

MR. F. E. FREWIN.

Mr. F. E. Frewin, [REDACTED] after forty and more years "on active service" in the cause of the deaf, is still as deeply interested and as willing to give his best for the welfare of his fellow deaf. Notwithstanding age and the length of years of devotion to their interests he has not relinquished his leadership in all church work nor in the frequency of his attendances at divine worship, an example he has shown since the Adult Deaf and Dumb Society first came into existence.

He is the President of the Adult Deaf Young Men's Christian Association, known as the Deaf Men's Guild, and he has never lost his interest in the activities, sports and amusements of the young. For the many years that his wife, the late Mrs. Frewin, held office as President of the Deaf Workers' Club, he delighted in carrying into effect the many inspirations of Mrs. Frewin. They were ideal dual workers for any cause and work amongst their fellow deaf did not embrace the whole of their efforts for the general good.

Mr. F. E. Frewin was born at Mile End, London, England, and was educated at the old School for the Deaf, Old Kent Road, London, and after serving his time as an apprentice to cabinet-making, came to Australia in 1882 with his father, the late Rev. J. F. Frewin, and family, and settled in Victoria. In 1884 he was married to Miss Clara E. Briner, of Bright. Mr. Frewin has always been sought after as a skilled tradesman at his particular craft, and, although deaf, for years has had hearing men under him.

We have seen it said that if our younger generation of men would but follow in the footsteps of F. E. Frewin, there would be no unemployed deaf.

Mr. Frewin is the senior member of the Deaf Committee, and has a seat on the Board of Management of the Adult Deaf and Dumb Society of Victoria.

SCHOOL NOTES.

The Deaf School held its Annual Sports on Friday, 8th May, when all the children took part in the many events, which were eagerly contested. Fortunately for them the rain held off until after the presentation of prizes. Mr. R. A. Edmanson, the President of the Institution, distributed the prizes.

A Memorial Tablet, which has been placed in the porch at the entrance to the main building of the Institution, was unveiled to the memory of the late Mr. John Adcock, who for twenty-seven years was Superintendent and Secretary of the Institution. This ceremony took place at 11.30 a.m. on the 12th May. The President, Mr. R. A. Edmanson, when unveiling the tablet, referred to the wonderful work done for the Institution and the children by Mr. Adcock. The Rev. J. Danglow, M.A., supported the remarks of the President, and the Headmaster, Mr. J. H. Burchett, interpreted the speeches to the children. As a mark of respect the Committee of Management and friends then filed past the tablet, followed by the staff, teachers, and children. —From the "Deaf Children's Chronicle."

LIP READING.

By special request the following notice appeared on the Notice Board at our Centre, Jolimont Square:—"Proposed Speech and Lip Reading Class. Members wishing to join please hand names to the Principal." The teacher was on the spot, but alas, there were no pupils. The contention of the Adult Deaf is that, whilst lip reading is an accomplishment that all should learn and all do practice it, the finger and sign language is by far the best and easiest to express themselves by, and a much truer and clearer way of ascertaining what is being told to them. Further, that, so long as deafness remains incurable, the combined system of teaching in Schools for the Deaf—that is, lip reading and by means of the finger and sign language—will always have first place in equipping the deaf child for the battle of life. In small groups a great deal of lip reading and speech is done, but, as one of Melbourne's leading lip-reading teachers said, it is impossible in a large assemblage to so form your words that more than the few in the immediate vicinity of the speaker can understand. Whereas, just so long as there is room for one eye to be on the speaker's hands, the deaf person can be fully aware of everything that is going on and not have the unhappy feeling of being out of things.



Deaf Committee.

Back Row.—H. Puddy, F. Frewin, E. J. D. Abraham, E. Johnson, G. Mortimer.

Front Row.—E. R. Noble, G. Newnham, J. McLean, R. H. Lambert.

Absentees.—W. Ashby, W. H. Crush, James Johnston.

THE VICTORIAN DEAF

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

Objective—To be acclaimed the Organ of the Deaf of this State.

Vol. 2. No. 4.

JULY-AUGUST, 1931.

Price 6d.



