

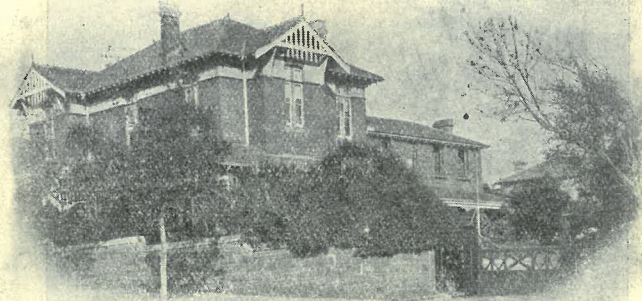
**Our Principal.**

October 9th, 1931, brought the thirtieth anniversary of the coming to Australia of Ernest J. D. Abraham, the Principal of the Adult Deaf and Dumb Society of Victoria, and Founder of the Society's Home at Lake Park, Blackburn.

Prior to Mr. Abraham's arrival in Australia, Mr. S. Johnson, M.A., the then Principal of the South Australian Institution for the Blind and Deaf and Dumb, wrote as follows:—

"Mr. Abraham has had an unique and extensive experience of educational and missionary work among the Deaf and Dumb. Few men have had better opportunities of examining all sides of Deaf Mute problems and none has made better use of these opportunities. During past years his name has been the property of the Deaf and Dumb the world over, and his labours to ameliorate their condition have been crowned with remarkable success. He commenced his work among the Deaf at an earlier age than most of his contemporaries."

At sixteen he was in charge of a Free School for Deaf and Dumb children in the South of London. At eighteen the Deaf Mutes



**Adult Deaf Club House, Jolimont.**

elected him Minister to the London Gospel Mission. At twenty he accepted the post of Superintendent of the Bolton, Bury and Rochdale branches of the Manchester Adult Deaf and Dumb Society, and raised an Institute and income sufficient to support it. At twenty-four he became Editor of the "Deaf Chronicle," which name he afterwards changed to "British Deaf Monthly." At that time the circulation had increased from 1,000 to 15,000.

He had as colleagues on his editorial board the late W. S. Bessant and P. Dodds, Principals of the Royal Schools for the Deaf at Manchester and Exeter respectively. He has lectured extensively on behalf of the Deaf, even going to America in connection with the work.

Mr. Abraham founded the Institute of Missionaries to the Deaf and Dumb and the Guild of St. John Association of Deaf Mutes.

At this time, August, 1901, a severe nervous breakdown caused him, on the advice of his doctor, to relinquish his many activities and accept the post of Chaplain to the Adult Deaf and Dumb Mission of Victoria. On leaving England, Mr. Abraham was farewelled by some 7,000 people at a picnic in his honor, and an address and purse of gold was presented to him."

The first years of Mr. Abraham's sojourn in Australia were devoted to the raising of funds to erect a church on a block of land in Flinders Street that was owned by the Mission. Speedily ahead went the preparations and very soon the little church was completed, which proved not only a source of great comfort for spiritual worship, but the many attendant activities were much appreciated and enjoyed by the Deaf.

Whilst lecturing in the country for funds for the above-named object, Mr. Abraham came across so many sad and lonely deaf mute cases that a plan soon evolved itself in his mind for the housing, caring and comfort of these folk. The church completed, Mr.



**Home for Aged and Infirm Deaf, Blackburn.**

Abraham set about his next big work in 1906, when the late Sir Thomas Bent (Premier of Victoria) presided at a crowded meeting in the new Adult Deaf and Dumb building in Flinders Street, Melbourne, while Mr. Abraham gave an address on "The Care of the Deaf."

Mr. Abraham pleaded for the same opportunities for the Deaf as the hearing enjoyed, namely, free and compulsory education in a school controlled by the State, the removal of clauses in the Marine and other Victorian Acts that classified the deaf with lunatics, idiots and paupers. State employment for certain of the deaf, a farm for those of weak intellect and a home for aged and infirm.

Mr. Bent sympathised with Mr. Abraham and promised help, which he was not slow in fulfilling. For soon after the meeting he acted as spokesman for the deaf in regard to the restrictions in the Marine Act, and later gave instructions for the drawing up of a Bill to help bring the education of deaf children in line with the hearing of the State. Finally, offering in the name of the Government a grant of £2,000 conditionally a like sum was raised in three

