South Island Methodist
Children's Home.

Ladies' House Committee.

Minute Book.

1947. 1954

[8144-14]

Minutes of Meeting held Aug. 13. 1947.

Those present at this meeting, held in Epworth Chambers at 2pm., were Mesdames Cock, Hodder Inwood, Marsh (presiding) Rayson, Thornton and Miss Barclay. Apologies were received from Mesdames Lockwood (Addington) Opie, Queree, and Miss Horrell.

Miss Barclay's report. There are 36 boys & 28 girls in the home. there being five of the [redacted] family. from 3 to 10 yrs. and two [redacted] aged 12 & 9, arrived since last meeting. [redacted] has left to work on a dairy farm at Eltham, where he will have a very good home. Forty-three hairbrushes are needed for the children, and Miss Barclay is to buy these from Bruntings Brush Co. [redacted] has had 3 weeks holiday, and Miss McGregor 3 weeks, to obviate the necessity of all the staff having to take holidays later on at a busier time. [redacted] has given up the idea of nursing and would like to work at Whitcombe and Tombs when this can be arranged. [redacted] is playing at the Home and is very

helpful. [redacted] is married.

Mrs. Marsh and Miss Barclay had a long and tiring day buying Knives at a Sale of War assets at the Barracks. Miss Barclay was successful in obtaining 19 Knives for 34/-.

A mat is needed for the front hall, and will be purchased when a good quality one can be obtained.

Bert Martin is at present on holiday.

Gifts totalling £5-10-0 in value were received during the month.

E. Marsh
10/9/47

Minutes of meeting held on Sept. 10. 1947.

Those present for this meeting at the Home were Mesdames Cock, Hodder, Inwood, Lockwood, Marsh (presiding) Nayson, Opie, & Miss Barclay. Mrs. Lockwood was welcomed as a new member.

Apologies were received from Mesdames Pratt, Queree, Thornton and Miss Horrell.

Miss Barclay's Report. There are 62 children in the Home at present. 34 boys and 28 girls. [redacted] have left to live with their parents in Nelson's Rd. Eleven children were away for the whole holidays, and five for part of them. The others were entertained at the Young New Zealanders' Club at St. James Theatre, free bus and ice-creams & entertainment being provided. Another day was spent in a picnic to the Hills, and during the last week the children attended the Holiday Centre at Papanui Methodist Church. Three boys took work for the holidays. Some of the children collected in the early morning for the Combined Orphanages Appeal. [redacted] has had some holiday. [redacted] is to be fitted out ready for going to work.

Staff matters remain much the same, but Miss North of Nelson is back in New Zealand and still seems desirous of working at the Home.

Gifts amounting to £40-4-6 were received during the month.

E. Marsh
12/10/47

No meeting was held in October, as the Board met on the second Wednesday, & so the House Committee abandoned its meeting, & so the

November

October Meeting.

The following members attended this meeting: Mesdames Marsh (in the chair), Pratt, Hodder, Misses Horrell & Barclay, & the secretary. Apologies for absence were received from Mesdames Lockwood, Lock, Lawood & Opie.

It was with great regret that members received & accepted the resignation, through ill-health, of Mrs. Pratt, who for some years now has been chairwoman of the House committee. During this time Mrs. Pratt has been most zealous in her duties & has had the welfare of the Home as her first consideration and heart-felt interest. It is pleasing that Mrs. Pratt hopes to continue as a committee member still.

Re-union. In connection with the re-union, it was decided that members would make the sandwiches, & that 20 dozen cakes be ordered from Collins' Limerick Lunch.

Paddling Pool.

A discussion took place on the advisability or otherwise of a paddling pool at the Home, as there is a fund of £114 from Rotary: All members agreed that it would be an asset, but that supervision would be a difficult matter with present staff shortages.

Miss Horrell moved & Mrs. Marsh seconded that the committee favours the suggestion of a pool, if sufficient supervision can be made available.

It was suggested that Miss Barclay should see a city firm, probably the Blue Ladder Cleaning Co. about having windows cleaned regularly, thus saving time & work for staff members.

Isabel - is now attending Dr. Melville Liken by arrangement with Dr. Reddie - [redacted] needs a change, but in the right atmosphere, & Miss Barclay is to ring Miss L. Robinson to ask her advice.

Miss Barclay's report: 65 children, 28 girls & 37 boys in residence: three children attending Nursery School: [redacted] nearly six, is presenting a problem - his self-expression is nil: 19 chn. have had all day 'flu or some such sickness: 10 with chicken-pox: Last Saturday chn. were guests of Ledwston's Fair: most of the chn. went up on the roof at the Home to see Monica's wedding photos taken: Emily Lennon finished on 20th September: is now working at Fisher's, where she is very happy: Miss Lock has given a few hours extra help: The

staff members have to help in all departments. Miss Richards, from Invercargill, expects to start on 26th. November: she should be good for the kitchen, though we may have to send her to the girls' side: Miss Coates, from Ashburton, is coming for an interview. Holiday plans for the children are well ahead.

Confirmed: 9 March 11/2/48

Because of the schools closing early in December due to the outbreak of paralysis, resulting in extra duties for Miss Barclay and the staff members, it was decided to abandon the December meeting of the House Committee. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 11th. February.

1948.

February Meeting.

The first meeting of the House Committee for the year 1948 was held at the Home on 9th. February. Those present were Mesdames Marsh (presiding) Cock, Thornton, Misses Horrell & Barclay & the secretary. Apologies for absence were received from Mesdames Linwood, Pratt, Opie, & Mayson. A successful Re-union Party had been held on Saturday, 29th. November, when quite a number of old boys & girls attended. It was thought that the form of entertainment may have to be changed in order to include the older guests. The cost of cakes from Collins' for the supper was £1-10-0 to be divided among the members.

Rotary Christmas Party.

This proved to be a most successful function, Father Christmas being piped in by St. Andrew's College pipers. Ice-cream, sweets, paper hats & a marionette show were features of the evening, & the Rotarians left as their gift to the Home, 2 footballs.

2 basket balls, 4 racquets, 18 tennis balls & some ping-pong balls. Rev. Marson represented the Board.

Vocational Guidance Committee.

As a result of their co-operation, [redacted] has commenced work as a shorthand typist at the G.P.O. at a salary of £165. [redacted] is working at Mr. Henderi's but has been offered a position in the Public Trust.

Staff:

Miss Collins has arrived & is a good help. Miss Richards is proving an excellent assistant, & was especially so during the holidays: she is used to a much higher salary. Miss Martin is not well, & may have to give up the laundry: Miss Hykes has left the Home & her position will be difficult to fill, as she was so good at renovations, & kept the girls amost at very little cost. An attractive gift was given to Miss Hykes. Mrs. Marsh is to contact her sister to see if she will help out in the sewing-room.

Someone responsible is needed in the kitchen - not just a cook but an assistant to cook & help generally, as Miss Barclay has to spend too much time in the kitchen: - a suitable advertisement is to be inserted in the papers.

Miss Barclay's report:- The children are all back now - 21 boys & 33 girls: 5 [redacted] have gone to their mother at Halswell, - 2, [redacted] to Taumutu [redacted] is at a farm near Rangiora & [redacted] on a farm at Harewood: 2 boys & 3 girls are attending Papanui Technical, 48 go to the Primary School, - [redacted] to Normal School. Mr. Smith is coming for an hour daily from Kaiapoi to help with correspondence lessons: [redacted] boarding at Linwood: [redacted] is going to a position at Ellerings Nursery & will board with a cousin: [redacted] would like to take up a position soon - before going on to nursing:

The children all had a great holiday in private homes - most returned with clothing clean & tidy, but there were a few positions: to write up in the Methodist Times might be helpful regarding clothing sent in to the Home - it is needed largely for children 6-15 years.

Miss Barclay's mattress needs repairing - cost £3-3-0:

Youth Council: Mrs. Marsh & Mrs. Hodder were chosen to represent the Committee on the Girls' Life Brigade Committee.

Gifts were received to the value of approx. £38-10-0:

Confirmed:- J.C. Thornton. 10-3-48.

March Meeting:

At the meeting held at the Home on Wednesday, 10th March, the following members were present:- Mesdames Thornton, (presiding) Cock, Hodder, Inwood, Misses Harrell, Barclay, & the secretary. Apologies for absence were received from Mesdames Pratt, Lockwood, and Marsh.

Reference was made to the sad passing of Mrs E. M. Opie, and members spoke feelingly of the interest & enthusiasm shown by Mrs Opie over several years of service on the House Committee.

Miss Barclay's report:

34 boys & 21 girls are in residence - [redacted] aged 4½ from Hoodend has been admitted. There are now 19 boys under ten years of age, with two more still to come: As Waimairi School is overcrowded, 11 boys in S.5-6 attend the Heaton Street School: This means cut lunches for that number, & a hot meal to prepare for all at night.

[redacted] is well & happy in her work at Odering's. Linoleum had to be lifted in the downstairs passage of the boys' block as it was worn & dangerous: hope to have it painted with Solpat floor paint, - this would save polishing: material has been purchased for covering the couch in boys' sitting-room - enough also for cushions & curtains: [redacted] mother has died:

Greetings:

Miss Barclay was asked to purchase a spray for [redacted] mother, the cost to be met by L. H. C. & staff members.

Staff matters:

A person is still required for cooking & general kitchen duties: It was decided that the secretary should insert an advertisement for same in the Ellesmere Guardian.

Miss Barclay reported that Miss Carr has agreed to a month's trial in the sewing-room: - she is used to institution work, & promises well.

Mrs. Hamer has arrived from Auckland

& should be a great help: she was recommended by Rev. Cochrane:
Mrs. Lydon came to help on Tuesdays & Fridays & has been kept on: she is proving most helpful:
The Committee recommends to the Board that, in recognition of her very good all round work, [redacted] should now receive £130, a junior assistant's salary, instead of £104 as at present - the increase to date as from 1st. January of this year.

Gifts

for the month amounted to approx. £17-30.
There are several parents visiting children at the Home, who have anything but a desirable influence on their children, & this creates a heavier burden for Miss Barclay & the staff. Members discussed at length the desirability & possibility of having children of such parents interchanged with children from the Masterton Home. It was decided to ask the Board Members their feelings on this matter.

Confirmed:- 14/4/48 O Marsh

April Meeting.

At the House Committee meeting held at the Home on 14th April, the following members were present:- Mesdames Marsh (presiding), Pratt, Thornton, Inwood, Mayson, Lockwood, Hodder, Misses Worrell, Barclay & the secretary.