Mr. F. E. Frewin

MR. F. E. FREWIN.

Mr. F. E. Frewin, [REDACTED] after forty and more years "on active service" in the cause of the deaf, is still as deeply interested and as willing to give his best for the welfare of his fellow deaf. Notwithstanding age and the length of years of devotion to their interests he has not relinquished his leadership in all church work nor in the frequency of his attendances at divine worship, an example he has shown since the Adult Deaf and Dumb Society first came into existence.

He is the President of the Adult Deaf Young Men's Christian Association, known as the Deaf Men's Guild, and he has never lost his interest in the activities, sports and amusements of the young. For the many years that his wife, the late Mrs. Frewin, held office as President of the Deaf Workers' Club, he delighted in carrying into effect the many inspirations of Mrs. Frewin. They were ideal dual workers for any cause and work amongst their fellow deaf did not embrace the whole of their efforts for the general good.

Mr. F. E. Frewin was born at Mile End, London, England, and was educated at the old School for the Deaf, Old Kent Road, London, and after serving his time as an apprentice to cabinet-making, came to Australia in 1882 with his father, the late Rev. J. F. Frewin, and family, and settled in Victoria. In 1884 he was married to Miss Clara E. Briner, of Bright. Mr. Frewin has always been sought after as a skilled tradesman at his particular craft, and, although deaf, for years has had hearing men under him.

We have seen it said that if our younger generation of men would but follow in the footsteps of F. E. Frewin, there would be no unemployed deaf.

Mr. Frewin is the senior member of the Deaf Committee, and has a seat on the Board of Management of the Adult Deaf and Dumb Society of Victoria.

SCHOOL NOTES.

The Deaf School held its Annual Sports on Friday, 8th May, when all the children took part in the many events, which were eagerly contested. Fortunately for them the rain held off until after the presentation of prizes. Mr. R. A. Edmanson, the President of the Institution, distributed the prizes.

A Memorial Tablet, which has been placed in the porch at the entrance to the main building of the Institution, was unveiled to the memory of the late Mr. John Adcock, who for twenty-seven years was Superintendent and Secretary of the Institution. This ceremony took place at 11.30 a.m. on the 12th May. The President, Mr. R. A. Edmanson, when unveiling the tablet, referred to the wonderful work done for the Institution and the children by Mr. Adcock. The Rev. J. Danglow, M.A., supported the remarks of the President, and the Headmaster, Mr. J. H. Burchett, interpreted the speeches to the children. As a mark of respect the Committee of Management and friends then filed past the tablet, followed by the staff, teachers, and children. —From the "Deaf Children's Chronicle."

LIP READING.

By special request the following notice appeared on the Notice Board at our Centre, Jolimont Square:—"Proposed Speech and Lip Reading Class. Members wishing to join please hand names to the Principal." The teacher was on the spot, but alas, there were no pupils. The contention of the Adult Deaf is that, whilst lip reading is an accomplishment that all should learn and all do practice it, the finger and sign language is by far the best and easiest to express themselves by, and a much truer and clearer way of ascertaining what is being told to them. Further, that, so long as deafness remains incurable, the combined system of teaching in Schools for the Deaf—that is, lip reading and by means of the finger and sign language—will always have first place in equipping the deaf child for the battle of life. In small groups a great deal of lip reading and speech is done, but, as one of Melbourne's leading lip-reading teachers said, it is impossible in a large assemblage to so form your words that more than the few in the immediate vicinity of the speaker can understand. Whereas, just so long as there is room for one eye to be on the speaker's hands, the deaf person can be fully aware of everything that is going on and not have the unhappy feeling of being out of things.



Deaf Committee.

Back Row.—H. Puddy, F. Frewin, E. J. D. Abraham, E. Johnson, G. Mortimer.

Front Row.—E. R. Noble, G. Newnham, J. McLean, R. H. Lambert.

Absentees.—W. Ashby, W. H. Crush, James Johnston.

OUR LITTLE WORLD.

