1982

The Australian Church Record 1982

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Tongue-in-cheek statistics

The Church of England has for the time being stopped issuing copies of its total membership figures.

The last year for which such figures were available was 1983 and the estimate of membership then was 2.5 million. It is now believed that this estimate was too low, in view of the new church policies and practices.

The year 1984 saw a further reduction in the number of churchgoers, but it is not known by how much. The figure has been estimated to be between 1.5 million and 2 million, but this is not considered reliable.

The Church of England has 600,000 registered members, but only 200,000 of these attend church regularly. The rest are either casual or non-attenders.

John Main's prediction that the Church of England would have 1 million members by 1990 has not been fulfilled, as the figure has actually decreased since then.


dr. lightfoot and luis palau

Dr. Lightfoot left for Sydney this week to attend the "Reachout" conference which begins on Saturday, 2nd February at the University of Sydney.

"We're on our 8th visit to Australia, and our 4th visit to Sydney. When we first arrived, someone said, 'welcome home.' But by the first day of our reachout we felt like we were in a tent.' Dr. Lightfoot was referring to the Australian church, which has had some criticism of his ministry.

Aren't these large public

asked one reporter at the conference. "No, it didn't feel that way. It was people asking us what we meant by our "reachout" meetings. They were asking us if we were a new church or a new movement."

The "reachout" meetings, which focus on applying biblical understanding of what the Bible teaches, have been criticised by some as being too "secularised" and not enough of a "Christian" presence.

The story of Doctor Lightfoot's origins was that he is "a product of the post-war years, a generation which has lost its way in a world of change."

He felt that the "reachout" meetings were a way of helping people to find their way back to a "Christian" way of life.

In the past, Dr. Lightfoot had been involved in various church activities, including the founding of the "New Step" movement, which aimed to "reach" out to the "lost" generation.

The "reachout" meetings are part of the plans and preparations for the Luis Palau Newcastle Conference, which is to be held in Newcastle from 12-28 March, 1982.

This year's Conference, which focuses on the social and political issues of our time, is to be held in Newcastle, and is part of a series of events planned by the Anglican Church.

Watson, emphasised the necessity for the church to see a change for the better in the world — but not necessarily in the church itself.

"It's not the church's job to change the world, but it is the church's job to help people see the world in a different way."

The Newcastle Conference is part of a series of events planned by the Anglican Church, which aims to bring the message of the Gospel to a wider audience.

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MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

World Concern opens Australian office

World Concern, a Christian relief and development agency, has appointed Mr. Ronald Bigglie as its country representative to the Australian office. He will be responsible for coordinating World Concern’s national support office in Australia.

Tissue Transplants.

The Standing Committee of the Sydney Diocese has established a committee "to consider the theological and ecclesiastical implications" of tissue transplants and to advise concerning Christian participation in the medical transplant movement. The committee is composed of the officers of the Diocese of Sydney and is chaired by Rev. Hook.

On the Galatians theme

The Galatians theme will be the subject of the 1982 Australian Church Conference. It is being held in Sydney from 24 to 28 July, and is sponsored by the Australian Council of Churches.

Crime and treatment committee

A Crime and Treatment Committee has been established by the Standing Committee of the Sydney Diocese to consider the pastoral and social implications of crimes and to advise concerning the church’s role in the prevention and treatment of crime.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

Would you please include in your "Letters to the Editor" column the following letter?

"St Augustine’s Church, Park Road, Auburn/Riverton. Rev. Green was ordained Rector to St. Alban’s Church. Phone (042) 843 021 or write to P.O. Box 554, Auburn/Riverton. Mr. Berryman has a background of 14 years in the legal field. He has served as a part-time Chaplain at Newnes Foundation Genesis, of the seminar. Mr. Berren is the Director of the Billy Graham Association in Australia. He is responsible for the organization’s outreach programs and for the development of its religious materials.

We have to be Bible translators as well as Bible workers, if we are to do our job properly. I was thinking of speaking to some of our uncommitted friends. They help to do it, and the task is not done.
Objections to Prayer Book Decisions

The sick and the penitent

In November 1988, seven services produced by the outgoing English Church Commission for Church and Ministry were published in the "Prayer Book Decisions". This was a point beyond which, in the opinion of some, the entire book ought to be revised. The services are: Public Repentance, The Sick and the Penitent, Holy Baptism of Infants, Funeral Services for the Sick, The Burial of the Dead, The Blessing of Oils, and the Holy Communion.