Staff matters.

Miss Martin has begun duties in the kitchen, - transferring from the laundry, & is proving quite satisfactory as yet. It was decided that she should receive £140, the salary for a cook & £10 increase on her present rate of pay. [redacted] is helping in the laundry at present - she could be of assistance elsewhere if a laundress were procured. Miss Barclay was asked to insert a suitable advt. for a laundress. The secretary was instructed to contact Mr. Coley, regarding extra money for Miss Martin.

Miss Barclay's report:

55 chn., 21 girls & 34 boys are in residence.

[redacted] after his first week contracted scarlet fever & was in Burwood Hospital, but has now recovered. [redacted] attend B.C. camp at Southbridge where Miss Collins was in charge. Five boys went to Amberley. Miss Collins, Mrs. Hamer & Miss Richards now teach at Papanui Sunday School. However, this may not be practicable in times of stress. [redacted] was married on 25th. March to Alan Duff in Barbadoes St. vestry. Mr. Coley & Miss Barclay attended. [redacted] has since been twice to Papanui Church with her husband. [redacted] have visited the Home. Miss Barclay visited [redacted] in hospital. All the girls are happy in their work. [redacted] is to sit an exam. & if she passes it, she will receive over £200 p.a. [redacted] is in need of a new overcoat. In her work, she is hard on shoes & socks. The children have had several outings.

Gifts amounting to £16-6 were received during the month.

Miss Barclay was asked to purchase material for dining room curtains. It was decided also to purchase an overcoat for [redacted]

The secretary was instructed to write a letter of appreciation to Mrs. Parker, Worcester St. Linwood, who for many years has collected for the Clothing Fund.

Mrs. Mayson & Mrs. Hodder are to inspect the Home before next meeting.

Confirmed:-

C Marsh
12/5/45

May Meeting.

Those members present at the Meeting of the House Committee held at the Home on May 12th. were Mesdames Marsh (presiding) Cock, Linwood, Mayson, Lockwood, Hodder, Misses Harrell, Barclay, & the secretary. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Pratt & Mrs. Thornton.

Miss Barclay's report:-

There are 61 children in residence, 34

boys + 24 girls. Children admitted recently were [redacted] nearly 5, + [redacted] 3yrs: [redacted] 10 yrs. [redacted] nearly 8; [redacted] 6 yrs: [redacted] 13 yrs.. Miss Barclay purchased an overcoat for [redacted] at a cost of £8-19-6: There was only one answer to the advertisement for a laundress - an appointment for an interview was made, but unfortunately not kept. The annual visit by Welfare Officers was made to the Home on April 15th - Health Dept. also came the same day. Children were recently guests at a concert in the Civic Theatre. Gifts for the month amounted to £8-18-9.

Visiting committee reported that everything was looking grand: bathroom has been patched: a wringer is certainly needed: Washing machine - several years ago the matter of a larger machine was mooted, but at that time, no bigger one was available. The present machine is too small for the amount of work to be done, + has had to be repaired several times, as the strain on the motor is really too great. An ordinary wringer would help a great deal. Miss Barclay was authorised to purchase a wringer. It was suggested that it might be possible to obtain the services of a laundress by the day.

The House Committee recommends to the Executive of the Board that the office fixture + the typewriter, now in the Reception Room, be removed from the Home. In future, committee meetings will commence at 2 p.m. each month.

O Marsh
9/6/48

June Meeting.

The following members were present at the last meeting of the L.H.C. held at the Home on 9th. June:- Mesdames Marsh (in the chair) Pratt, Cock, Mayson, Misses Horrell, Barclay + the secretary. Apologies for absence were received from Mesdames Linwood, Lockwood + Thornton.

It was decided that the next two

meetings be held at the Board Room, Epworth Chambers, commencing at 2.30 p.m.

Circular to Guilds.

The secretary was requested to forward circulars to the various Ladies' Guilds in Christchurch, advising them that the Clothing Fund, would in future, be incorporated in the General Fund, & thanking them for interest shown in past years.

Black wool:

This is in extremely short supply, & it was felt that a paragraph in the Methodist Times might bring some response:

Matrons Report:

60 children - 36 boys & 24 girls are in residence at present: [redacted] has left to live with his parents: The health of the children has been very good. No further answers to the advertisement for a laundress have been received: - we may have to manage with someone living out: [redacted] has always been a good help every second week-end when she is on duty: that help would be missed with someone living out: The children went to see "Bush Christmas" at the Mayfair on 17th. May. Mrs. Marsh is making arrangements about the purchase of a wringer: It was decided to advertise the position of laundress in the Methodist "Times" Gifts for the month amounted to £2 approx. confirmed:-

Ø Marsh

14th July 1942

July Meeting.

Members present at the meeting held at Epworth on 14th. July were Mesdames Marsh (presiding) Cock, Thornton, Lockwood, Linwood, Mayson, Miss Barclay & the secretary. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Hodder & Miss Howell. The secretary was asked to write a letter to Mrs. Pratt who has suffered bereavement.

The secretary also reported that she had sent circulars to all the Christchurch

Ladies' Guilds telling them that the Clothing Fund would now be incorporated in the General Fund.

Staff.

It is essential that a laundress and/or general assistant be procured as soon as possible so that [redacted] may be released if she so desires.

Mrs. Hamer has tendered her resignation to take effect from 31st. July. The committee accepted it, but moved that the Board, in fairness to Miss Barclay & the other staff members, ask her to remain until the 12th. August, thus giving a month's notice.

Wringer:

It was reported that a new wringer had been obtained, & was proving very satisfactory.

A stand for the washing machine was found, but proved a misfit. Could the National Council of Women have any influence in getting a new machine or a suitable fitting?

Matron's Report:

Miss Barclay reported that there are 60 children at present in the Home: [redacted] aged 7, has been admitted, & [redacted] has gone to work near Motueka. The children are keeping very well. The Canterbury Automobile Association showed the children a splendid film one evening. More butter is necessary, & perhaps weekend ration cards could be obtained for staff members. Miss Richards is having two weeks holiday - a pleasant break for her. Miss Mc. Gregor is busy fitting dresses on the girls for summer wear. She pins the garments, & shows Miss Carr what to do. Miss Hykes is making up some school trousers out of tweed bought for that purpose. A roll of pink tobralco was bought for girls' frocks from "The Farmers" at 4/11 a yard. [redacted] has made a skirt at school. It was the best garment made by our girls for some time.

The amount of gifts received for the month was approximately £12-9-0.

The next meeting will be held at Epworth also.

Confirmed:- D Marsh

11/8/48

August Meeting.

The meeting of the L.H.B. held on 11th. August was attended by the following: Mesdames Marsh, (presiding) Thornton, Cook, Mayson, Hodder, Misses Horrell & Barclay & the secretary. Mrs. Pratt acknowledged a letter of sympathy sent to her recently.

Miss Barclay's report:

There are 62 children in residence at present: 36 boys & 26 girls: [redacted] 7. & [redacted] 4. have been admitted. Influenza is rife at present, but no one is running a temperature now: [redacted] 5. ran a high temperature for three days - 104·6° at the crisis: Three staff members have had influenza: Miss Richards for the second time. [redacted] would like to purchase a piano - would a paragraph in the Methodist Times help? [redacted] has been back to the Home on several occasions recently. Material for sheets & pillow-slips will be needed soon. Pillow-slips ready for use are available, & Miss Barclay is to see them.

A curtain & pelmet has been made for the boys' cubicle. - This was paid for by Miss Tolfrey. Mrs. Dreyer went with Miss Barclay to purchase material for dining-room curtains. These have been made, but not yet put up. A gift of numerous crayfish arrived from Goose Bay - the cooking of them was a real experience. Narrows churches still entertain older boys on Sundays. - The boys go quite voluntarily.

Gifts. - for the month amounted to £5-3-1½. 2 Pkts.

Staff. Mrs. Hamer leaves almost immediately - staff position difficult: Miss Richards has had two weeks of her holiday, & Miss McGregor goes on 20 K. for two weeks. Miss Richards is very restless at present, & may regress when Miss McGregor returns - a special type of woman is needed - willing, etc. Mrs. Belton who has lived in the country has been twice on Sundays & helped generally - this is voluntary. Mrs. Hydon comes twice a week when possible. - no one yet for [redacted]'s place. Miss August has gone to Ter and at Yatenkus. Mrs. Marsh is to advertise in the papers for laundress & general assistant. It is interesting to note that 43 chn. in the Home have two parents living. It was decided to return to the Home for subsequent meetings. Confirmed:- 8/9/48 D Marsh

September Meeting:

Mrs. Marsh presided over the House committee meeting held at the Home on 9th. September. Other members present were Mesdames Marsh & Querce, Miss Horrell & Miss Barclay. Apologies for absence were received from Mesdames Lockwood, Linwood, Mayson, Cock and Pratt.

Advertisements inserted at various times for assistants here yielded no results as yet. A letter was received from Dona McIvone, a former girl at the Home. Dona would like to join the staff, but Miss Barclay considered it advisable to contact her father at Canvey first to ascertain whether his step is desirable.

Staff.

Mrs. Hamer has left the Home: Miss Martin became rather independent and tendered her resignation which was worded very similarly to that of Mrs. Hamer recently: However, after Miss Barclay had talked with her, Miss Martin seemed better & is now having a week's holiday: Miss Barr does not seem to like being spoken to, and in an atmosphere such as this, the work is not made any easier. Miss Collins is a real help, & the boys seem very happy with her, too.

Miss Barclay reported 35 boys & 24 girls in residence: [redacted] has gone to Mr. & Mrs. Cooper at Nelson & is happy there: [redacted] who has been 7½ years at the Home, & her sister [redacted] have gone to live with their mother at North Brighton: 16 children were away for the holidays: those at the Home attended the Industries Fair & also a Salvation Army Life Guards Concert at the Carnival: a jolly party was held at the Home one afternoon & evening: [redacted] & [redacted] worked in the house & kitchen during the holidays - Miss Barclay feels they should receive some recompense for their willing & able help.

The total for the Combined Orphanages' Appeal this year reached the record sum of £6000.

Confirmed:- O Marsh

13/10/48

October Meeting:

The following members attended the October meeting of the House Committee: Mesdames Marsh (in the chair) Pratt, Cook, Thornton, Holder, Miss Barclay & the secretary. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Linwood, Mrs. Mayson & Miss Worrell. Flowers are being sent to Mrs. Mayson from the L. H. b.