# THE VICTORIAN DEAF

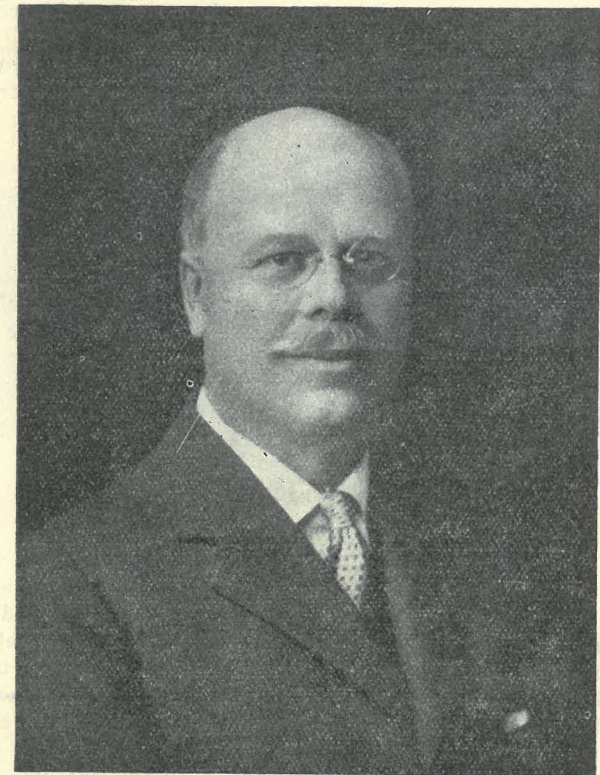
A bi-monthly magazine published by the Deaf Committee of  
the Adult Deaf and Dumb Society of Victoria.

*The Organ of the Deaf of the State.*

Vol. 2. No. 5.

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER, 1931.

Price 6d.



ERNEST J. D. ABRAHAM

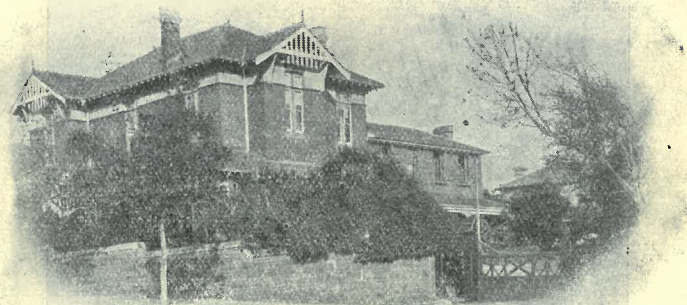
**Our Principal.**

October 9th, 1931, brought the thirtieth anniversary of the coming to Australia of Ernest J. D. Abraham, the Principal of the Adult Deaf and Dumb Society of Victoria, and Founder of the Society's Home at Lake Park, Blackburn.

Prior to Mr. Abraham's arrival in Australia, Mr. S. Johnson, M.A., the then Principal of the South Australian Institution for the Blind and Deaf and Dumb, wrote as follows:—

"Mr. Abraham has had an unique and extensive experience of educational and missionary work among the Deaf and Dumb. Few men have had better opportunities of examining all sides of Deaf Mute problems and none has made better use of these opportunities. During past years his name has been the property of the Deaf and Dumb the world over, and his labours to ameliorate their condition have been crowned with remarkable success. He commenced his work among the Deaf at an earlier age than most of his contemporaries."

At sixteen he was in charge of a Free School for Deaf and Dumb children in the South of London. At eighteen the Deaf Mutes



**Adult Deaf Club House, Jolimont.**

elected him Minister to the London Gospel Mission. At twenty he accepted the post of Superintendent of the Bolton, Bury and Rochdale branches of the Manchester Adult Deaf and Dumb Society, and raised an Institute and income sufficient to support it. At twenty-four he became Editor of the "Deaf Chronicle," which name he afterwards changed to "British Deaf Monthly." At that time the circulation had increased from 1,000 to 15,000.

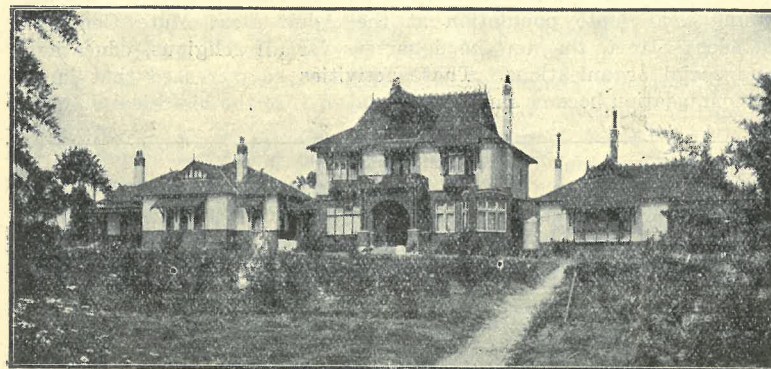
He had as colleagues on his editorial board the late W. S. Bessant and P. Dodds, Principals of the Royal Schools for the Deaf at Manchester and Exeter respectively. He has lectured extensively on behalf of the Deaf, even going to America in connection with the work.

Mr. Abraham founded the Institute of Missionaries to the Deaf and Dumb and the Guild of St. John Association of Deaf Mutes.

