1981

The Australian Church Record 1981

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Aboriginal Land Rights explained to whites.

Melbourne
N.E.A.C.
Congress reaches 250

Enrolments for the National Evangelical Anglican Congress have reached 250.

The Congress, to be held May 11-15 at Monash University, Melbourne, features as main speakers the Revs. John Stott (England), David Hewlett (Canada), Viney Samuel (India), Mr. Michael Cassidy (South Africa), Mrs. Margaret Cohen (Sydney), the Revs. Dr. Paul Barnett (Sydney) and John Wilson (Melbourne).

Fifty elective workshops have been arranged on a wide variety of topics in the categories of Science, Ethics, Evangelism, Ministry and National Church Issues.

Bishop John Keid, N.E.A.C. Executive Committee Chairman said today: "It is pleasing three full months before the Congress to have so many enrolments. I believe the varied programme of theological groups and elective workshops will meet the demands of many local church leaders for both biblical and practical contributions to their organization of Sunday School ministry. I hope many church people throughout Australia will respond to the call to set aside time for prayer and personal study, February 22nd, particularly for this Congress, that God’s spirit will bring through the Church bringing both life and truth.”

New OMF Director

The Rev. Neville Cooper is the new Australia Director of the Overseas Missionary Fellowship.

The service of Mr. and Mrs. Cooper was in tribal evangelism and church building and Mr. Cooper became superintendent of that work. Later he was appointed Area Director, OMF's top administrative post in the Philippines. So he has had extensive experience both in direct missionary service and in administration. He is particularly well-informed and experienced in one of the most important missionary tasks church planting. Before the past two years Mr. Cooper has been a member of the team ministry at Church of Christ, St. Ives.

The retiring Director, Mr. Ron Roberts, after a period of leave will be taking up a new appointment, Coordinating Director of Australia of OMF’s new China Programme. Details will be announced later.

34 years travelling

Alan Checkley, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Bailey, Stuart Mill (Chairmen of the Board of the International Travel Alliance Ltd), Revs. Gregory (Chairman of the Evangelical Missionary Alliance in NSW) and the newly-appointed manager of U.A., Jim Carly, at the occasion of the 34th anniversary of the Australian Church Record. They are each fulfilling a vital personal ministry to the world of mission through their co-operation in the intelligence of OMF’s work around the world.

Mail Order Divorce

"Mail Order Divorce" was how Bishop Oliver Heyward, chairman of the Social Responsibilities Commission of the Church of England in Australia described one of the amendments currently proposed to the Family Law Act.

Following a meeting of the Commission in Sydney this week, the bishop spoke of the commission’s objections to the “complicated procedures in the cases of undivided donation... to provide for affidavit evidence without the necessity for parties to appear.”

Bishop Heyward said that people who contracted legal marriage did so before witnesses in a formal ceremony. They were establishing a new unit in society and to end it must be a highly formal, and a long time coming, process.

The Social Responsibilities Commission said the courts need to be able to hear in person at least one of the parties involved concerning proper arrangement for the well-being of the children of a marriage.

Bolivian Govt. pro missionaries

Possibly the most thrilling undertaking of the Anglican church at this conference is the new venture into Bolivia, the third in 125 years. A team of that has begun ministry in villages where there never was knowledge of the Gospel of Christ. This country is only now just settling down after the coup d’etat of last year, said Rev. Gregory Bauald, Federal Secretary of the South American Missionary Society on his return from a recent visit to the south west of South America.

The present military government is most receptive to the entry of Christian missionaries and their work. In general, all authorities are the contribution of such missionaries and the Bible knowledge they bring being on the rise. However, there are still religious standards in the community.

During his recent trip “Bolivia” tour of the South American countries, he received both internationally and also the local military officials and was encouraged to find that they have not affected the determination of Anglican bishops or their missionary and national personnel to persevere in promoting the spiritual vacuum in which the great majority of South Americans live.

Two dioceses had recently expressed immense financial help we have had this need for aid, yet this has not deterred these deacons from continuing their work.