Miss Barclay's report:-

[redacted] is now with a private family: [redacted] 6 years. Has been re-admitted: Children are well except for an attack of one day influenza: [redacted] broke his wrist. Three children attend the Nursery School at the Papanui Technical College: 32 children attended a performance of "Belle of New York": Practices for S.P.C. & Concert are now in full swing: [redacted] is at present undergoing numerous tests at the Hospital to try to ascertain a suitable place for him to work eventually - it has already been proved he will be unable to take up farm work: [redacted] spent a week-end at the Home & spoke of trying to return for the Reunion - he left a donation of £2: Over 150 dozen eggs were received from Horrellville - 277 dozen eggs are now preserved: Miss Cook. sen. came yesterday & helped voluntarily with the ironing:

Gifts received amounted in value to approximately £32-12-0.

Staff:

Miss Richards has resigned: Miss Carr & Miss Martin now seem more settled: Miss Lawrence interviewed this morning - she is to commence in the girls block on Nov. 1st. Miss Chesman applied for laundry & other duties - unable to come at present but sounds promising & reliable: Miss Barclay is writing to Miss McClintock & Miss Willetts as one of them may prove suitable to replace Mrs. Shaver:

Reunion:

After some discussion, it was decided to replace the reunion with a tea to be held on 27th. Nov: any former boys or girls interested to be invited. Arrangements were left to the November meeting.

Confirmed:-

D Marsh

10/11/48

November meeting:

At the meeting of the L.H.G. held on 10th November, those present were Mesdames Marsh, (Thornton, in the chair) Hodder, Misses Howell & Barclay & the secretary. Apologies for absence were received from Mesdames Lowood, Lockwood, Cock and Mayson.

Miss Barclay's report:-

There are 58 children in residence, 24 girls & 34 boys: [redacted] has gone to live in Invercargill with his mother and grandfather: Holiday homes have been arranged for the majority of the children so far:

Staff matters:

Miss Richards has recently left. Miss Lenant has come to be assistant on the girls' side, & is proving an energetic worker and a good type of person among the children: she is to have two weeks holiday in January, plus a week-end owing to her: Miss Cheemar is to begin on Saturday in the laundry. she does not want much work in water at present: [redacted] has been looking for work and for board, but is unsuccessful so far — she had the misfortune to have her bicycle stolen: Miss Graham from Rangiora has been coming to help two days a week-she gives splendid assistance: Miss Hunter is coming to live in on 1st. December: she will work eight hours on half pay as free to train as a nurse.

Gifts received during the month amounted to £4-6-3.

Re-union.

Arrangements were finalised for the annual re-union, which is to take the form of a high tea on Saturday, 27th November, commencing at 5.45. p.m. Advertisements are to be inserted in the Press on two consecutive Fridays, inviting old girls & boys to attend. Jellies, fruit salad and ice cream are to be provided, also sandwiches (to be made by members), and sausage rolls and cakes (bought from Willis's Quick Lunch Ltd.). Mrs. Marsh offered to arrange for sweets, cakes of chocolate & balloons — to be used as prizes for races which will be held soon after tea. Rev. & Mrs. F.H. Odell to be invited.

Confirmed:- 8/12/48

December Meeting:-

At the meeting held at the Home on December 8th. the following members were present: Mesdames Marsh (in the chair), Cock, Thornton, Lockwood, Quercee, Hodder, Misses Horrell & Barclay. It was reported that the Reunion Tea held on November 27th. had been voted the most successful function of its kind yet held, & old boys & girls were very enthusiastic about it. Visitors came from as far away as Greymouth [redacted] now [redacted] & Wellington [redacted] Altogether 103 sat down to an attractive & elaborate tea, which was followed by races for the present children, the older ones being very happy to chat with each other. The expenses for the House Committee were set at £4-4-0.

Miss Barclay's report:-

58 chn. are in residence: [redacted] are still home: [redacted] has commenced work in the Trousseau Dept. at Lane, Walker & Rudkin: [redacted] bicycle was found at the Police Station: Holiday homes are found for all the children, one or two just part-time at present: children will be staying from Palmerston North down to Otautau - travelling expenses are £25: Miss Hunter has arrived, & is on part time duty: she is pleasant but nervy, & hopes to go on full-time soon: Miss Chesmar & Miss Lenant are very good workers: Last week, staff began having a whole day off each week - also two nights off: Gifts for the month amounted to £18-7-6:

The secretary was instructed to write to the staff conveying the ~~staffs~~ House Committee's good wishes for Christmas: It was also decided that Mrs. Odell be invited to become a member of the Committee: Durham Street Ladies' Guild are also to be asked to elect a representative to serve on the Committee:

The first meeting for 1949 is to be held on Wednesday, 9th. February.

Confirmed:- O Marsh

9/2/49

February Meeting.

The first meeting for the year 1949 was held at the Methodist Home on Wednesday, 9th February, when there was a good attendance of members. Those present were Mesdames Marsh (presiding), Cock, Pratt, Thornton, Holder, Linwood, Misses Horrell, Barclay & the secretary.

Staff matters:

It was decided that Miss Dorothy Cock be recommended for a higher rate of pay, as she is in charge now of the sewing room, & also helps at times in the laundry.

The services of Miss Carr & Miss Martin have been dispensed with, & since the time of their leaving, the atmosphere has been one of co-operation. All the staff members have had a holiday period: Miss Collins has saved a week for conference time, when she is to be ordained.

Mrs. Young comes five days a week for 6½ hours a day.

Miss Graham comes twice a week for 7 hours: Mrs. Ryder twice a week for 5 hours. Miss Cock is now working 4 days a week, for 8 hours a day.

Someone is definitely needed in the kitchen - a strong person, even for the mornings:

Sewing machine:

Another machine, for use in the girls' block is required. - an advertisement in the "Methodist Times" might help: Miss Barclay is to contact Mr. McBeath regarding the purchase of one:

Miss Barclay's report:

52 children - 30 boys & 22 girls are in residence: 8 children left at the end of the year - [redacted] who have been here more than eight years: Nine children are attending Papanui Technical College this year:

All the children had holidays away - all for 4 weeks & many for 6 weeks: several children have been invited back to their holiday homes: The children have

had several outings, & there are still more to come:
Ten girls are learning music - all covered by Trust funds: [redacted] is also learning. + is paid for by Miss Pitt: To get in all the required practice another piano is needed: [redacted] has now passed her nursing examination: [redacted] is to try to enter the Teachers Training College at Wellington: [redacted] has left Ballantynes, & is now working on a tobacco farm at Motueka:
A covering is required for the floor in the kitchen: & also linoleum for the downstairs passage in the boys block:
Gifts for the period were valued at £9-5-0 approximately, & also numerous Christmas gifts were received.
Confirmed:-

C Marsh
8/3/49

March Meeting

The following members were present at the March meeting of the Ladies' House Committee held at the Home on Wednesday 8th March: Mesdames Marsh (presiding) Pratt, Cook, Hodder, Marson, Misses Worrell, Barclay & the secretary. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, Mrs. Marsh welcomed two new members on to our committee, Mrs. H.J. Odell & Miss E.A. Williams, and expressed the hope that they would find pleasure in such a worthwhile sphere of service.

Staff and Finance.

An advertisement is to be inserted in Saturday's paper for someone to help with the cooking: no replies have been received from advertisements already inserted: After a lengthy discussion on the hours worked by the staff and the pay which they receive, it was decided that the Board be requested to review and revise the whole financial question at once:

It was felt that an onus rests on all the members to see that matters are improved as soon as possible:

Quotes for coverings on the floors of the kitchen and parts of the halls had been called for, & two had been submitted: that of Drayton Jones for £90, & Redpath's estimated the cost for paper felt & cementing good linoleum, at £161. The latter quote had been accepted:

Miss Barclay's report:-

48 children: 22 girls & 26 boys are in residence: [redacted] have returned to their parents at St. Albans: [redacted] have gone to their father & step-mother at Port Chalmers: The children are in good health & have enjoyed the long evenings out of doors: The Automobile Association picnic at Waikuku was a great outing: Sister Rona Collins was recently ordained. There is no cook as yet - the staff have been most helpful, but assistance is needed: Miss King, after eight years at the Home, has tendered her resignation, to take effect from the end of May: her loyal and unstinted services will be greatly missed. Miss Barclay, personally, will miss her very much.

Gifts to the value of approximately £17 were received during the month. Confirmed:-

O Marsh
14/4/49.

April Meeting.

Those present at the April meeting of the Ladies' House Committee were Mesdames Marsh, (presiding), Odell, Cook, Hodder, Misses Williams, Barclay and the secretary. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Thornton, Mrs Pratt & Miss Worrell.

A few weeks ago, Mrs. Lockwood, who has been the Addington Circuit representative on the Committee for some time, wrote to say that, for health reasons, she felt it necessary to resign. In her place, Mrs. A. A. Black was

appointed by the Addington Circuit & she was warmly welcomed onto the committee at the April meeting.

Miss Barclay's report:-

The number of children living in is 50. [redacted] aged 19, has returned to stay at the Home in the meantime: he hopes to enter the Police Force shortly:

The new linoleum is now down in the kitchen and the boys' passage, & looks well - it is warmer in the kitchen & safer in the passage: Redpaths could fit strips on joins where existing linoleum is worn, and this would make the wear & tear less. They have a proper mixture for use on concrete floors.

Miss Mc. Gregor & Miss Lennen have fitted out the girls for the winter, & have done alterations to frocks sent in: Miss Wykes may be able to help, as we need a supply of frocks if more girls come in: Mrs. Wood began duties yesterday - she comes two days a week for 4 hours each day: Mrs Lydon has been giving three extra hours a week, and Miss Graham 7 extra hours a week: One of the boys, Neville Gibbs, has measles. S.S. Picnic has been attended, the outing being to Kaiapoi: Primary S.S. children were at the Cradle Roll party held in the S.S. Hall. The children were guests at a concert held at the Civic Theatre on a recent Saturday.

Gifts received during the month approximated £25-13-0.

confirmed:-

O Marsh
11/5/49

May Meeting.

The following members attended the monthly meeting of the Ladies' House Committee held at the Home on Wednesday, 11th May: Mesdames Marsh (presiding), Hodder, Black, Cock, Pratt, Misses Williams & Barclay, & the Secretary. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Inwood & Miss Worrell.