At this time, August, 1901, a severe nervous breakdown caused him, on the advice of his doctor, to relinquish his many activities and accept the post of Chaplain to the Adult Deaf and Dumb Mission of Victoria. On leaving England, Mr. Abraham was farewelled by some 7,000 people at a picnic in his honor, and an address and purse of gold was presented to him."

The first years of Mr. Abraham's sojourn in Australia were devoted to the raising of funds to erect a church on a block of land in Flinders Street that was owned by the Mission. Speedily ahead went the preparations and very soon the little church was completed, which proved not only a source of great comfort for spiritual worship, but the many attendant activities were much appreciated and enjoyed by the Deaf.

Whilst lecturing in the country for funds for the above-named object, Mr. Abraham came across so many sad and lonely deaf mute cases that a plan soon evolved itself in his mind for the housing, caring and comfort of these folk. The church completed, Mr.



**Home for Aged and Infirm Deaf, Blackburn.**

Abraham set about his next big work in 1906, when the late Sir Thomas Bent (Premier of Victoria) presided at a crowded meeting in the new Adult Deaf and Dumb building in Flinders Street, Melbourne, while Mr. Abraham gave an address on "The Care of the Deaf."

Mr. Abraham pleaded for the same opportunities for the Deaf as the hearing enjoyed, namely, free and compulsory education in a school controlled by the State, the removal of clauses in the Marine and other Victorian Acts that classified the deaf with lunatics, idiots and paupers. State employment for certain of the deaf, a farm for those of weak intellect and a home for aged and infirm.

Mr. Bent sympathised with Mr. Abraham and promised help, which he was not slow in fulfilling. For soon after the meeting he acted as spokesman for the deaf in regard to the restrictions in the Marine Act, and later gave instructions for the drawing up of a Bill to help bring the education of deaf children in line with the hearing of the State. Finally, offering in the name of the Government a grant of £2,000 conditionally a like sum was raised in three

months. The Committee accepted Mr. Bent's offer and Mr. Abraham proceeded with the work of raising the money in the stipulated time. And it was done.

At a huge bazaar in the Melbourne Town Hall, where over twenty municipalities were represented, nearly £4,000 was raised and the building at Lake Blackburn commenced.

In 1909, the central wing and men's wing were opened. Mrs. Abraham, who was appointed the first Matron, had a difficult task for the section for whom she laboured needed constant supervision.

In 1912 the front half of the women's wing of the Home was built, and in 1922 further additions and improvements were added, thus completing the wing. All these buildings were opened free of debt.

Mr. Abraham all this time was directing his energies to the most important work of making desirable citizens of the "normal" young deaf mute population at the Adult Deaf Mute Centre in Flinders Street, the new headquarters for all religious, educational and social organisations. Those activities so increased that larger accommodation became imperative, and in 1924 the historical Jolimont



Thirty Years Ago.

At the time of the arrival of Mr. Abraham in Australia from England, Ivan Tenny, then a prominent member of the Adult Deaf and Dumb Society, drew the above cartoon showing the provision made for the Adult Deaf of Australia mainly through the great activities of the late Mr. Samuel Johnson, and Tenny's idea of the situation in Victoria in 1901.

Square of Melbourne East was purchased at a cost of £25,000. The Flinders Street property was sold for £17,000.

Jolimont Square is a valuable site nearly two acres in size with residential houses on it. The Society is using two of the houses for temporary administrative offices until such time as conditions permit the Board to bring to fruition their well considered plan of building. And in this old world garden, apart from the lack of adequate accommodation, nothing seems to be missing except, perhaps, the spoken language, but that only tends to strengthen what to the deaf is "their world." And right well it is valued by those capable of appreciating its beauty and blessings.

Mr. Abraham has never been a man desiring tangible recognition and only on a few occasions has he consented to accept a memento of affection. All the same we know he has great pleasure in using the beautiful cut glass and silver ink stand—a gift from the Deaf and Dumb of Queensland and South Australia in 1904—a well worn pocket book from the deaf ladies of New South Wales, and an attache case bearing the inscription, "From Deaf Girls of Melbourne, Old and Young," which is his daily companion on business bent.

On the occasion of his twenty-fifth anniversary, the Deaf Committee arranged a most successful anniversary banquet at which was presented to Mr. Abraham a very nice gold watch and chain and an enlarged framed photograph of Mr. Abraham. The latter now hangs in the Hall at the Centre.

The watch bears the following inscription:—

Presented to  
Ernest J. D. Abraham,  
Our Chief,

On his 25th anniversary in Melbourne,  
in affectionate recognition  
of all that he means to us  
The Deaf of Victoria.

And not only has Victoria benefited by Mr. Abraham's ministrations. In 1904 he was invited to come and help Queensland. In 1906 he was invited to come and help New South Wales, which he willingly and most successfully did.