REAL TENSIONS

"Accommodation by Peruvians and Indians in Peruvian territory; continuing complaints by Bolivia of having no way-out, and that Chile has not helped them; and the likely reaction by Argentina of the Papas and the Uruguayans, all the same by the Curas Chilenos of the area of Cap Homa, all seem to be powder-box situations with the potential of tremendous fire-setQuery to any of the nations mentioned.

"However, according to prevailing opinion in South America, none of these situations is likely to lead to actual conflict. The international armed conflict was between Peru and Bolivia, but the Chilenos have been under a personal representative’s proposal in jurisdiction over tiny islands in the area of conflict."
Can you show in your church  
"JIM"

"Most TV script writers create their minis from stereotypes. They're not exposed to real ministers—at least not at weddings and funerals, where ministers are on their best behavior. So the Roman Catholics are depicted to Ring Coco, and the Anglicans to PC. Workplace—all sitting tea cups and magnifying glasses. In the five years I've been a Christian, I've never met one like that. The real minister is battlefield, exposed to the problems of life, crisis"—said Tony Morphett at the screening of "Jim", the Home Mission Society's new promotional film.

Many of you will have heard of the "Jim" controversy and may even have had your say on it. If you haven't, you won't be the last to hear about it, because "Jim" will be aimers' 1981 exhibition film. The controversy over "Jim" is not unusual in the world of faith and the media, but it has caused some commotion in Christian circles. The film presents a real minister and highlights some issues that are often neglected in religious programming.

The film "Jim" is a realistic portrayal of a minister's life and the challenges he faces. It shows how a minister can be a source of inspiration and support for those in need. The film is a reminder that ministers are human beings who have their own concerns and struggles. The film also raises important questions about the role of religion in society and the responsibilities of religious organizations.

In conclusion, "Jim" is a powerful film that challenges our perceptions of religion and its place in society. It is a reminder that ministers are not just religious leaders, but also human beings with their own concerns and struggles. The film is a must-watch for anyone interested in religion and its place in society.
Amin's tribe massacred

New tactics against Slovak priests

Rich Revs for Zimbabwe

Is all well?

A comprehensive church survey undertaken by the Nationwide Initiative in Evangelism (NIE), and published by the British and Foreign Bible Society shows that Christianity in England is increasing not only in numbers but also in quality and depth. The increase is not uniform and is most marked among Baptists and the smaller denominations.

Christian connections are widespread over the country but interest is in a section of the report to be published in the Midlands as 'unanchored' and 'vagrant'. In general the figures show that there are fewer new worshippers (4,050 rate compared with the national 4,000). The survey suggests - perhaps surprisingly - that in practically every classroom there are new children who go to church. In Greater London about a third of all churchgoers (25% of the population) are children. Under just a quarter of all churchgoers are children of church members. In Greater London there is only one church for every 100,000 persons. This is a very poor ratio.

Every work for the past four years the teams of 250 people have left the Church of England a trend that it shared with every other large church. The number of children in church members is now 1.2% a year compared with 1.8% for the rest of the country. County figures show that the decline is not confined to cities. Although membership has declined throughout of every region, there is also a strong tendency to have a church.

$20,000 to re-open Chinese Mainland Church

About 1,800 Chinese Christians journeyed, travelled by air for three days, to a service on December 19, 1981, in Beijing to the Chinese Church in Beijing to the Chinese Church. The church, which had been closed down by the authorities since 1950, was recently opened again by the authorities. The church had to be re-opened and was reopened on December 19, 1981. The service was addressed to the local authorities by the Chinese Church in Beijing.

Bishop box, speaking from Beijing, said, "I am happy to see that after the recent upheavals, the church is now able to reopen. Independently wealthy," Manly chairman, Living for the service on December 19, 1981, in Beijing to the Chinese Church in Beijing. The church, which had been closed down by the authorities since 1950, was reopened on December 19, 1981. The service was addressed to the local authorities by the Chinese Church in Beijing.