Staff Matters:

Miss Melville has joined the staff & is on the boys' side with Sister Rona: Miss King is working with her in the meantime: Miss Melville is a fine type of girl: she is a good worker & also exerts a good influence:

Mrs. Belcher has also arrived, - she has not been used to cooking for large numbers:

Two sisters, Misses Gribble, of Stoke, Nelson, have expressed a desire to join the staff: Mr. Coley is writing to ask them when they can commence duties.

Miss King leaves on May 31st: the secretary was instructed to write to her expressing the thanks & good wishes of the C.H.C.

Farewell to Miss King:

It was decided that this take the form of a tea-party to commence at 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday 31st. May. It is to be organised by the staff & House committee members. & Rev. Odell & Rev. Mayo are also to receive invitations to attend. Presentations to Miss King will follow the tea. Mrs. Pratt & Mrs. Hanton were appointed to choose the gift from the House committee & Board.

Matron's Report:

Miss Barclay reported that 24 boys & 22 girls are in residence: [redacted] who has stayed at the Home for 39 days, has left: [redacted] is at present occupying the cubicle: 14 children were away for the Xmas holidays: 5 chn. have had measles, & one is still in the sick-room: [redacted] fell at school & broke her arm: 8 girls & 4 boys attended Bible class camp at Easter, & the contacts made were good for them all: [redacted] was bridesmaid at an Easter wedding: Miss Barclay & Miss King hope to do some extra cleaning & stocktaking during the month: it is a very necessary part of the work, as moths are very destructive:

Gifts to the value of £8.7.0 approximately were received during the month.

Confirmed:-

O Marsh
Chairman

June meeting:

The following were present at the meeting of the Ladies House Committee held at the Home on Wed. June 3. at 2pm. Mesdames Black. Cock. Hodder + Marsh [presiding], and Misses Barclay + Williams.

apologies were received from Mesdames Odell + Queree and Miss Horrell.

Correspondence Letters had been sent to Miss King, expressing our appreciation of her work among the children, and to Mrs. Coley bearing our sympathy in her illness.

Miss Barclay's report: There are 53 children in the Home. 29 boys + 24 girls. [redacted] had to have treatment for a cut hand, + [redacted] broke his leg; he is to take calcium to try and remedy an apparent deficiency in his bone structure. New children are [redacted] and [redacted], who are very backward + have to attend special class. [redacted] has ringworm.

The staff position is satisfactory at present: Miss King helped Miss Barclay with special cleaning of cupboards etc. before she left.

which was very helpful. The Misses Gibble are no longer available to us. Miss Barclay has not yet had time to make inquiries about a sewing machine.

The party given for Miss King was very successful. and Miss Barclay said that most of the extra food had been donated.

Gifts amounted to £6-16-0.

It was decided to hold the next two meetings at Epworth Buildings at 2.30 o'clock.

O Marsh
15/7/49

July Meeting:

The monthly meeting of the Ladies' House Committee, held at Epworth on 15th July was attended by Mesdames Marsh (presiding), Pratt, Cock, Linwood, Thornton, Black, Hodder, Misses Horrell, Barclay + the secretary. An apology for absence was received from Miss Williams.

Staff Matters.

Miss Mc. Gregor has resigned, + wishes to leave on 16th August. Miss Barclay has also tendered her resignation. These resignations were accepted with great

regret, and members spoke of the zealous & loving service which Miss Barclay had given over the years for the children under her care.

Mr. Coley has contacted Miss Dawber, for the West Coast, as a prospective staff member. Two other young people are likely, but older women are more desirable.

Miss Barclay's report: -

54 children, 30 girls & 24 boys are in residence: One boy, aged 3, [redacted] has been admitted: he is a good, well-trained boy, having been boarded out: Children are in good health, & school attendance is good: the children have enjoyed various Church functions, including the Young Worshippers' League: On July 5th Welfare Dept. made their annual inspection - they were at the Home for two hours, & made the most thorough inspection yet: enquiries are to be made as to whether or not another exit can be made on each block in case of fire: - all staff names were written down, also living-out staff & their days & hours on duty: Each month the Rotary Club show pictures of a very good type: A sewing-machine, 15K Singer, reconditioned, has been purchased for the girls' block at [redacted] has made a rubber cloth - it was decided that she should keep it: 12 children, Miss Barclay & Sister Rona, attended Miss King's wedding at Beckenham: Two gallons of milk are being bought daily:

Correspondence:

Letters of thanks were received from Mrs. Coley for flowers sent to her, & from Miss King for her farewell party & gifts.

Gifts for the month amounted to £11:

Preliminary arrangements were made for a farewell party to be given Miss Barclay.

After outspoken & lengthy discussion, the following recommendations were decided on to be forwarded to the next Board Meeting:

a) The House Committee members regret the resignations of Miss Barclay & Miss Mc. Gregor: special thanks to Miss Barclay:

b) On the front balcony, the tiles have sunk near the top step: it is important that the matter be rectified at once:

c) That an appeal for good used clothing

for older boys be made through the mediums of the Methodist Lines

d.) That Miss Barclay be released as soon as possible, so that she may have a well-earned rest before taking up her new position.

e.) That serious & urgent consideration be given to the disposal of the present buildings & property: so much running about is involved that the work is made more difficult for the staff: small homes even in different towns, seem more desirable: Cottage Family Homes seem to be the ideal: as much time could be given to the children themselves:

The secretary was instructed to write to Rev. H. J. Odell asking for a full discussion on the last point, at the Board meeting. The August meeting will also be held at Epworth Buildings.

Confirmed:-

9 March
10/3/47

August Meeting.

The following members attended the August meeting of the L.A.B. held at Epworth Chambers on August 10th.: Mesdames Marsh, (presiding) Odell, Hodder, Linwood, Black, Cock, Thornton, Misses Williams, Worrell, Barclay. - Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Watt.

Sympathy.

The sympathy of the members was extended to Miss Barclay in the loss of her mother.

Matron's Report:

34 children are living in:

Miss Dawber arrived on August 8th. & is helping Miss Lennent on the girls' side: Miss McGregor finishes her duties on the 16th: Miss Barclay was away for eight days: Sister Rona was on duty all that time, while Miss Melville was on duty every night but one: They are both very tired, & feeling the strain: Girls B.C. Fellowship has organised Sunday outings for the girls, to begin on 21st. August: girls' playroom has still to have guards fitted

to the windows before it is ready for use for organised games: the new curtains bought last year have been hung in the children's dining-room: [redacted] has embroidered a supper cloth, & is to be allowed to keep it.

Gifts for the month amounted to approx. £2.16.0

As this was Miss Barclay's last meeting, Mrs. Marsh expressed to her the appreciation of all the committee members for the loving service she had given to the children under her care during the past ten years. She wished Miss Barclay a happy time in her new position. Miss Barclay thanked Mrs. Marsh for her remarks, & said that at all times, she had received much help & consideration from the committee.

Farewell to Miss Barclay.

Final arrangements were made for the farewell tea party to be tendered Miss Barclay on August 18th. at the Home at 5.30 p.m. It was decided to invite the Board members to be present. Mrs. Marsh was asked to purchase a gift for Miss McGregor.

It was decided to write to Miss Graham of Rangiora, asking her if she would consider coming into the Home for a short time to give moral support to Sister Rona, if some time were to elapse before the arrival of someone to replace Miss Barclay. It was felt that the responsibility of sole charge was too much to expect Sister Rona to undertake. If this were not feasible, it was considered that the position would be somewhat relieved if the 11 older boys could be boarded out temporarily.

The September meeting will be held at the Home, at 2 p.m. on September 14th.

Confirmed:-

Mrs G Marsh

14/9/49

September Meeting.

The following members attended the September meeting of the L.H.B. held at the Home on 4th. September: Mesdames Marsh (presiding) Cock, Odell, Pratt, Thornton, Hodder, Black, Miss Williams, Sister Rona, & the secretary. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Mayson, Mrs. Linwood & Miss Harrell.

It was reported that the farewell party to Miss Barclay had taken place on August 18th. when a happy and successful time was spent. There had been a splendid attendance of Board members and Miss Barclay was warmly thanked for her loving services during the past ten yrs.

Staff: Miss Mc. Gregor had also received a gift.

Miss Dawber gave a months notice as from 3rd. September. She feels the work is too heavy for her, & consequently she cannot get through as much as is desirable. Miss Richards is relieving for a months, & doing good work in the Home.

Inspection Visits.

Mrs. Marsh suggested that monthly inspection visits be reinstated: that these be undertaken by one committee member & the matron: suggestion adopted.

It was decided to ask Rev. Odell to write to Rev. Clements enquiring about the position regarding displaced persons with a view to their desirability or otherwise as staff members.

Arrival of new master & matron:

It was decided that an afternoon tea be held at the Home on October 1st. to welcome Mr. & Mrs. Howells on their arrival from Lemuka, & that Mrs. Marsh, Mrs. Pratt, Mrs. Cock & Mrs. Odell represent the L.H.B. then.

Gifts for the months were assessed at £6-12-6 each.

Report.

Sister Rona, who was welcomed to the meeting, & very warmly thanked for her splendid work in carrying out the matron's duties over the last few weeks, presented the following report:

51 children - 24 g. & 27 boys in residence: 2 boys. [redacted] & [redacted] are staying out during the months, but attending their own school: [redacted] has left

for Dunedin: 26 children were away for whole or part of the holidays: the health of the children has been good except for colds: [redacted] has broken her arm again. fortunately a simple facture this time: behaviour of the children has been good: the older ones have been very co-operative: staff members have done everything possible to make things run smoothly: a barber is to cut the girls' hair this month:

After the meeting, the members inspected the flat accommodation provided for the master and matron: this comprises a sitting-room, two bedrooms & bathroom.

The October meeting will be held at the Home at Papanui.

Confirmed: -

October meeting:

This was held at the Home on 11th. October, when Mrs. Odell presided in the absence of Mrs. Marsh. Other members present were Mesdames Thornton, Cock, Hodder, Howells, Miss Williams and the secretary.

Apologies for absence were received from Mesdames Marsh, Black, Inwood and Mayson.

Welcome:

Mr. & Mrs. Howells received a warm welcome to our meeting. They have made a good beginning, and the staff members have expressed their willingness to help them.