In the last issue of the "Victorian Deaf" an account was given by Harry Puddy of his sky trip to Tasmania. It was also mentioned that Messrs. Thomas of Tasmania, W. Crush of Victoria, and W. Driscoll of South Australia, and Mrs. Smith of Western Australia, had also made flights. Now we hear that W. Bladier, C. Graham, O. Quinton, W. McMillen and Mrs. Hunt, all of Victoria, have had short flights. Are there any more deaf folk with the same inclination?

Warrie Ashby and Willie Elwin have gone on the land. Their farm is at Lower Macedon. The place was selected by Mr. David Ashby, an experienced farmer, who is directing them at present. Mrs. Elwin accompanied them, and their friends wish them success in their new undertaking.

Our friend, Mr. L. Ching, returned to his home in Linton after having spent a very enjoyable time in Melbourne, whilst staying with Mr. E. Johnson, who arranged his outings so that Mr. Ching filled in every day in the best possible way for his pleasure. Mr. Johnson accompanied Mr. Ching home and spent a delightful week with him and his brother, Mr. Richard Ching. The latter drove them to Mount Mannabadar, where they had a great view of the surrounding country. The once busy goldfields were visited also. It is very pleasing to know our Mr. Ching is so popular in his home town. It was shown by the "Grenville Standard" and the "Ballarat Courier," each publishing an account of his doings in Melbourne.

Our Principal has received a lengthy letter from Gerald Turnley. He set out for Sydney on foot in search of work. His letters to Melbourne show that he had several "lifts" on his way. After a week on the road he finally arrived at St. Gabriel's School for the Deaf, Castle Hall, where he is at present staying.

We hear that Charlie Luke, of Edenbank, Jerilderie, N.S.W., has lost his father, who was well known, generally liked, and respected throughout the district. To Charlie and his relatives we extend our sincere sympathy in their sudden bereavement.

Mr. Bert Tyzzer is still farming round Kingston district and wishes to be remembered to the Melbourne folk.

Mr. P. Sutherland, of Deniliquin, N.S.W., still keeps in touch with us, and appreciates receiving "The Victorian Deaf" regularly.

We heard from Colin Johns, of Horsham, that they were having plenty of rain. They are waiting for fine weather to begin sowing wheat. He is still interested in our lacrosse doings, and hopes to see us in the final four. He is a playing member of Ralkie Football Club, which is at present leading for premiership.

Miss M. Gibson exhibited her eight months old Pomeranian puppy at the National Toy Dog Club's Championship Show, held at the Protestant Hall on the 8th of July. Miss Gibson's puppy was entered in the six to nine months' class, and was awarded third prize. It was placed third in the six to twelve months' puppy class.

Mr. J. McLaurin, of Meeniyan, Gippsland, was in town for a fortnight and looked very well. He was very eager to have a run with our lacross boys, but, owing to being out of practice for about two years, we could not include him.

Mrs. Rivers, nee Miss R. Betts, now of N.S.W., spent a few weeks in Victoria and went back well satisfied with her holiday amongst us.

Miss L. Sanders is making a lengthy stay with Mrs. J. E. Muir at Warburton, and is enjoying herself.

Mr. Hamson, of Conargo, N.S.W., was down for a fortnight. He much regretted the passing of his old school friends, Messrs. S. Moss and J. E. Muir.

Quite a number of our deaf are trying their luck at fossicking round about Warrandyte these last few weeks. Nothing big has come their way yet. Ivan Guthrie is getting quite an expert in that line, and is ably assisted by Joe Dickenson. Les Owen and Tom Derby are working on another claim not far from them.

Miss Gwen Hawkins has returned home after an enjoyable six weeks' holiday in Adelaide, South Australia. She speaks highly of the fine mission building there.

Mr. Jack Stewart, of Ballarat, was down for a week end during July. Maurice Mark is now playing lacrosse, having joined one of the local clubs.

Byron Taylor, of Sandy Bay, Hobart, Tasmania, sends to all his Melbourne friends kind remembrances, and is looking forward to meeting them again next Xmas, when he will come over as one of the Tassy Deaf Cricketers.