In 1930 a beautiful church was built in our Square. It is unique in this respect, for it is the only Church for the Deaf in Australia that stands alone. Other States have chapels in their headquarters, but this little church in its lovely garden setting is a centre of attraction in the day time, and the beautiful colored cross in the tower at night time is observed from many points of the city.

Each year an anniversary rally is held in honor of Mr. Abraham, and the one just past added still another record for large attendance. All deaf who possibly can—either in country or city—make a point of being present on this night of nights to do honor to their Principal, adviser and friend. And it is the earnest wish of the Victorian Aussies whom he loves and labors for that Mr. Abraham will see many more anniversaries with them.

### The Anniversary Rally of Our Principal.

A very large and enthusiastic crowd attended the Rally on Thursday, 24th September (Show Day). It must have been a record one. One almost expected to see the walls of our Hall bulging out as they do in Mickey Mouse cartoons. Perhaps the crowd was expected and catered for, because it was the Rally to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of our Principal.

The newly formed Dramatic Club put up quite a good show for its first performance, and should it continue on these lines, it is not likely to lack patronage. None of the actors and actresses showed stage fright to any great extent, while on the stage, but in the wings, waiting to go on, it was another matter.

The first item on the programme was given by Miss O'Gorman, who recited "The Hunting Song." It was fine. The next item, a farce entitled "A Happy Home," was a marked success, in which the leading lady was Miss Alice Smith, her husband Mr. H. Puddy, and the butler Mr. E. R. Noble.

Then came interval. Some twenty per cent. of the audience rose and surged through the entrance to get a breath of fresh air and smoke or talk.

Meanwhile, behind the curtain, feverish activity prevailed. The "Happy Home" scenery of the previous play vanished like lightning under many hands, while, in the wings, a marvellous operation was being performed. This was the sewing together of two halves of a horse. This astonishing operation was carried out with neatness, civility and despatch. The resultant animal was like nothing on earth or heaven either. It can be safely said that there never was a horse like it, and never will be. It was unique; its intelligence was a thing to marvel at—the more so when you know who was in it. At the same time Joe Phillips was struggling into a pair of trousers which might have been worn by Tom Thumb in his childhood. He got into them somehow, but, unfortunately, he forgot himself and bent suddenly, and those trousers, unlike the Scotchman in the story, gave readily, so Joe had to wear a jacket on the stage. Don Johnston, meantime, was doing his best to look like a coy flapper, and succeeded. Unfortunately he had no lipstick and, amazing to relate, not a girl in the audience had one to lend, so he had to be content with rouge and powder, but I refuse to say from whom he borrowed them.

The curtain rose again and the audience was highly entertained by Mr. Newnham's account of Old Mose counting the eggs, but Mr. Newnham did not say where Old Mose got his eggs from.

When the curtain rose the next time it revealed what was to all intents and purposes a school, complete with blackboard and cane. Mr. Newnham was the teacher, with a bow tie which would have turned a Chelsea artist green with envy. While Don Johnston's pranks as a coy schoolgirl, ably seconded by Joe Phillips, to say nothing of the horse, caused roars of laughter and a general verdict that the school was the best show of the evening.

Among those present were the President, Mr. E. R. Peacock, Mr. M. J. Hoath, Mr. E. H. Peacock, members of the General Board and their wives and families. Mr. and Mrs. E. J. D. Abraham, Mr. and Mrs. D. Abraham and their son Doug., who immensely enjoyed all the antics of the horse. Mrs. E. S. Jackson (Mr. Abraham's daughter) with her daughter, Miss Pat Jackson, and many parents and hearing friends of deaf members.

### Our Little World.

Mr. A. W. Cox, Headmaster of the Deaf and Dumb Institution at Brighton, Adelaide, S.A., paid us a visit during his stay in Melbourne. Mr. and Mrs. Cox took advantage of the school holidays to pay their son, who is doing research work at our Melbourne University, a visit. He was very sorry to miss seeing Mr. Abraham, who was confined to his home through illness. Mr. Cox liked our new church and expressed his regret that arrangements for a full day in the country prevented him from accepting an invitation to preach in it on the following Sunday evening. We were pleased to see Mr. Cox looking so well, and shall we say looking more like inflation than depression. He certainly has put on weight.

Mr. A. Aird has, with his usual kindly thought, given a nice hair brush for the use of our deaf boys.

Mr. W. H. Crush is now one of the three Deaf representatives of the congregation on the General Board.

W. Hately, of Terang, was in Melbourne during September. He competed in the bicycles, also started in the Melbourne-Bendigo 100 miles race, but was not one of the successful competitors. On the 3rd October the Hately brothers made another attempt in the Warrnambool to Melbourne race (168 miles), but were unplaced. Better luck next time, boys.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Simmonds, of South Australia, but latterly of Gippsland, Victoria, are at present enjoying the provisions provided at our Home at Blackburn. Mr. Simmonds expects to be in employment again and moving on at the end of October.