Staff:

Rev. H. J. Odell wrote to Rev. Clements regarding employment of displaced persons. Mr. & Mrs. Odell hope to contact folk at Pahiatua next month for staff purposes: Mrs. Belcher leaves at the end of the month: one person rang concerning the position but did not come: Miss Tennent is alone on the girls' side: with the summer coming this is too much, as she cannot have time off.

Matron's report.

50 children. 23 girls and 27 boys are in residence, and are well: [redacted] had a fall from his bicycle - this necessitated the insertion of eight stitches:

A number of Christmas homes for the children have been found, but more are still needed: influence of good homes on the children is most valuable.

Sheeting.

Mrs. Howells is to use her own discretion over the purchase of sheeting.

Gifts to the value of £30-5-0 were received.

Matters for the Board meeting.

The secretary was asked to write to Rev. A.O. Harris re the following matters:-

1. The House Committee feels strongly that the question of finance should be reviewed as soon as possible: Let delay may mean a) that we lose good staff members, or b) that we cannot obtain suitable members when necessary: Applicants are willing to come until they hear the wages.

2. That Miss Lennent receive Senior rates of pay. b That this be retrospective:

3. That the Board give Sister Rona some extra money for the period during which she undertook so capably the running of the Home after Miss Barclay left.

Letter to Deaconess House L.b.

The secretary was also asked to write to the chairwoman of the Deaconess House Ladies' Committee expressing to them our appreciation of the splendid work done at our Home by Sister Rona Collins: also to ask if there is another trainee who may be interested in this type of work, even if only for a short time.

The next meeting is scheduled for 9th Nov. confirmed:-

9/11/49
O M Crash

November Meeting:

Mrs. Marsh presided over the November meeting of the Ladies' House committee held on 9th November. The following members were present: Mesdames Pratt, Hodder, Black, Howells, Querce, and Miss Horrell. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Cock and Miss Williams.

Finance.

Mrs. Marsh reported that the question of salaries had been reviewed, and that the pay of Miss Tennent, Miss Melville & Miss Chesman had been adjusted. Sister Rona is to received £5 from the Board for her extra work after Miss Barclay left.

Matron's report:

The 50 children in residence at the Home are in good health: Miss Melville is unable to remain in the boys' block but could carry on in the sewing room: Miss Tennent is still carrying on alone in the girls' block: 4 advertisements for an assistant have been inserted in the papers without reply: Re-organisation is necessary among the casual workers: Mrs. Belcher, the cook, has left the Home: Mrs. Clarke, the newly appointed cook, is proving an excellent help: she needs some part-time assistance, however: Holiday homes have been found for most of the children: Guy Fawkes night proved a success - it was celebrated with a Guy & a bonfire. - in traditional style:

Staff:

Following some discussion, Mrs. Howells was asked to approach Miss Melville & Miss Cock regarding an adjustment in the sewing room & laundry.

It was decided that a new washing machine preferably one of commercial size, be purchased as soon as one is procurable.

Gifts for the month were received to the value of approximately £19-15-0.

Re-union.

Final arrangements were made for the re-union to be held on Nov. 26th: It will take the form of a "party" tea, followed by a social hour: The older children are to serve supper:

The next meeting is set down for 14th December.

Confirmed:- 14/12/49

E. Marsh.

December meeting Ladies House Committee.
Mrs Marsh presided at the meeting held at the home on December 14. Present Mesdames Pratt, Cocks, Black, Thornton, Udell. Misses Williams + Harrell (who acted as Secretary.) Apology Mrs Everee.
A motion of sympathy was passed with the relatives of the late Mrs Lockwood. Members stood in Silence as a mark of respect.
Re - Union party. This was considered a great success and appreciation was expressed that so many of the ex-boys + girls accepted the invitations. Our thanks are due to Mrs + Mrs Howells and members of the staff for their helpful co-operation with the tea and the party that followed. After some discussion it was decided that the ex-boys and girls of the adolescent age group be approached for suggestions for the next party.
The Matrons Reported :- that the last month had been a busy time and the next weeks would be fairly hectic with holiday preparations. Homes have been found for most of the children and arrangements are under way for the remainder.

[redacted] has had a tonsil + adenoid operation
[redacted] - hurt his arm it is improving.
[redacted] has her arm out of plaster.

Staff Sister Rona goes on holiday Dec 21st.
Miss Tennent is leaving during December
Miss League is assisting on the Girls side.
Mrs [redacted] will consider a position later.
as staffing continues to be a problem the Master + Matron feel strongly that the question be reviewed for a definite policy extending over the future. Especially preparing for Mr Howells absence from the home during deputation work. The stoves are proving timpermental, on calm days there is not sufficient heat to cook the meals. There is much destruction by moths and ordinary methods appear insufficient to deal with them.
It was decided to ask Mr Howells to see what measures could be taken to deal with the moth problem. Also to make arrangements to have the stoves over looked while the children are away on holiday.
Matter for the Board The Ladies House Committee recommends the purchase of an electric stove to augment the present cooking facilities.

It was unanamously decided that in future the Secretary's expenses for orphanage purposes (Stamps, tolls, Bus fare etc) should be a charge on the board and that in future an account be kept and handed in from time to time. £-/ was voted to help cover past expenses and the acting secretary was asked to forward this and notify the Secretary of the Committee's decision.

The next meeting will be held at the home on February 8th 1950.

Confirmed :- E Marsh

5/2/50

1950. February Meeting:

The first meeting for the year 1950 was held at the Home on Wednesday. 8th. February. when Mrs. Marsh presided over a good attendance of members. The following were present:- Mesdames Marsh. Cock. Thornton. Odell. Hodder. Howells. Miss Williams. Miss Horrell. & the secretary. An apology for absence was received from Mr. Watt.

Sympathy.

Members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Mrs. Lockwood. a former member of the committee. The secretary was asked to write a letter of sympathy to Mr. Lockwood.

Gifts.

Gifts to the amount of approximately £5-15-0 were received during December. & £10-2-6 for January.

Washing machine.

It was reported that after some difficulty. Mr. Howells had located a firm which could supply a commercial washing machine. The price was £36-10-0

with an additional £36 for a wringer. The members were favourably disposed towards such a purchase but it was decided to ask some of the male members of the Board to go into the matter & if possible, to inspect a similar machine in actual use in some institution.

Office furniture.

After the meeting, members inspected the suite of furniture in the office, & it was decided that the settee & chairs be repaired, & covered with loose covers. A bolt of suitable curtaining is to be purchased also, to be kept in reserve. Mrs. Howells was asked to purchase extra shoes for the children, in view of the coming increase in prices.

Staff.

Mrs. Howells reported that Miss Lennert had finally agreed to stay on in the meantime: secretary to write to Miss Lennert conveying the thanks of the House Committee for her decision.

Miss League joined the staff early in December to assist Miss Lennert. An assistant for the kitchen has arrived.

It was thought that, if a full complement of staff members could be obtained, it would not be necessary to retain the services of the casual workers.

Mrs. Howells report:-

In December, the preparations for the departure of the children kept everyone busy. A happy gift evening, complete with band and Father Christmas was provided by the Christchurch Rotary Club. Ice cream & soft drinks, etc. on another evening came from Addington Workshops. & the Ch.Ch. Savage Club added a box of toys.

The loyal band of staff members left in time to spend Xmas with their own folks.

January: The Home was quiet with the children absent: staff & children benefitted from their holidays. The sewing room cupboards were spring cleaned - ravages of moths only too obvious: an amazing number of moths & silver fish had been destroyed following treatment by D.D.T. from a commercial firm, who will return if necessary. Next meeting is set for 8th March.

& Marss 8/March 1950

1950 March Meeting

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Home on Wednesday, March 8, those present being Mesdames Cook, Hodder, Howells, Marsh [presiding] and Pratt, and Misses Howell and Williams.

Apologies were received from Mesdames Black, Odell, Quere, and Thornton.

Letters An acknowledgement was received from Mr. Lockwood.

Washing Machine On further consideration it had been decided that two smaller washing machines would be preferable to the large commercial type, but, as there is still a long waiting list for these, they may be difficult to obtain. A committee consisting of Mrs. Marsh, Mr. Howells & Mr. Palmer is to obtain them when possible, also a potato peeler to replace the old one which is out of action.

Mrs. Howells' report. The children had started school again in a good state of health. The Automobile Association picnic was not held owing to bad weather, but the staff had arranged games and high tea for them at the Home, with gifts and icecream from the Automobile Association.

Shadowtissue had been purchased for loose covers for the office, and Mrs. Howells is to have it made up where she thinks best.

[redacted] finds her special shoes very comfortable.

The older children will be going to Easter camps, also to a Pledged Members' Camp at Springston at the end of April.

[redacted]

have all left the Home, and five new children have been admitted, [redacted]

The Home now has 26 boys and 23 girls.

Staff Miss League has left, and Miss Sandbrook from Feilding has come in her place. Miss Higgins is helping Sister Rona, and Mrs. Ritchie was to arrive on the afternoon of the meeting. Miss Tennent is acting as reliever while there is a full staff.

Gifts for the month totalled £16-17-6.

The next meeting will be on Wed. April 12.

O Marsh 12/4/50

April Meeting:

Members of the L.A.H.B. present at the meeting held at the Home on 12th April were Mesdames Marsh, Cook, Thornton, ~~Thornton~~, Black, Hodder, Odell, Howells & Queree.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Watt, Miss Williams & Miss Horrell.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed.

A new potato peeler has been obtained, but so far a washing machine has not been procurable.

Several children attended the recent B.B. camps which were very satisfactory.

China:- "The Farmers" Co-op notified Mrs. Howells that a supply of Stewart & Dunn cups & saucers are to hand. It was moved & seconded that Mrs. Howells see the china, & if suitable, purchase 20 dozen cups & saucers. It was also decided that three fancy cups, saucers & plates be purchased for the use of the secondary school girls.

Groceries: After some discussion, it was decided that some of the grocery customs of the Home be given to Mr. Sando, Office Road.

Staff:

Mrs. Howells reported that the last of the casual members had left: Miss Wiggins has commenced duties in the boys' block & Mrs. Mitchie is in the girls' block. This now brings the staff up to its full numerical strength.

Matron's Report:-

[redacted] in hospital for appendicitis have made a quick recovery: [redacted] fell & hurt her arm, but X-ray proved negative! [redacted] has had his hand operation & is doing well: the office furniture has been recovered: children were taken to see the Empire Games film, & Major Elliott also gave a films evening at the Home.

