

Church of Christ Brisbane

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9th September 1957

Dear Brother Burdeu,

Referring to your letter of the 25th ultimo, I note that you have been able to get much information from Mrs Berlin Senr., of help for historical records. I have in turn several times spoken to Mr W.V.Mills and he has passed on some old notes for my perusal, conditional on return. There is however nothing in them not already in "Fifty Years in Ann Street". Mr McKelvie and Mr Hunting compiled this after discussion with Mrs Berlin, Mr Mills, Mr & Mrs Ash and others. I understand that you have copies and also some further data prepared, to cover period since the booklet was compiled, by Bro McKelvie.

Whilst appreciating that the information given by Mrs Berlin is probably on Brotherhood activities as a whole we would welcome anything in it of particular interest to Ann St. It was our experience however that Mr Mills had more information on our own particular Church work.

With this letter I expect to deliver to you the copies of monthly reports to the Christian from from Dec 1951 to March 1943. Although not now old it may be of some value later. If you think it not of interest I would be glad to have it back, but it is yours if you want it.

Yours Fraterhally,

*Copy kept
sent
26/9/57*
H. J. Payne

*You will see some data re Church beginnings
- eg. letter 26/10/33 earliest meetings at Bonnal
June 1932. Febby on baskets is interesting -
See also 26/13/38 records
Church*

Mr. Burden

Sorry I did not send
the enclosed earlier. Had written
it out roughly some time ago
8 weeks ago I had a nasty fall &
that's other weaknesses put me out
of action

Trust you will get something
out of this. So much else I could
write about but some of it is more
or less personal & I want to avoid
that

In Christian Love
(Mrs) Eleanor Berlin

P.S. Did you read any of the articles in
the Christian Advocate?

copy
made
P.S.

of '98 copy
2/23/10 of W. W. W.

1880

meetings were held in Synod Hall & in an old Temp. Hall. I think Mr ~~W~~ Y. Wright ~~was~~ the first regular preacher. Sunday school started. Some meetings held at Taringa. Quite a number of our Brethren lived in that locality. Mr O. A. Ewers' farewell was held at Taringa. Baptisms had taken place in waterholes out there. There Eld. Mr Potter was baptized by a Mr Stephenson. This I think was about 5 years before Mr Houchins' arrival.

In 1891 W. S. Houchins commenced his ministry in the old Temperance Hall. The baptistry was used for the 1st time when his 2 first converts (young women) were immersed on 9th March. A choir was formed & regular practice held on Sun. after S. S. as the Hall was not available during the week.

copy of ~~part~~ of ~~101~~ of ~~W~~ ~~am~~

Our meetings were held at what was
 called Finney's Corner, Edwards & Queen
 Sts on Sunday & either Tues or Wed evenings
 The Choir taking an active part.

The Salvation Army held meetings same
 place Sundays 6 p.m. We ~~followed~~ followed
 at 6.30. Many of the onlookers remained
 for our Service & followed us to the Hall
 On one occasion when Mr Houchins was
 speaking a man persisted in interjecting
 when Mr H. said "with some one put his
 hand on that man's mouth while I am
 speaking". The time Mr Houchins was a
 passenger to Sydney by train & passengers
 names were mentioned in the papers.
 Rev. Father Houchins He was a powerful
 looking person Mr P. A. Dickson
 followed Mr Houchins & open an meeting.

of copy of Name
 Feb 9/10

continued at same place until we
 moved to the old Baptist Church in
 Wharf St. when the Baptists moved to the
 newly erected City Tabernacle.

Open air meetings on Sunday evening were
 then held in Wharf St. opposite the Church.
 Earlier in Mr Dickson's time the Church met for
 a time in Antennal Hall Ann St. between
 Edward + Albert Sts. While there Mr Isaac
 Selby one time Freethinker had a debate with
 Mr Wallace Nelson &. Mr Selby when Lyceum
 Hall was used by these people was lecturer
 there. (This building was purchased by C. of C.
 on removal from Elizabeth St. now City Temple
 in Campbell St Sydney. Mr Selby later became
 a member of C. of C. & preached in same building)
 Keen interest was taken in the debate by
 our people. Mr Nelson had quite a number

50 of copy of name
 20th 9/10/11

is open to correction but I think Mr
Houchins was actually the first full time
preacher Not quite sure about time when Mr
Goodacre was minister on full time I do
remember Mr Goodacre had Bible Class
They later left for America

Some times we would have 1 or 2 of the local
members to give addresses? or should I say
brief talks Some very acceptably. Visiting
preachers occasionally Occasionaly visiting
preachers when in Brisbane greatly encour-
aged the Church For some time while
in Temp. Hall we had no musical instrument
in morning Service Tuning fork gave the
key note

Mrs Eleanor Berlin
20/8/59

copy of [unclear] 10/51
20/8/59 Waine