To Miss L. Bond we extend our sincere sympathy in the death of her mother on the 19th September. Miss Bond has been the devoted companion of her mother for many years, which fact will comfort her now we feel sure.

It was good to see Ossie Tyzzer again. He has been in the back blocks of Australia for quite a time.

Harry Puddy has been the centre of many congratulations lately. It is a great thing to be selected the cleanest and fairest player in the Senior Grade of the Victorian Lacrosse Association. We hear a gold medal is the tangible reminder. Keep it up, Harry, we are proud of you.

Miss M. Gibson entered her two Pomeranians in the National Toy Dog Club's Parade, held at Wirths' Park, on the 3rd October, and they secured four prizes, including two blue ribbons, in their classes.

Miss L. Sanders had a delightful three months with Mrs. J. E. Muir at Warburton. Miss G. Peters also was the guest of Mrs. Muir for a month. Both tell of happy times there.

**Forthcoming Events.**

At the Club House.

Saturday, 31st October.—Theatrical Evening by Dramatic Club.

Tuesday, 3rd November.—Cup Day Picnic at Jolimont Park.

Saturday, 7th November.—Card Evening.

Wednesday, 18th November.—Dance Evening.

Saturday, 21st November.—Card Evening.

Sunday, 22nd November.—Round Table Conference and Tea.

Friday and Saturday, 27th and 28th November.—Fancy Fair.

Regular meetings as usual.

**The Cricket Club.**

The Deaf Cricket Club has started in the V.J.C.A., third grade competitions. The office-bearers of the club are:—President, Mr. J. M. Johnston; Vice-President, W. H. Crush, F. Rees and G. B. Mortimer; Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. McMillen; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. O'Gorman; Committee, Messrs. W. Anderson, H. Puddy, R. Beattie and J. McLean.

Mr. R. Beattie has been a player in the cricket team for twenty-five years, and was elected a life member of the club. He was also elected captain of the team, and was complimented by all present.

**The Men's Guild.**

The following is a list of the lectures given during the past two months:—

11th August.—“Two Gentlemen of Verona,” by the President, Mr. F. E. Frewin.

25th August.—“Question Box” evening by the members.

8th September.—“Ancient and Modern Games and Sports,” by E. R. Noble.

On 29th September the subject “Photography” was given by Mr. W. J. Porter of Kodak (Aust.) Co. Ltd., and proved most interesting and instructive to a combined meeting of the Women's and Men's Guilds. All present were greatly impressed with Mr. Porter's kindness in so fully explaining not only his subject, but the many questions put to him during the evening. All hope he will give a similar treat in the near future.

**Lacrosse Notes.**

When the Lacrosse season ended recently, we found we had been rather late in making our best efforts to be in the final four, for we just missed by the narrowest of margins. Considering that our team was more raw than in previous years, on the whole we did very well.

Here is the season's records, which may be of interest to followers of our winter pastime.

Matches played 15, won 7, lost 6, drawn 2. Goals thrown, 146 against 145. Geo. Henry topped the goal-throwing records, scoring 55 goals; next came Geo. McGuinness with 25, W. Anderson 22, and W. McMillen, 11. Ten others secured the rest of the goals.

Our club, although disappointed in not meeting them in the second round (the first match they won by only a goal) extends its congratulations to North Fitzroy on gaining the premiership.

**Best and Fairest Player.**

A count of the votes cast by the referees of the Victorian Lacrosse Association for the best and fairest senior lacrosse player of the season showed that Harry Puddy had gained the highest number, twice in succession. Harry Puddy is acknowledged as one of the foremost forwards, and he has already represented Victoria in Queensland and South Australian interstate matches. He has played for the Coburg Senior Club for three years. Messrs. W. Ashby and J. O'Gorman are also members of the Coburg Club. Mr. H. Puddy is on the Committee of the Deaf Lacrosse Club.



Mr. H. Puddy

**Our Motor Waggon.**

Some time ago, Miss Alice Graham presented us with a motor waggon.

During the past month it may be credited with many deeds of service in the cause of the deaf. For instance, it was used as a hospital ambulance, twice for removing furniture, once as a funeral coach, frequently as a carrier's van, and on Saturday afternoons as a passenger bus taking our lacrosse players to and from their playing grounds.

**Mid-day Dinners.**

Every Tuesday and Thursday at our Club House, hot mid-day dinners are served to the unemployed, and every other day also the cooking facilities are in full swing. Our kitchen is a much used room these days.

Unemployment is the cause of much anxiety these days, but a well cooked meal in cheery company goes a long way in helping one to forget his troubles, for the time being at least. Anyhow, that is our experience.

We know we shall all feel better when we are again in jobs, but it must be admitted there is nothing like adversity for bringing folk closer together.