Interest in church activities has quickened & under leadership of Rev. R.B. Waite, more positive results are hoped for: Mr. Howells conducts a short song service each Sunday afternoon, & is helped by the

staff members on duty: Ex-children of the Home still dropping in:

D.D.I. representative came & the sewing room has been re-done.

Gifts for the month were valued at £3-12-0.

It was decided to sell a box of baby clothes which are at the Home. The proceeds to be given to Leigh Camp Funds.

10/5/50
D Marsh.

Minutes of May meeting.

The following members were present at the last meeting of the L.H.b held on May 10th: Mesdames Marsh, (in the chair), Thornton, Pratt, Black, Howells, Luxford, & Miss Hoddell. Apologies for absence were received from Mesdames Cock, Hodder, Odell & Miss Williams.

An acknowledgment for a wreath was received from Miss Melville.

Washing Machine:

No purchase has yet been possible: Rev. A. O. Harris is contacting Mr. Hayman of Auckland, who manufactures washing machines.

New china:

The new cups & saucers, as needed, have arrived; along with three cups, saucers & plates for senior girls. - also four dozen pudding plates: they should all prove very suitable.

Groceries:

Mr. Sands, of Office Road, has commenced the supply of some of the Home grocery requirements.

Gifts for the month approximated £11-1-0 in value.

Matron's report:-

Health of the children is good:
[redacted] is now home from Burwood.
4 older boys & 3 older girls who had been to B.b. camp attended a "following-up" camp held at Orongaton during a recent week-end: Usher Rona accompanied them:
-three of the working boys were also there:
[redacted] is enjoying Navy life:
The boarding children are well, but various difficulties regarding them, keep arising.
Redpaths Ltd. have completed the re-laying

of the dining-room linoleum - a splendid job.
It is suggested that the passage lino be re-examined before any decision is made.
Experiments are being carried out with various types of fuel for the stoves.
The children attended the Orphans' concert held recently at the Civic Theatre.
Rev. Waite conducted an Easter service at the Home.

Linoleum for passage.

Following an inspection of the linoleum in the passages on either side of the main entrance reception hall, it was decided to ask the members of the Board, at their meeting to be held on May 31st., to have it renewed as soon as possible.

Confirmed:

June Meeting.

In the absence of Mrs. Marsh Mrs. Pratt presided at the meeting of the L.H.C. held at the Home on 14th June. Other members present were Mesdames Cock, Thornton, Odell, Black, Hodder, Howells, Miss Williams & the secretary. An apology for absence was received from Mrs. Marsh.

Resignation.

Mrs. E. R. Inwood wrote tendering her resignation from the committee as she found it impossible to attend the meetings regularly. The resignation was received with regret, but members were glad that Mrs. Inwood's interest in the Home would still be keen - for some years she had boarded working boys from the Home & had taken a vital interest in their welfare.

Purchase of material.

Mrs. Howells asked permission to purchase a bolt of cambric suitable for making blouses, etc. This was granted.
Half a dozen cups & saucers had been purchased for the use of staff members.

Staff:

Miss Mitchie resigned from the girls' block & Mrs. Forrester from the position of kitchen assistant: personal domestic reasons made this necessary:

Miss Lengent volunteered to return in charge of the girls' block: Miss Chin has commenced as reliever, & Mrs. Caul as cook's assistant: this again makes a full complement of staff:

Stoves.

A mixture of anthracite & coke is now being used, & an improvement has been effected.

Linoleum.

Redpath's Ltd. are to be contacted regarding a quote for new linoleum in the passage on either side of the main entrance hall.

Matron's report:-

In common with others, the Home now has increased financial responsibilities. Colds have developed among the children: a new arrival, [redacted] aged 3, develops a mild form of chicken pox but is better. Organised games for both boys & girls are highly successful - they are held on Saturday evenings - the master & matron feel that the churches are making a great contribution in supplying leaders for these evenings. The young people concerned are thanked. A special vote of thanks is due to Mr. Evan. Smith.

After careful consideration, it was decided that Sunday outings be arranged for the children on one Sunday in each month, instead of alternate Sundays, as formerly.

Gifts, for the month, which included four sports' coats from Glassons Ltd., were valued at £13.

It was decided that the July & August meetings be held in the Board Room at Ilpwork Chambers, at 2.30 p.m..

Following the meeting, the members inspected the former workshop, which is being converted into a recreation room for the boys. It should prove very suitable.

Confirmed:-

[redacted]

July Meeting:

Those members of the Ladies' House Committee present at the monthly meeting held at Epworth Chambers on July 12th. were Mesdames Pratt, (presiding). Thornton, Cook, Black, Howells, Lucas, Misses Williams & Horrell. An apology for absence was received from Mrs. Marsh.

Mrs. Howells reported that coughs and colds had been prevalent among the children, but were not of a serious nature. Mrs. Howells, Miss Cook and Miss Tennent had been temporarily off duty with influenza. The children were busy with skipping, basket-ball & foot-ball: the Methodist Home boys had beaten the Presbyterian Home boys at foot-ball:

Washing Machines:

Two new Easy-Way washing machines have been installed: their cleanly appearance, together with a reputation for good work, make them doubly welcome:

Dining-room clock:

The battery-driven clock in the dining-room has been erratic for some time, & Mr. Lucas says it is badly worn. Following some discussion, it was moved & seconded that Mr. Howells be authorised to purchase a suitable electric clock:

Electric Stove:

It has not been possible to purchase a stove with an oven large enough to contain dishes dishes used by the Boys. Mr. Howells is making further enquiries, as firms seem reluctant to make one to specifications.

Gifts for the month were assessed at £9-8-0.

Office carpet.

It was decided that a carpet square be purchased for the office.

Staff.

Mrs. Caulk, cook's assistant, has left as her mother died. An advertisement in the newspapers has as yet brought no results.

While Mr. & Mrs. Howells are making every provision for the material welfare of the children, they are striving also to stress the paramount influence of spiritual things.

Confirmed:- J. L. Cook 9.8.50

August Meeting.

In the absence of Mrs Marsh, Mrs Cock presided at the meeting of the L.A.C. held at Epworth Chambers Aug 9th 1950. Other members present were: Mesdames Black + Howells Miss Williams + Miss Harrell — who read the minutes in the absence of Mrs Everee. — Apologies were received from Mesdames Pratt, Marsh, Everee, Odell + Thornton.

Carpet a suitable carpet for the office is not procurable at present so the Matron was asked to keep a look out for one and if necessary to put her name down as one of the shops.

Washing Machines These a growing satisfactory and appreciation has been expressed by the laundry staff.

Shoes. Arrangements to purchase shoes wholesale has not eventuated. The position is becoming acute so it was decided to give the Matron permission to purchase them elsewhere.

Electric Stove. This committee feels that an electric stove to suit the kitchen requirements would assist in the running of the kitchen especially during holiday periods. A request was made for the Master to make further enquiries about the one he had seen and include them in his report for the next Board meeting.

Matron's Report:— General Health of the 53 children has been good. A highlight had been a visit from the chairman + Mrs Odell and Dr Greenslade, Mrs Greenslade + their children. The electric stove purchased at a cost of £7-10-0 was proving a great asset. — School reports on the whole were satisfactory but Mrs McDonald assisting in the kitchen the home was fully staffed. — The Master has located an electric stove to suit the kitchen requirements. This was priced at £116 at Hallabrunton + Berry. It is made to air-force specifications with a large oven + two boiling hot plates. There are many applications for children to enter the home — many do not stand close inspection. Gifts for the month £2-15-0. The next meeting will be held at the Home on Sept 13 at 2 p.m.

Confirmed.

E Marsh 13/9/50

September meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. Sept. 13, those present being Mesdames Black. Cook. Hodder. Howells. Marsh (presiding) Pratt. Odell. Queree, and Miss Williams. An apology was received from Miss Howell.

Mrs. Queree tendered her resignation from the House Committee as she is going to live at Raetihi. It was received with great regret, and the committee members expressed their grateful appreciation of Mrs. Queree's services during the time in which she has been Secretary.

Matron's Report

The children have been very well during the winter months. [redacted] is recovering satisfactorily from his football injury, and [redacted] has already benefitted from the removal of her tonsils. There are 27 boys and 27 girls in the Home at present.

Following authorisation by the Board, an electric stove has been procured with ample room on top and an oven which will take the size of dishes used in the Aga stoves. This will be installed as soon as authority is granted by the M.E.D.

The two new washing machines are giving good service, and the old Beatty machine has been sold for £20.

Staff Resignations have been received from Miss Phin and Mrs. McDonald. In the case of Miss Phin, there was no possibility of meeting the position which had arisen. Difficulties regarding her husband's pension have made it impossible for Mrs. McDonald to stay; she has rendered good service.

Shoes Twenty five pairs of boys shoes have been ordered from O'Brien's and girls shoes from Brookes of Manchester.

Linoleum Redpaths will shortly proceed with the relaying and cementing of the passage linoleums, with new linoleum at a cost of £69. The relaying of the old linoleum would be approximately £24.

Reunion It was decided to hold the reunion on Oct. 28, Mrs. Howells expressing her willingness to write letters of invitation to old boys and girls to a

high tea on that date. Mr. Howells would arrange some suitable entertainment for the visitors after tea.

Gifts to the value of £88 were received during the month.

Confirmed:

D Marsh

11/9/50

October meeting

This was held at the Home on Wednesday Oct. 11, those present being Mesdames Black. Cook., Hodder, Howells, Marsh. [presiding]. Odell. Pratt. Thornton. and Miss Williams.

Mrs. Howells had procured a carpet on approval for the committee to see; as it seemed suitable for the office, it was decided to purchase it. The price £20 - for a 9 × 10½ ft. carpet, was thought to be reasonable by present standards.

Mrs. Howells report dated that the children were well. Their numbers were now 53, 26 boys 27 girls.

Staff. Miss Phin has left, and Miss Higgins wishes to go on Oct. 30. Noone has been found to replace her as yet. Mrs. Clark has satisfactorily keep in the kitchen.

The annual Child Welfare inspection was carried out satisfactorily.

New linoleum has been cemented down in the passages of the middle block, and old linoleum in the girls block. These were inspected by the committee.

The children are preparing for the S.S. Anniversary on Oct. 29. Two elder girls are teaching in the Harewood S. School. and two of the boys helped Sister Rona with painting the S. School room at Belfast.

The vacuum cleaner, an old type, is to be reconditioned if possible, and if not, a new one procured.

Preparations were made for the reunion on Oct. 28, the tea to be at 5.45 pm. Members of the Orphanage Board are to be invited.