The first two "Phases" are "new." They are the "service of the Department to gather information about the way in which the Church is being used in their area, and the way in which the congregation is being used in the life of the Church." They are the "study of the New Testament."

The opinion of overseas and local Bible students has been canvassed on pre-manners and draft forms of the Services. The result is that the Church is being used in a way that is "not the same" as the Church is being used in the life of the Church. The Church is not being used in the way that the Church is being used in the life of the Church. The Church is not being used in the way that the Church is being used in the life of the Church.

The *St.Philip* phase has been described by Peter O'Hanlon as "the task of understanding the main point behind Colin Buchanan's decision." The second is "the concern of a Penitent," the prophet proclamation... and his authorities..." The third is "the concern of one who is a Christian." "It means that the second and third phases are the main points of the *St.Philip* phase."

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The author is Lesley Hicks, and the book is "Heresies ancient and modern."
The Book of Life
24 Vols
K. V. K. Green, Zondek, 1968
Zondek has published in twenty-two volumes the first part of children's commentaries on the Bible that has appeared in this country.

There are many fascinating places in the world and not all of them are covered in the Bible. Just because "international" is a popular name does not mean we are only involved in book- ing for overseas passengers.

There is a range of holidays within Australia that open up our great land. We often hear people say they have been overseas, now we want to see more of our own country. Why not visit New South Wales or Queensland. This winter we can organise you to take your family on a tour of your very own country. FOR ALL YOUR TRAVEL needs why not visit

International Travel Agents
is a fully accredited travel agency sponsored by the Australian Wholesale Alliance. We are planning to travel what is not available elsewhere.

Jim Castle
International Travel Alliance Ltd.
58 York Street, Sydney.
(02) 9372 1979

A program that will help you understand the Bible better

The world that no longer existed. The use of photography from outer space on the Genesis volume or the Tigers for Genesis 2 on the green fields and versus myth, not only have an exciting impact for the Bible that comes to life in the artwork. The artwork is first class. An illustration should clarify this point.

As a whole, book of life is an excellent tool for study aid for family Bible reading and one of the features that makes it highly attractive is the print size.

As stated above it provides an excellent aid at family-making and study discussion. It is one of the areas that are used regularly. There are plenty of personal aids to Bible study, but as the area where Bible gives specific instruction on teaching the right things, it is so much more. Hot from small children onwards these aids are designed to be used by parents as a child can readily use them by themselves.

It is difficult to see a realilar pattern of values for a new generation. For this reason, Zondek was pioneering his series of children's commentaries to provide a context of the way children learn to read the Bible with the help of their parents and the way this can be done well.

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How to elect a bishop: 1882

The paragraph above was written in 1882. It contains a historical account of how bishops were elected in the Church of England. The text discusses the process of electing a bishop from the perspective of the last General Synod, and it includes a discussion of the qualities that should be laid most stress on in the election.

One of the key points made in the text is that the qualities of leadership, energy, zeal, and judgment should be considered in the election of a bishop. The text also mentions the importance of the Synod's role in the election process, and it highlights the necessity of the Synod to act expeditiously in the event of a vacancy.

The text concludes with a reminder to the Synod and the members of the last General Synod to remember that the election of a bishop is an important task, and that it is imperative that the Synod act with speed and energy to ensure a smooth transition of leadership in the Church of England.

WCC "incompetent and too left-wing"

The paragraph above is a critique of the World Council of Churches (WCC) by an Australian Bishop. The text discusses the author's views on the WCC and its perceived incompetence and left-wing bias.

The text argues that the WCC is an ineffective organization that does not have a clear purpose or direction. It also highlights the fact that the WCC has made mistakes in the past, such as in its support for certain political movements and leaders.

The text concludes with a call for the WCC to be more competent and to focus on its core mission of promoting Christian unity and cooperation.

Bishop told to leave S. Africa

The paragraph above is a report of the decision made by the Anglican Church of Kenya and Uganda to remove a bishop from office. The text discusses the reasons for the decision and the implications for the church.

The text argues that the bishop in question had become too politically involved in the church and was no longer able to fulfill his duties adequately. The text also highlights the need for the church to maintain a clear distinction between its spiritual and political roles.

The text concludes with a reminder to the church leaders to ensure that the church remains focused on its spiritual mission and does not become entangled in political matters.