**Our Gold Prospectors.**

A company of deaf members, Joe Dickenson, Ivan Guthrie and Harry Lambert, "fathered" by our "W.A.P.," are delving in Mother Earth for that much wanted but elusive gold.

Creswick is the chosen district for their operations. We hear they have sunk a 50 feet shaft, but do not expect much luck with the precious metal till they reach the 80 feet level.

All wish them success, for it is a tough proposition they are up against, especially to men born and bred in a city.

May they soon find a rich yield.

**Round Table Conference.**

Leading members of the Melbourne Deaf Community were invited to attend a Sunday afternoon conference at the Adult Deaf Club House on the 9th of August, to make and consider practical suggestions for the uplift of the deaf of the State in general, and the members of the Adult Deaf and Dumb Society in particular. Practically all the adult deaf workers who were able were present.

The following subjects received preliminary consideration:—How best to help our unemployed; an ideal way for the deaf to spend Sunday; ways of improving the attractiveness of the Club House; Ladies' Kitchen Committee; Saturday Night Cafeteria; Fancy Fair; Dramatic and Entertainers' Club; dances and card parties for hearing and deaf; cinema pictures, etc.

It was not long before the conference got to work in real earnest and, as the members began to realise the possible benefits by the free and open talk, they became more and more enthusiastic. Other conferences followed and the results were, in every way, satisfactory. There was complete harmony throughout and wonderful good fellowship which alone made the gatherings worth while. About thirty happy people sat down to tea after each conference, attending Divine Worship in the church in the evening. The conferences are to be continued monthly. Some of the results of the conference:—Mutual confidence and understanding with determined purpose to improve the attractiveness of our society's activities and uphold all authority in the spirit of good fellowship. There has been a marked increase in

the attendance at Divine Worship and the offertories. An effort is to be made to raise funds for the unemployed by means of a Fancy Fair. Visiting teams from other States to be entertained at Xmas. Deaf Ladies' Kitchen Committee formed. Provision of hot mid-day dinners for unemployed at the Club House. Young Folks' Committee to organise dances and card parties for hearing and deaf. Establishment of a Dramatic Club.

**Deaf Workers' Club.**

The annual meeting of the Deaf Workers' Club was held on the evening of the 4th of August. Mr. F. E. Frewin presided.

After the adoption of the report and balance-sheet a very feeling tribute was paid to the late Mrs. F. E. Frewin, President of the Club, by our Principal, Mr. Abraham. Mrs. Frewin had held the position of President for the past three years, and, during that time, much good work under her direction had been accomplished.

Because of the difficulty in filling Mrs. Frewin's place at the present time, especially as the Vice-President, Mrs. Ashby, owing to altered home arrangements, would not be able to take an active part, the question arose as to the advisability of the women members of the Workers' Club amalgamating with the Women's Guild, and the same with the men. The Club was founded by Mrs. J. E. Muir nearly twenty years ago, and the position of President held by her till 1917, when, owing to Mrs. Muir making her home in Warburton, she was unable to take an active interest in it, so resigned. Naturally all present felt a little diffident about abandoning the Club, but after much discussion it was, to the satisfaction of most present, decided to carry on under the auspices of the Women's Guild.

The Women's Guild acted in its first official capacity since the amalgamation when it took charge of the catering at Mr. Abraham's anniversary Rally last September.

**Xmas Carnival.**

Preparations are well under way for the forthcoming Carnival to be held in Melbourne next Xmas, when the "Ernest J. D. Abraham" Cricket Shield, at present held by New South Wales, will be competed for by deaf interstate teams.

Tennis also will have a share in the competitions.

Our Club House is like a hive with so many activities for the raising of money to meet the heavy demand there will be on the exchequer then.

**Birthday Party.**

One of the most pleasing events that we have had at our Centre was the birthday party of Dorothy Johnston, the pretty little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Johnston, on the 8th of August.

Dorothy has always had nice parties, but on this occasion it was held at the Square, where her home now is.

It was great to see some thirty or more of her little schoolmates enjoying with her to the full the many pleasures provided for their

entertainment. Many parents brought their children and remained to watch the children. Blindfold driving, skipping, balloon tossing and fox and geese were played on the lawns—Jolimont Square is just ideal for a kiddies' party—until the welcome signal of tea was given.

Oh! the tea tables. They were just laden with all the good things that children love, and in a most conspicuous place stood a beautiful and imposing birthday cake with ten candles surrounding. It does not seem long since Dorothy started with one candle.

Tea over, such games as musical chairs, hot poker and fan ping pong were indulged in by the children and adults alike. The prize-winners were Francie Peters, Clara Hughes, Gloria Howe and Eric Davenport.

Thus ended the first juvenile party held at our Centre, but one that will live in the minds of the kiddies for many a day.

#### Obituary.

The past two months have exacted a heavy toll, and it is with sadness we record the death of two deaf and dumb members, our old school master, and a hearing friend.

