bible story and showing the picture, and the father of the little ones interrupted by asking where his little girl (Mary) was. Mary was sitting close to her mother gazing at the picture and drinking in every word. He said: "Mary is always talking about Jesus." Last Sunday week, paying my usual call to the top-end camp, I met a very fine man, who told me his wife and family were camped about half a mile up the river. I had a good talk with him, and found that he had been brought up from a boy at Taroom. After chatting with him for a little while, I found that he had heard the gospel from Alex. Little; he said Alex. had often read the bible and told him about God. I then went up the river and found his wife and four dear little children and the grandmother, who soon became friends, and listened to the gospel story. They just loved the picture. The next day we gave them some Christmas gifts, and they were so grateful. They have gone on now some distance from here. Quite a number are already gathering for the Show, and I think we will have a lot here. It is such a joy to tell, some for the first time, the glorious news of salvation, and to see others who have been in the bush for months.

KATOOMBA.

In the Katoomba report in our May issue, reference was made to an Aboriginal woman who had walked from Dubbo to try and find her sick husband, who had been removed from Dubbo hospital to Sydney in December, 1919.

The case was represented to the Board for the protection of Aborigines, who set inquiries on foot, and now have kindly notified us that an aboriginal named Dick Balf was admitted to Waterfall Sanitorium in December, 1919, suffering from consumption, and is still a bed patient, and not likely to recover. Through our worker at Katoomba, Mr. Robinson, we have sent the news on to the woman that her husband is still alive, although very ill, and we feel sure if she wishes it a pass will be granted her to go and visit him.

Miss Tomkins will be spending a fortnight at the Katoomba Mission Station, going up on July 16. She will be the first of our missionaries to occupy the little Mission House recently given to us for use in the work.

A HOME FOR ABORIGINAL GIRLS.

We are looking for a large house in the suburbs of Sydney for a Home for Aboriginal girls, and will be pleased to hear from anyone who has a house or knows of one likely to be suitable for such a purpose. Apply: A.I.M. Office, 264 Pitt Street, Sydney.