

# Laid 100 Years Ago

## St. Clement's Foundation Stone

On Sunday next, July 27, the Parish Church of St. Clement, Enfield, will celebrate the centenary of the laying of the foundation stone, by conducting special services in commemoration of the event.

The stone was laid by Mrs. Black, wife of Mr. J. R. Black, a lay reader licensed to Enfield by the first Bishop of Adelaide (the Rt. Rev. Augustus Short), and the service was conducted by the Bishop, who was assisted by the Ven. Archdeacon W. J. Woodcock.

Next Sunday, services will be held at 8 a.m. and 9.30 a.m., when Holy Communion will be sung, and at 7 p.m., when Festal Evensong will be sung. The preacher at the evening service will be the Dean-Administrator of the Diocese (the Very Rev. A. E. Weston).

Supper will be served after the evening service.

The history of the formation of the church is interesting.

Enfield, one of the oldest suburbs of Adelaide, was, at one time known as "Poor Man's Section", but by 1853 had so grown, that the Rector of Christ Church, North Adelaide, the Rev. Canon W. J. Woodcock, felt that some provision for the spiritual needs of the settlers could no longer be delayed. He secured licences from Bishop Short for six lay readers.—Messrs. H. Hussey,

J. Bath, S. and C. H. Goode, M. MacDermott and O. K. Richardson. On May 12 of that year, the first service was held at Enfield.

The early services appear to have been held in a room adjoining the old post office in the Hollow, near the pre-

adjoining the old post office in the Hollow, near the present Enfield Institute.

Land for the erection of the church was obtained in 1858, and the foundation stone laid on Tuesday, July 27, the same year.

Unfortunately, because of lack of funds, building operations had to be suspended, but it was completed in 1867, and was opened for worship on Sunday morning, November 24, the service being taken by the Rev. P. K. Simmons.

Before 1872, the church had never enjoyed the regular presence of a priest, but in that year, the Rev. J. S. Haynes commenced his ministry, which continued until 1884.

Some idea of the difficulties in working the parish may be gained from a definition of the boundaries as given in 1878.—"From Prospect village, north of North Adelaide to within 12½ miles of Gawler, including the districts of Enfield, Salisbury and Virginia".

By 1877, the church debt had been cleared, and the consecration of St. Clement's by Bishop Short took place on March 11.

In 1880, a shed was erected at the rear of the church, which served as a vestry until 1901, when a stone structure replaced the shed.

In 1884, the church was enlarged and a new chancel erected at a cost of £400. This was consecrated by

This was consecrated by Bishop Kennion on May 18, 1884.

For some years after the resignation of the Rev. J. S. Haynes, the church was under the direct control of the Organising Chaplain of the recently formed Bishop's Home Mission Society with one or two periods of exception. St. Clement's did not gain representation in Synod until 1903.

An off shoot of St. Clement's was built in Clifford street and was licensed as a parish hall by the Lord Bishop (the Rt. Rev. A. Nutter Thomas) in 1922.

In 1940, the existing vestry at St. Clement's was enlarged to provide adequate kindergarten accommodation.

The church has continued to make progress and parishioners thank God for the devotion and labour of the predecessors during the past 100 years.