Robert Ryan, of Mailer's Flat, near Warrnambool, is looking forward to the coming Xmas Cricket Carnival. He hopes to be one of Victoria's representatives in the games. He sent us some newspaper cuttings which described his exceptional performances for his club, which finally came out premiers. He appears to be a fine all-round player.

Mrs. G. Damman, of Warburton, spent a week in Melbourne on business bent during the middle part of July.

SATURDAY NIGHTS.

Nowadays there is always a good attendance on Saturday nights at our Club House. The main attraction for men is, of course, the Billiard Tournament. From a little after till 10.30 there is always a crowd of enthusiasts lining the walls of the billiard room watching with critical interest the play of the cueists. There are few who have not their names down to match their skill against the rest, and it would be hard to find a man among the Deaf who has not, at some time or other, looked in to see the play.

Billiards, however, is not the only attraction. Downstairs in the Assembly Hall, Badminton is played with equal enthusiasm,

though possibly with less skill. Indeed, it is sometimes a matter of surprise that the bumps and thuds from below do not bring protests from above, but evidently the club house is solidly built, for it does not even tremble when, as is not infrequently the case, the Badminton player measures his length on the floor.

Up to a couple of weeks or so ago our Hockey girls were not often seen at the Club on Saturday nights. Apparently they preferred to stay at home and nurse the various bruises gained during the fierce warfare of the afternoon. Soon after the men's Billiards Tournament started, however, a gentleman, who prefers to remain unknown, observed that the boys had their billiards all to themselves, and the girls, like Mother Hubbard's dog, had none. So he generously gave ten shillings for a prize to be competed for by girls only at any indoor game they deemed suitable. Bagatelle was decided upon, and the Deaf Committee added another five shillings as consolation prizes. A Bagatelle board was brought from the Blackburn Home and was immediately hurried into the deepest recesses of the Club House to vanish forever from the sight of men.

Great secrecy surrounds its present whereabouts, and no male eye may rest upon it. The least courageous among the competitors would sooner be seen in last season's hat than divulge the secret. It is rumored that each player is masked and known only by a number and that none may enter the hidden room without first giving a password, but of this we have no definite knowledge.

In sharp contrast to this mystery upstairs, in the library all is peace. Some play cards, a few read, more are engaged in animated conversation; but, whether they charge about the Assembly Hall or form one of the watching throng around the billiards table, whether they are one of those who frown over a poor hand at "Five Hundred," or vanish into those mysterious regions where the bagatelle board lies hid, each one enjoys himself or herself to the utmost, and it can be truthfully said that the only one who do not enjoy Saturday night at the Club House are those who are not there.

—E. R. Noble.

KING'S BIRTHDAY RALLY.

The Quarterly Rally arranged for the King's Birthday holiday on the 8th of June, was a great success. As usual, a large crowd gathered, and a happy one it was. The social opened with the rendering of the National Anthem by Mr. Luff. The chair was taken by the President of the Society, Mr. E. R. Peacock, who welcomed all in his usual cheery way. We were pleased to see Mr. Hoath in the gathering. The younger set soon occupied most of the floor space with games, including a Monte Carlo dance, the latter being won by Miss Rose Dow and Mr. N. Webb. The balloon blowing competition showed Miss C. Derbyshire and Mr. C. Lyfield had the most wind, for those prizes went their way.

Next came a very special ceremony. It was the unveiling of the photo of Miss Alice Graham (our Fairy Godmother) by herself. The photo was presented to the Society by Miss Bessie Graham,

sister to Miss Alice, and had been kept a secret. Imagine Miss Alice Graham's surprise when she was asked to unveil a photo and on doing so found it to be her own! She was quite overcome and unable to respond for a few minutes. We are so glad to have their photo of Miss Graham now hanging in our hall. We want everyone to see it and know what our Fairy Godmother is like. It is a delightful picture of her, and we are grateful to Miss Bessie Graham for presenting it. Games once again became the order of the night. "Musical Chairs" were won by Mrs. V. Wilson, and balloon tossing race by Mrs. J. M. Johnston and Mr. Buttacavoli. Supper was then partaken of, Miss Graham and her guests leaving shortly after.

OUR LARGE FAMILY AT THE BLACKBURN HOME.