Mr. W. D. Cook, for forty-one years headmaster of the Victorian School for the Deaf, St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, passed to a higher life on the 23rd of August.

So much of the lives of many of us are interwoven with Mr. Cook that it is hard to realise he is no longer with us. Many incidents recall good times under his direction, and he will long be remembered by his pupils.

Mrs. Cook pre-deceased Mr. Cook a few years back, but we ask his son, who is following in his father's footsteps as a teacher at the Deaf School, and his daughter, to accept our very sincere sympathy in the loss of their father.

William Skews, one of the first inmates of our Home, passed away on the 24th August. He had a kidney fit and died without regaining consciousness. He was buried at Box Hill, the Principal, Mr. Abraham, officiating at the graveside, and the President, Mr. E. R. Peacock, Mr. Edgar Peacock, and several fellow inmates also being present. The staff and inmates will miss him, especially our two blind-deaf men, for Mr. Skews was most patient and untiring in his kindness and attention to them. It was great to see his care of them.

To the late Rev. Dr. Hoban we would like to pay a tribute of respect. For years past he was eagerly sought by those members of our society whose parents belonged to Dr. Hoban's church to come and marry them. His charming personality and genial disposition won a place in all our hearts, and it was with sincere regret we learned of the serious state of his health and, later, his death.

The passing of our old member, Miss Jessie Wright, came as a great shock to all at the Centre. She was a constant visitor to the Square, coming and going at odd times, sometimes only remaining

a few minutes, but all were so accustomed to her ready smile and word of greeting that she will be missed for some time to come. Our sympathy is extended to her relatives.

#### Euchre Parties.

Our ever smiling and sweetly popular Miss Eileen O'Gorman is the organiser of two very successful euchre parties that were held at our Centre on the 11th and 26th of September. Of course she had many willing helpers—everyone wants to help her—but the success is mainly due to the whole-hearted and contagious enthusiasm that characterises all she take in hand.

There was a good attendance and a nice sum of money was added to the Xmas Carnival Fund. The winners of the tournaments were Mrs. Arthur Sutherland, Mrs. L. Smith, Messrs. Hughes and Pallot.

The next social function arranged is a dance and euchre party on the 21st October. An orchestra has been engaged and hearing as well as deaf folk are promised a good time. This time the proceeds will be divided between the Unemployed and Xmas Carnival Funds.

#### Tennis Club.

During the winter months our tennis court was somewhat neglected. Indeed, on several occasions it looked quite sad and lonely, because most of the girls were so busy with hockey and the boys with lacrosse, while both clubs always had a large complement of supporters to watch their progress each Saturday. For that reason the Deaf Tennis Club is not in the St. Kilda District Competitions. They, however, are now going full steam ahead, and will be quite ready for the coming season. Miss E. O'Gorman is the Hon. Secretary this year.

#### King of Sports Competition.

The Adult Deaf Cricket Club has adopted the ever-popular way of raising funds for their club by means of several nominated "Kings," with their following selling tickets. Bob Storey is "Cricket," Harry Puddy "Tennis," Don Johnston "Lacrosse," J. O'Gorman "Hockey," M. G. B. Mortimer "Indoor Games." All are working feverishly and have no mercy for a likely victim. All sorts of subterfuges have to be resorted to to get in and out of our Centre nowadays. Go ahead, boys, we wish you the best of success.

Some years ago the girls raised nearly £130 with Queen Competitions and a bazaar. Try and beat them.

#### The Hon. Organiser.

Mr. W. H. Crush is in charge of the present competition and working hard to make it a success. What is over from the Cricket Club will go to the Carnival Fund. So far £8 is in hand.



**Fancy Fair.**

A bumper event is listed for 27th and 28th of November at our Centre. It is in the form of a Fancy Fair.

Mr. F. E. Frewin is Chairman, Mesdames P. Swain and E. Johnson Hon. Secretaries, Mrs. J. Boortz Hon. Treasurer, and Committee as follows:—Misses A. Smith, G. Hawkins, L. Sanders, D. Hickey and R. Dow.

All are doing their best to make the Fair a success, and members and friends are asked to do their bit by sending along contributions of goods and later by coming to the Fair to buy them back again. Any of the above-named ladies will be pleased to acknowledge your gifts and demonstrate to you that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

**Women's Guild.**

A very interesting paper on "Ancient and Modern Washing" was given by Miss M. Gibson at a meeting of the above Guild on the 11th of August. The President, Mrs. T. Peters, also gave a short paper entitled "I beg your pardon." It was based on the story of an Editor apologising for making certain remarks on the temperament of deaf and dumb persons, and was good.

On the 8th of September, Ethel Leber and Gwen Hawkins read papers on "Collections of Scents" and "A Sheik's Bride" respectively. Both girls are to be congratulated on their success.