Gifts to the value of £35 were received during the month.

Confirmed:

D Marsh

8/11/50

November meeting

This was held at the Home on Wednesday. Nov. 8, those present being Mesdames Black, Hodder, Howells, Marsh [presiding] Thornton and Miss Horrell.

Apologies were received from Mesdames Cock, Odell, and Pratt, and Miss Williams.

Mrs. Howells' report: The health and general behaviour of the children has been very good. On Labour Day some of the children had been taken to a picture show. The S.S. Anniversary on Oct. 29 was very successful, some of the girls and boys taking part in solo work; they also took part in several items at the Anniversary Concert on Nov. 2.

Reunion. There were 27 ex-boys and girls of the Home at the reunion party on Oct. 25, including one man who had been in the Home in 1914. After a party tea, there was an excellent programme of items, and motion pictures arranged by Mr. Howells.

Staff. A reliever is still needed as well as an assistant for the boys' side. Mr. Howells has been in communication with the minister at Pakiatua with a view to obtaining the services of an immigrant.

The vacuum cleaner has been overhauled and is fairly satisfactory for the present.

A mat is to be obtained for the front of the desk in the office.

Arrangements are being made to provide curtains in the dormitories of the bigger boys and girls, to give them a measure of privacy without impeding the passage of fresh air.

A Christmas gift is to be sent to Mrs. Quiree as a token of appreciation for her work for the Home.

Gifts to the value of £3-5-0 were received during the month.

The next meeting of the House Committee will be held on Wed., Feb. 14, 1951.

Confirmed:

O. Marsh
14/2/51

February Meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. Feb. 14, 1951, those present being, Mesdames Cock, Hodder, Howells, Marsh [preceding] Odell, and Misses Howell and Williams.

Apologies were received from Mesdames Black & Pratt.

As no Christmas present had been sent to Mrs. Queree, it was decided that one should be given her at some form of social gathering when she is here in March.

Mrs. Howells report. Arrangements had been made for holiday homes for all the children, the conduct being good in most cases. Several children had been invited for return visits, and all had derived considerable benefit from their holidays.

Staff. All the staff had returned, but unfortunately Miss Neville has had to resign for family reasons; she has been a most thorough and conscientious worker and will be greatly missed. She will stay on until Mrs. Howells can replace her. There is still no assistant for Sister Rona, and no relieving assistant.

Children. Four [redacted] children have left to live at home with their people. [redacted] are with relatives with a view to adoption, and three [redacted] children have returned to their father who has remarried.

[redacted] has had a working holiday and is now to work on a farm at Ashburton. [redacted] is to be a nursing aide at Melrose Private Hospital, and board with Mrs. Radburnd of Rugby St. Church. Both did well at Technical School. Several admissions are pending.

Stove. The electric stove has been installed and is proving very satisfactory.

Vacuum cleaner. The Tellers Agency sent a man out to examine the cleaner, & in view of his report, it was decided to ask the Board to buy a new Electrolux, as well as a domestic electric polisher which is badly needed especially in the Boys' Block.

Several jobs still need attending to around the Home, but have been held

up on account of holidays. It is hoped to see them finished soon.

The children are to attend the Floral Pageant, with a bus to take them there and back.

It was decided that curtains should be purchased for the Boys Block while the Summer Sales are on.

The House Committee wishes to place on record its deep appreciation of the services of Sister Rona, who has been looking after the Boys Block without an assistant for several months. She is most loyal and conscientious, and puts her whole heart into her work. The secretary was asked to write to her.

Gifts totalling £95 were received during the period from Nov. 1950 to Feb. 1951.

Confirmed:

O Nyaard
14/3/51

March meeting

This was held at the Home on March 14, those present being Mesdames Black, Howard Hewat, Marsh [presiding] Odell, Queree, Thornton, and Misses Howell and Williams.

A vacuum cleaner had been procured at a cost of £21, and enquiries were still being made about a polisher.

Mrs Howells report. The roll number is now 50, 28 boys and 22 girls.

No new members for the staff have been received as yet.

[redacted] is working on the farm of [redacted] at Whitesbury, and Neelma is to leave Melrose Hospital and work in Miss Ford's Children's Convalescent Home at Sydenham.

No alterations have yet been made to the older girls dormitory.

As Mrs. Queree was on holiday here opportunity was taken to thank her for her work as Secretary of this Committee, and give her a crystal dish as a farewell gift.

Gifts for the month amounted £13-3-6

Confirmed: O Nyaard
6/4/51

April meeting.

This was held at the Home on Wednesday April 11, those present being Mesdames Black, Cook, Hedder, Howells Marsh [presiding], Odell, Pratt, Thornton, + Miss Williams

An apology was received from Miss Howell.

Matrons Report

The children are well with the exception of [redacted] who broke his arm at football. [redacted] made a stay of three weeks at the Home. [redacted] has board with Mrs. Smith, Raques Rd.

The older children derived benefit from the Bible Class Easter camps.

On April 7, the children were entertained at an annual Benefit Concert.

The vacuum cleaner is proving of great benefit, as it is able to suck the fluff containing moths' eggs out of the crevices, and blow D.D.T. into the vents.

Mr Howells paid an all day visit to the Ashburton Circuit, among the benefits accruing from it being a gift of 221 pots of jam from the Baring Square Church.

Staff matters Miss Neville has left, and Miss Wareham has taken her place. Her room has been furnished with new lindeum and curtains and looks much improved. There is still no assistant for Sister Rona.

It was decided to recommend to the Board that a light be placed at the entrance to the Home, preferably at the corner where the paths join, as it is extremely dark for the staff coming home at nights.

Gifts to the value of £24-16-6 were received during the month.

Confirmed

O Ingarsh 9/3/71

May meeting

This was held at the Home on Wednesday, May 9. Those present being Mesdames Black. Cook. Hodder. Howells, Marsh [presiding] and Miss Howell.

Apologies were received from Mesdames Odell and Pratt and Miss Williams.

Staff. Miss Dale was to come on May 10 as Assistant in the Boys' Block.

Mrs. Howells Report. There were 31 boys and 22 girls in the Home. and their general health was good. Most of them had been at the Home for the school holidays, and had a happy time with outings, games and hikes.

It was decided that the mattresses at the Home should be examined, and overhauled where necessary.

Members of Union Church Addington had paid a visit as Friends of the Home. It is felt that more of our church people should be better acquainted with the work done at the Home and the problems encountered.

Gifts to the value of £6-0-0 were received.

Confirmed: March 13/6 June 13

June meeting

This was held at the Home on Wednesday June 13. those present being Mesdames Black. Hodder. Howells, Marsh [presiding] Pratt and Thornton. and Misses Howell and Williams.

An apology was received from Mrs. Cook.

Mrs. Howells report. There are 32 boys and 23 girls in the Home at present.

Miss Dale is very helpful on the Boys' Block. but will probably not be able to stay after August.

Efforts have been made to stop the water coming in to the Music Room in wet weather, but have not been entirely successful.

Mr. Hawke has made a good job of raising the sunken flagstones at the entrance to the main block.

Mr. Riley has been tidying and clearing up the area round the Boys Block, which has also been examined with a view to being painted and renovated inside. There is a good spirit of teamwork among the staff.

It was decided that, as the cost of

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There is a good spirit of teamwork among the staff.

It was decided that, as the cost of

refilling mattresses is nearly as great as that of new ones. The oldest mattresses should gradually be replaced by new ones.

The staffroom on the Boys' Block is to be examined by a representative from the Board, and in the meantime, Mrs. Howells suggests that the worn carpet at present in her bedroom be put down in the staffroom. She will use one of her own carpets.

Mrs. Thornton reported on behalf of the Grounds Committee that several trees are to be removed to prevent overcrowding, and that some flowerbeds are to be replaced by continuous lawn to make the work of maintenance easier.

Gifts to the value of £ 5.16.0 were received during the month.

Confirmed.

D Marsh 11/7/51

July meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed., July 11, those present being Mesdames Cock, Hedder, Howells, Marsh [presiding] Pratt, Thornton, & Miss Horrell.

Apologies were received from Mesdames Black and Odell, and Miss Williams.

Mrs. Howells' report. In spite of fuel and other shortages, the health of the children is good.

The Rotary Club paid a visit during the month, with a magician who entertained the children. They also presented a very comprehensive collection of sports gear, for which the Home is very grateful.

Seven mattresses have been reconditioned at a cost of £20, which is very satisfactory. It is hoped to have them all put in order gradually by the same firm.

Mr. Walters is to come at an early date to make the necessary alterations for curtaining off the bigger girls' dormitory. He may also make alterations to the sideboard in the staff sitting-room.

Mrs. Howells is to buy new easy chairs for the staff room, the old ones to be put in the girls recreation room.

Mr. Howells has made a deputation visit to Nelson recently, and was received sympathetically.

[redacted] is in very satisfactory board and is settling down well.

Gifts to the value of £10-0-0 were received.

Confirmed:

D Marsh
5/8/71

August meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed., Aug. 8, those present being Mesdames Black, Cook, Hodder, Howells, Marsh [presiding] & Odell.

Apologies were received from Misses Horrell and Williams.

Mrs. Howells' report: The children's health is good. They were very successful in the S.S. Union Examinations, and helped to gain the A shield for the Sunday School.

There are still bad leaks in wet weather in the music room, medicine room, & on the landing in the Girls Block. Some renovation work of painting or papering is to be done in the Boys Block; the cost of a light curtaining fitted throughout for the drive would be at least £2.

Staff: Miss Dale still intends to leave at the end of this month, but will stay until Sister Rona has attended the Deaconess Convocation at Auckland.

Recommendation to Board. The Secretary was asked to write to the Board, recommending that the extra Social Security Bonus would be spent on a piano, as this is badly needed.

The date for the reunion was fixed for October 27.

Gifts to the value of £3-8-0 were received last month.

Confirmed: K. Odell
Sept 12th 51

September meeting:

This was held at the Home on Wed. Sept. 12 those present being Mesdames Black. Cook. Hodder. Howells. Odell. Pratt and Miss Williams. In the absence of Mrs. Marsh, Mrs. Odell was asked to take the chair. An apology was received from Mrs. Marsh.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mrs. Howells' report: Staff: The Home is fully staffed at present; Miss Dale has left, but Miss June Peters is helping Sister Rona until Christmas; Miss Melville is back. and has been working in the laundry while Miss Chessman was ill.