Yes, it is a large family. Nearly forty are enjoying the provisions made for them at our Home. And a very happy, smiling crowd they are in lovely country surroundings. Of course, there are days when things go wrong and the smiles are chased away for the time being, but where in this wonderful and beautiful world can you find a place where everyone is always smiling? And if you can, it must be awfully monotonous.

During the last few weeks there have been three picture nights, the same films that were shown at our Centre, and the inmates thoroughly enjoyed them. Mr. E. Noble screened the films on two occasions, and Mr. Johnston the other.

Some of the girls have had short holidays or a day's outing, likewise the boys.

Emma Chambers had a great time buying new clothes, the money for which was sent to her by her trustees.

We are sorry to say Miss Flynn is ill with pneumonia, but every care and attention is being given to her and we hope to see her her old self soon again.

Claude Lyfield and Clem Norman have bicycles of their own now, and enjoy some all-day trips to the country. Matron gives them lunch to take with them and saves their dinner for their night meal, and they come home so hungry.

Our two blind old men, W. Shirra and E. Cork, are wonderfully well, so are J. McGonigal and G. Akester. The latter is as energetic as ever and, like Mr. Cork, is always asking for work.

When Kit Robinson came back from his holiday, he brought some nice clothes with him. His brothers gave them to him.

We are glad W. Skewes is home again. He had a few weeks in hospital with a bad knee, and thoroughly enjoyed all the visits paid and nice things brought him.

During Miss Flynn's illness, Gracie Coghlan, Agnes Barrie, Kate Lawrence, Jessie Love and Emma Chambers have been so good helping Matron.

Reggie Thaw is working well and is always so cheerful. Jim Hartigan has grown such a lot since he went to the Home. He is a good boy, too, but we wish he would not break his glasses so often.

MEN'S GUILD.

No meeting of the Men's Guild was held on 9th of June, owing to proximity of King's Birthday Rally, which was held on the 8th ult.

On 30th June, Mr. E. R. Noble contributed a paper on the "Origin of Species," an interesting, scientific subject.

An enjoyable discussion was held on 14th July, on "What is considered to be the safest transport." The majority, in this age of speed, favored the train, but for steady pace horse transport was considered the safest.

WOMEN'S GUILD.

The first meeting of the year was opened on the 16th of June, when a very delightful "Social Evening" was held. The attendance was large, and all entered into the various novel games and guessing competitions with much enthusiasm. A dainty supper, provided by the members, ended a happy evening.

On the 1st of July a special meeting for young women only was held in our hall. For some time past, owing to the present tendency of the modern youth of both sexes to disregard their moral responsibilities, it was deemed advisable to gather together as many girls as possible with the object of explaining just what they are up against. There was a splendid attendance. The President, Mrs. Peters, read a paper on "A Mother's Advice to Her Daughter," which was well received. Several members spoke on the subject afterwards, and all agreed about the importance of it and expressed their determination to do their bit to help where necessary.

On 14th of July, Mrs. J. M. Johnston gave a paper on "House-keeping at Buckingham Palace," giving an insight as to how they manage in the royal household, which was interesting.

MASS MEETING OF THE DEAF.

A mass meeting of the deaf and dumb people of Melbourne was held at the Adult Deaf Centre, Jolimont Square, Melbourne, on Thursday, July 9, when the following resolutions were unanimously adopted. The meeting was exclusively of the deaf and dumb, and there was a large and representative attendance.

"In view of misstatements that have from time to time appeared in certain publications above the signature of unauthorised persons purporting to be the opinions of the deaf and dumb community, we, the deaf of Melbourne, desire to put upon record that those views, opinions and statements are not authorised by nor do they represent the views and opinions of the deaf community."

"That this meeting of deaf wish to place upon record their implicit confidence in the Deaf Committee as their elected and authorised representatives."