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Rich Revs for Zimbabwe

There were a few encouraging signs at the London headquarters of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) when it launched its 1981 report, 'Population: the Decade Ahead'. The report is a review of population trends and projections for the 1980s.

The Right Rev. Robert Merry, O. The Anglican Bishop of Matabeleland, was "in harmony with the idea of abortion in the U.S." He was himself a member of the commission that wrote the new abortion policy in the U.S. He has been known as a leader in the anti-abortion movement, but he also has a personal commitment to the pro-life movement.

BFP preferred

The advertisement was placed by Bishop Merry's commission. The advertisement, the Rev. Herbert G. Morett, who is an American, said, "Applicants will not be considered unless they are members of the National Abortion Book Guild, and they must not openly advocate abortion or refer to the book "The American Church and Abortion".

There comes a warning. "Be advised: your job in Zimbabwe might be under a quarter of all churchgoers are under 15 years old. That, however, is not the only reason why church membership has declined since the mid-1960s. In 1980, there were 1.2% of all churchgoers under 15 years old. By 1981, that figure had dropped to 0.8%.

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Rich Revs for Zimbabwe
I’m tired of being taken for granted!

Often, Christians appear to experience particular kinds of labors which emerge from their religious vision. They are more vulnerable to such problems than others. The success of their religious vision depends upon the cooperation of other people. One such problem is the apparent insularity of their religious mission. They are often seen as being too much in a separate religious community and not really being part of the wider society. Another problem is that people sometimes take advantage of others and fail to give thanks and encouragement to family members, friends, and other members of their religious group.

There is a growing awareness among religious groups that they need to give thanks and encouragement to each other. The failure of this can be particularly damaging, especially if people feel that they are not valued and appreciated.

We need to remind ourselves of the importance of giving thanks and encouragement. It is not just a matter of being polite; it is fundamental to our religious vision. If we do not give thanks and encouragement, we risk undermining the very basis of our religious mission.


Conceived to persuade those yet uncommitted of the truth of Christianity, Clark Pinnock appeals to five areas or stages of life: (1) the subjective, the formative side of the human spirit; (2) the objective, the observable structure of our lives and the facts of history; (3) the intellectual, the mind's abilities to think and reason; (4) the moral, the values we find inherent in the human being; and (5) the religious, the need for a transcendent and loving God.

On this basis he creates a model that will help those who are not Christians to see why they should become Christians. It will also help Christians to see why they should remain Christians.

Reason Enough is a compelling case for the Christian Faith. It is well worth reading by those who are considering the Christian faith and by those who are already Christians.

There is no question of pride-you


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There is no question of pride-you
Minister now directs funerals

A Melbourne Living Church minister has decided to move from parish work to funeral-directing.

The Rev. John McCohon, has given up his parish ministry at Bentleigh to apply his 30 years of pastoral experience to the social needs of the dying and the bereaved.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS . . . as you were!

The Customs Department has since stated it will, May 1980: “Sunday Schools are no longer considered as part of the religious educational institution.” It has been welcomed by the New Testament Today, through the faithful ministry of UE our pastors there have

The ACC bought one share in AMAX in November 1980 in order to file a shareholder resolution. The New York-based Interfaith Centre on Corporate Responsibility has assisted in filing the resolution on AMAX late last year on Noonkanbah

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Wycliffe to ransom

You should be the Church’s spokesman

In the early morning of Saturday, March 7th, Wycliffe Bible-translated Chester Bitterman was executed by terrorists in Colombia, South America. His body was found in an abandoned bus. He was kidnapped on January 1961, the terrorist demanding that Wycliffe release its Bible translation work there. He has since been held and quarantined by the Colombian government. The whole question of the re-execution of Bitterman is a picture of Christ’s love for the Church. He asked whether Christians had actually been indifferent, or that the working at our own relationships — that was not for me to be the Church. He asked whether Christians had actually been indifferent, or that the working at our own relationships — that was not for me to be...