On the 13th October, Doris Campbell gave her maiden paper. It was entitled "Kindness Rewarded," and proved very interesting. The rest of the evening was filled in by the President, Mrs. Peters, who chose a very large subject, "What can a speck of radium do?" Many wonderful things were told and many more were left for some other time.

Mrs. J. M. Johnston is the popular Hon. Secretary of the Guild, and just loves to see new faces. Come to the next meeting and see how she will beam on you.

**"HEARING" WITH YOUR ARMS.**

The following appeared in a recent issue of "Pearson's Weekly." It is written by one Victor Lee (who has been deaf for many years). We would like to know what our readers think about it. We are inclined to the opinion that Mr. Lee can give us lessons in many things.

"Normal persons pay little attention to the almost innumerable waves of sound that are breaking upon us continuously. But the deaf grow more and more sensitive to sound which comes to them, not by the hearing of the ear, but by waves and vibrations.

"I pass a church almost every Thursday evening. I know that on that evening eight bells are rung.

"I do not hear them as I pass. But my arms ache with sound; my legs tremble; I could not stand in the vicinity for more than a

few moments. If I were foolish enough to do so, I should suffer a heart attack.

"Every part of a deaf person's body becomes susceptible to waves of sound. The fingers, especially, grow super-sensitive to it.

"A deaf friend of mine went into an ironmonger's shop to purchase a door-bell. The shopman opened the box containing the bell, extracted it, and held it up to the deaf man's ear.

"'Give it to me,' the deaf man said, 'and I will show you how the deaf hear.' He took it and manipulated it with his fingers for a moment. When he said, 'Yes, that will do nicely. It rings true.' He heard the ringing of the bell with his fingers by vibration.

"A deaf man is perfectly safe with machinery, and can test the easy working of the gear with precision. The normal man listens for the whistle of the shaft or bearing to discover when it requires oil. The deaf man can tell in a moment, simply by touching the shaft with his hand.

"It is not only possible, but an ascertained fact, that a deaf man can find the mortar spaces between bricks in a wall that has been plugged, quite as quickly as the man who can hear.

"They both follow the same method. They knock the wall lightly with a hammer; the normal man knows by the distinction in sound where to plug; the deaf know by vibration.

"Some deaf persons carry in one hand a little box made of wood when they are moving about the streets. It is quite small, being no larger than a match-box, and, of course, inconspicuous.

"The vibrations received by the box are communicated, and the dimensions, directions and nearness of the traffic can be realised with an astonishing degree of accuracy.

"It is really wonderful that, by the use of the eyes, and by vibration, many of the disabilities that follow in the wake of deafness disappear. One regrets that music is only a noise, and that the music of the human voice is an unknown thing. The deaf live in a world void of music."

**LIVING THE GOLDEN RULE.**

We can only live the Golden Rule by practising it towards our fellow men. There are many times when we are tempted to injure a friend, not necessarily by violence, but by word or indirect deed; and if we would only stop to think and put ourselves in his place, we would save ourselves from something which we would afterwards regret. We would also make many more friends. If you are tempted to hurt another man, ask yourself how you would like it. If you are tempted to condemn or criticise someone, ask yourself how you would like to be the one condemned. In every situation, when you are tempted to hurt another's good name, to break up the peace

of his home, or to crush an effort he is making to carry on some honest enterprise, ask yourself how you would like it. You would not like it at all. Your whole soul would rebel against the meanness of it. Then let your soul rise up and forbid such action in advance. DO UNTO OTHERS THAT WHICH YOU WOULD HAVE THEM DO UNTO YOU IF THE CONDITIONS WERE REVERSED.

#### Bagatelle.

The Ladies' Bagatelle Tourney has been a source of much pleasure and excitement to the ladies. The competition has been keen and the results are eagerly awaited. It was a great way of testing the prowess of our girls, and right well did they stand up to it. The competition closes at the end of October.

#### Billiards.

Only a few more matches and the present billiard tourney will be a thing of the past. Our good old member, Mr. George Oakley, who was leading in our last report, has been displaced by W. McMillen. Some say O. Quinton has a good chance and that W. Crush has still to be reckoned with.

#### REGULAR MEETINGS.

Church for the Deaf, Jolimont Square—Sundays, 7 p.m., Divine Worship. Thursdays, 8 p.m., Prayer and Lesson.

The Home, Blackburn—Sunday, 3 p.m., Service.

Geelong—First Tuesday, 7.45 p.m., Service and Social.

The Deaf Club House, Jolimont—Open daily, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Guild Meetings, etc. Thursdays, 8.15 p.m., Principal's Night. Saturdays, Socials, Library, Billiards.

For Tennis, Cricket, Lacrosse and Hockey Club announcements, see notice board. Office, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., for assistance and advice. Sickness and emergency ring W5440 after 5 p.m.

E. Johnson, Editor.