CLUBS.**LACROSSE.**

On June 6th, our boys scored a runaway victory at the expense of Caulfield Grammarians, scoring twenty goals to four. On June

13th, we gained another win at the expense of Ivanhoe, after a good, solid game—eight to five. On June 20th, we drew with Caulfield after a very strenuous game—ten all. On June 27th, North Fitzroy claimed a win over us, scoring eight goals to seven. On July 4th, Essendon, too, claimed a one goal win from us, thirteen goals to twelve. On July 12th, faulty placement of players in the second



Match between Y.M.C.A. and Adult Deaf, Saturday, April 18th.
"Dick White Waits."

By courtesy of the "Sun Pictorial."

half of our game against Box Hill cost us the game. Box Hill piled up fifteen goals to six. On July 18th, a narrow win for us against Camberwell, twelve goals to eleven. On 25th July our boys met Caulfield in one of the most gruelling games, and got vanquished. The final scores showed Caulfield twelve goals to eight.

HOCKEY.

Progress result of Girls' Hockey Matches to date:—2nd May, lost to Y.W.C.A. Red, one goal to two; goal-thrower, Elsie Stephens. 9th May, won against Firbank, two goals to one; B. Higgie and A. Smith were the sharpshooters. 16th May, lost to Lincoln Mills, one goal to four; A. Smith was the scorer. 23rd May, lost to St. Peter's, one goal to four; Elsie Stephens scored. 30th May, walkover from Y.W.C.A. Grey. 6th June, bye. 13th June, Moran & Cato defeated us, scoring one goal to nil. 20th June, another defeat in hands of Athletic Association, who scored two goals to nil. 27th June, a win from Y.W.C.A. Green, five goals to three; goal-throwers, Elsie Stephens, two; Emily Stephens, one; M. Dow, one; J. Murphy, one.

4th July, Elsie Stephens scored the only goal for our side against the University D, four. 11th July, a drawn game against Y.W.C.A. Red, two goals all. Elsie Stephens was credited with both goals. 18th July, Firbank scored two against one, shot by M. Dow.

HOCKEY CLUB SOCIAL.

Still another successful social was run by the Hockey Club on the 25th of June. The object for which these socials were held has been accomplished, and the Club is now in the very happy position of being well and truly financial. The Club intends to run these socials, when allowed, for the benefit of other Clubs belonging to the Society.

A Euchre Party for some and salmagundi for the rest made the time go all too soon. The President of the Club, Mrs. Peacock, donated a pair of very nice silk stockings, which realised a good sum as a result of choosing a number.

About seventy were present, and the excellent arrangements were in the hands of the Hon. Secretary, Elsie Stephens, and Captain, Mab. Dow, assisted by the team.

BAGATELLE.

The Winter Competition is getting quite contagious, and the Deaf women are not being denied their share of the enjoyment and excitement. A Ladies' Bagatelle Competition, under the direction of the Women's Guild, was launched on 18th July on the "point system," and much enthusiasm was created.

The contest is for "Aird" and "Deaf Committee" trophies. Any ladies wishing to enter this competition are requested to hand in their names to Mrs. J. M. Johnston, Hon. Secretary of the Women's Guild, at their earliest. Entry free.

BADMINTON.

A sudden spirit of interest has made the game of Badminton quite popular at our Centre. The Coburg Presbyterian Badminton Club paid us a visit on the 13th July and, being a team in the senior grade, defeated our team by seven games to one.

Our team played a return match at Ivanhoe on the 23rd July. The Ivanhoe Club scored 151 points to our 75.

On each occasion very pleasant evenings were spent.

How about forming a Badminton Club and joining the Association?

BILLIARDS.

Instead of the usual Billiards Championship Competition during the winter amongst the Deaf, a "Point System" Tournament is now played instead. It has been on the run for over a month and is expected to last till about the end of August. At time of going to press, Geo. Oakley, the oldest member in the contest (79 years) is leading in the aggregate, with only one defeat.

PICTURE NIGHTS.

The following list of pictures were shown at the Centre at various times:—On 12th March, a thrilling detective story, "The Ringer," was screened; the story was based on Edgar Wallace's book. Then

comes the title of "Overland Telegraph," screened on 9th April, featuring Tim McCoy, showing him at the time of colonising America, and the connecting of east and west by telegraph. A thriller it was. A British and Dominion picture, called "The Luck of the Navy," was shown on 21st May, a dramatic spy picture with plenty of thrills. On 18th June was screened another war picture, entitled "Sailors Don't Care," showing how British mystery boats fought the German U Boat menace. On 2nd July, a mythical Arabian Nights story, "Secrets of the East," was shown. On 16th July, William Haines featured in "A Man's Man," which was amusing, as well as exciting. On 23rd July, another British film was screened, depicting the English rural scenes, etc., the title being "Widdecombe Fair," supported by scenic picture of Constantinople, and then an action picture of polo, showing how polo ponies are trained and how the game is played.

POINTERS FOR EMPLOYERS AND OTHERS.

A Plea for Our Unemployed Deaf.

In the year that we have just gone through we have had hard times—there will be no argument on this point—and we know that we will yet wait some months before we realise our present hopeful turn of mind.

During this time we have looked, and will look, wildly about for relief for our unemployed deaf, in the form of WORK.

Employers should be taught the economic value of employing more Deaf and Dumb workers than most of you do. We Deaf are just as capable and industrious as our hearing brothers and sisters, and a deaf workman does not waste time in idle gossip during the temporary absence of his foreman.

Being deaf, he concentrates his mind on his work, and is therefore a greater producing asset, than a good many hearing employees really are. When the general public, and particularly employers, have been told these things, then we shall find people most receptive, appreciative and helpful in solving the unemployment problem of our capable Deaf community.

I know of instances when being asked for a job by or for Deaf friends, of employers turning down all applications at the outset, merely because of their handicap.

"Eh! Deaf and Dumb!" or "Oh! he is deaf, is he. Nothing doing; can't be bothered!" or "Poor thing. Sorry I can't take the risk. I've never employed a Deaf and Dumb person before." Why stick to old prejudices? Unfortunately many employers and other people who have their full senses of hearing and speech think of "We Deaf" folks as "poor things." That is one of the reasons why deaf persons get sensitive. Why regard as a terrible affliction what is really only a handicap that can be overcome? How we hate to be pitied like that! Deafness need not keep its victims out of business, if only employers will be fair enough to give such applicants a chance. Henry Ford employs over a hundred deaf persons in his Canadian works, and he declares that, given equal chances, "Deaf workers" have been proved to give 100 per cent. efficient results, and

he pays them 100 per cent. wages. It is time the "Employers" and other "Bosses" in Australia adopted the same broad-minded outlook and treated the "Deaf" as normal hearing people, and not cling to old prejudices and consider us as "poor things" looking for sympathy and charity. The sooner this attitude is abandoned in favor of practical help, by providing employment for our "workless deaf," the better for all concerned. If every firm in Melbourne, with a "staff" of not less than one hundred, employed only one deaf person each there would not be an unemployed deaf amongst our members in Victoria to-day.

That would be real practical sympathy and help, without charity, and a gain to the State without cost to anyone.

Do not treat the Deaf as though we were beings in "another world," or think that because we cannot hear, in the ordinary way, that we want to be left out of everything. Our greatest difficulty is to overcome the shyness and extreme sensitiveness that we feel, and it is in this respect that our hearing friends can help us.

If you will "mix" with us "deaf folk" more, and forget we are deaf sometimes, you will help us most of all, because WE shall be able to forget it too, and thus "help you to help us" and "help us to help you" to a better understanding of our difficulties and problems.

I hope all "Employers" will, after reading this article, cast their eyes around their workshops, or factory on their next inspection, or daily rounds, and make a note of the number of empty benches, or positions vacant, and promptly fill them with "Deaf workers," if possible. Be convinced, like Henry Ford was, that a "deaf worker" CAN hold his own with his hearing fellows. Try one to-day. Prove it by results.

—W. H. Crush.

OBITUARY.

CLARKE.—At Werribee, on the 15th of July, Peter Clarke, aged 69 years. Another of our old friends gone to join the great majority.

BIRTHS.

SUTHERLAND.—At "Springbourne," Selwood Avenue, Upper Hawthorn, on 20th June, to Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Sutherland—a daughter, Elizabeth.

COMING EVENTS.

Anniversary Rally, September 24, 1931.

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.