Two new girls have been admitted during the month.

The ligger has been installed on the front drive. and should be of great benefit. The volley board has been put up. but no cement is yet obtainable for the base.

The framework and curtains in the girls' dormitory have been completed. and were inspected by the Committee. They will ensure privacy for the bigger girls. and improve the appearance of the dormitory very considerably.

Alterations in the Boys' Block will probably be done in January, but in the meantime it is hoped that curtains will be put up.

Mr. Howells has been very busy with the Combined Orphanages Appeal and the total collection of £1058 is very gratifying.

The Home children have been taking part in Junior Choir work at Papanui Church under Mr. Mervyn McDonald. and have sung very acceptably on several occasions. It is particularly good that boys are helping, as well as girls.

Mattresses have been completely overhauled in the Boys' Block, at an average cost of £1-12-6 for each. which is very reasonable.

Several of the bigger boys have been back visiting the Home. and are all doing well. while [redacted] has enrolled for her nursing training at Timaru Hospital.

Two polishing machines were inspected by Board + Committee members. and it was decided to recommend the purchase of the stronger machine at a cost of £27.

As more cups and saucers are needed. Mrs. Howells was asked to obtain the number necessary.

Two wicker chairs from the staff sitting room are to be placed in the sitting room of the Boys Block. and two new ones bought for the staff room, to which Mrs. Howells hopes to make further improvements before the winter.

Reunion As Mr + Mrs. Odell will be away to Conference by Oct. 27. it was decided to hold the Reunion on Oct. 30, Mrs. Howells to send invitations out before our next meeting. There will be tea. and a programme to follow during the evening, at which the children will assist.

Gifts to the value of £34-4 were received.

Continued: 3/11/21 D Nash

October meeting.

This was held at the Home on Wed. Oct. 3. those present being Mesdames Cock. Howells. Nash [presiding] Odell. Pratt. + Thornton.

Apologies were received from Mesdames Black + Hodder + Miss Hotnell.

Matron's report

There are 33 boys and 27 girls in the Home at present, and general health is good.

The floor polisher is proving very useful as a labour saver.

Reunion Mr. Howells has obtained the services of Mr. Judkins to give a conjuring performance at the reunion. The rest of the programme is also in preparation.

Missionary Exhibition. Mrs. Howells. some staff members. and most of the children were able to attend the Exhibition and the Saturday morning session at the Civic Theatre.

Games Mr. Tom Smith and Bible Class members have again been most helpful with the children.

Deputation work: Mr. Howells spoke at the Annual Egg Day at Hoveville, & the splendid total of 163 doz. eggs was donated to the Home. He has also visited New Brighton and South Brighton, being warmly received. The Combined Appeal has also occupied a good deal of time.

[redacted] has joined the membership of Rugby Street church.

Letters have been sent out in the hope of obtaining holiday homes for all children in the Christmas holidays

Final arrangements were made for the catering at the Reunion to be held on Oct. 20. Old pupils are to have meat and salad at a special table.

Mrs. Marsh is to look at an electric iron and report to the Committee at a later date.

Gifts to the value of £2-8-0 were received.

Confirmed: D Marsh.
14/11/'11

November meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. Nov. 14. Those present being Mesdames Black, Cock, Howells, Marsh [presiding] Odell, Pratt, Thomson, and Miss Howell.

Apologies were received from Mrs. Hodder and Miss Williams.

Piano Mrs. Marsh reported that the Board had given her permission to see about a piano.

Mrs. Howells suggested that Xmas cards might be sent to folk who had been so kind in presenting gifts to the Home. This was carried unanimously.

Matron's report There is more outside activity at the Home as the year draws on, and sometimes rather much excitement for the children. Their behaviour & health generally are good [redacted]'s knee is not yet well. The girls enjoyed the Marching Championships, where they were the guests of the Committee.

The mother of the [redacted] children died during the month, and [redacted] was very much upset, but is settling down again.

Staffs Sister Rona and Miss Peters are busy preparing for the S.S. Anniversary.

Guy Fawkes Day A number of parents and visitors were present to watch the bonfire and fireworks, which were very successful.

Visitation Mr. Howells has conducted services in the interests of the Home at Cashmere, Somerfield, Woolston, Waikuku Amberley & Sefton, as well as a Combined Ladies' Guild meeting at Springston.

Electric Ironer There will be an English model of reputable make available in December at approximately £23.

Painting Tenders have closed for the painting of the Boys' Block.

Reunion This was a very happy occasion although the number of ex-children was smaller than last year.

Holiday homes have been promised for a large number of the children.

The Vacation Committee is to meet soon to decide the question of discharges.

Gifts to the value of £13-13-0 were received during the month.

Confirmed: O. Myarah
13/2/52.

February meeting

This was held on Wed. Feb. 13, at the Home, those present being Mesdames Black, Cock, Hodder, Howells, Marsh [presiding] Odell, Pratt, and Misses Horrell and Williams.

Matron's report Mrs. Howells reported that the roll at the end of 1951 numbered 33 boys and 27 girls. Since the holidays there have been several changes: [redacted] has a permanent home with Mr. and Mrs. Petrie of Woodend, and [redacted] with Mr. Mrs. Chase of Oamaru. [redacted] have all left the home. All the children had good holiday away, and have had good reports from their holiday homes.

The boys' dormitories have been painted, papered, and curtained, and look very attractive. The passages have still to be done.

The volley board will be able to be used when the concrete is laid.

There are three girls and one boy attending Technical College this year.

Staffs Mr. Riley has terminated his employment with the Home, and Miss Chesman

has sought other work because of ill health. Otherwise the staff are very helpful and cooperative.

The Home has lost a good friend in Mr. Selby Smith of Houlère, who met his death by drowning.

The staff sitting room has been very much improved by the cutting down of the big table and the addition of easy chairs. The House Committee recommended that a carpet square be purchased to fit the room.

A new electric ironer has been purchased at a cost of £35-10-0, and is proving very satisfactory.

An inspection was made of the boys' dormitories and of the ironer and the staff sitting room.

Gifts to the value of £22-0-0 were received during the month.

Confirmed: E. Odell
12/3/31

March meeting This was held on Wed., Mar. 12 at the Home. Those present being Mesdames Black, Cock, Hodder, Howells, Odell (presiding) Pratt, and Miss Williams. An apology was received from Mrs. Marsh. who was unable to be present owing to the death of her sister. The Secretary was asked to send a letter expressing our sympathy.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Matron's report Unfortunately there have been sixteen cases of mumps in the Home. and, so far, two cases of measles [redacted] and [redacted] have had tonsils removed.

There are at present 34 boys and 23 girls in the Home.

There have been some very good gifts of Harvest produce and jam. and a visit paid to the Preston garden party by Mr. & Mrs. Howells and Miss Melville brought a gift of £10 in cash as well as produce.

Staff Mrs. Bonar is assisting Miss Cock.

bur appointments of a permanent laundress and a gardener have still to be made.

Some of the children had an outing to the Papanui pictures as guests of the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

When not engaged in visitation work, Mr. Howells teaches in the Sunday School and takes an afternoon service at the Home.

Junior Choir practices will soon be resumed.

Mr. Hawke looked after the Home, as well as the grounds, for part of the holidays, so that Mr. + Mrs. Howells could have a short holiday.

Gifts amounted to £18-11-0.

Confirmed: L. Odell

9/4/52.

April meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. April 9. Those present being Mesdames Black, Hodder, Howells, Odell [presiding] and Misses Horell and Williams.

Apologies were received from Mesdames Cock and Marsh.

Matron's report: There are 34 boys and 25 girls in the Home at present, [redacted], aged 3 and 4½, being newly admitted. There is a single case of mumps, but otherwise the Home has a clean bill of health.

The children are busy preparing for the Sunday School examinations on April 27, and some of the bigger girls and boys will go to Easter camp.

The staff position has not altered. Mr. Hawke has been on leave, and three of the boys have been helping to do his work.

A new carpet has been procured for the staff sitting-room, which looks much improved.

[redacted] is happy in her new home, but [redacted] has not settled down very well in her father's home.

The Grounds and Buildings Committee have made an inspection, and it is

hoped that concrete for the volley board will be forthcoming before the winter.

There have been further gifts of jam and harvest produce during the month. And a much appreciated gift of £5 specially sent by Stoke Methodist B.C. girls to buy something for the children of the Home.

Gifts received amounted 15k8-13-0.

Confirmed: 14/5/52
O Marsh

May meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed., May 14. Those present being Mesdames Cock. Hodder, Howells. Marsh. [presiding] Thornton + Misses Howell Williams

Apologies were received from Mesdames Black, Odell + Pratt.

Matron's Report: There are at present 25 girls in the Home and 31 boys. It is felt by the Master + Matron that a preponderance of boys makes management more difficult by the staff, and it is hoped that it will be possible to maintain a better balance in the future between numbers of boys + girls. Seven children were away for the school holidays, and the bill of health is clean.

The children have been entertained at a concert and at a film evening given by a party from Wigram Aerodrome. [redacted] is getting on well in her new home at weekend. The spiritual life of the children is well looked after by M. + Mrs. Howells. And a mid week meeting for prayer + fellowship is held for those who wish to follow Jesus Christ in their lives. This should be a big help to the children

especially when they are old enough to leave the Home, and will establish a firm foundation for their lives.

There are good stocks of sugar, coal & wood, and Mrs. Howells intends to buy blankets as soon as she has decided on the best for the purpose.

Gifts amounted to £4.5.0.

11/6/52 E Marsh

June meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. June 11th those present being Mesdames Black Cock, Hodder, Howells Marsh [presiding] Pratt, Thornton, and Misses Howell and Williams.

Matrons Report Saturday night games have been instituted for both boys & girls, and the Rotary Club shows films once a month. [redacted] seems happy in her new home, and [redacted] are both teaching in Papanui Sunday School.

Rotary: An apology was received from Mrs Odell

Repairs have been done to the sewing room and hall floors, the woodwork of which was attacked by dupor. More airvents have been put in, which will, it is hoped, keep the same trouble from occurring again. Plasterers and carpenters have been at work in the Boys' Block [a source of considerable interest to the dwellers therein] Footballs have been put in but not yet completed.

The Rev. Mr. Allen [Youth Director] and Mrs. Allen had tea at the Home during the month, and a visit of inspection was

paid by Hon. Mr. Bodkin, Minister of Health. + Mr. McAlpine, M.P. for the district.

Staff: Miss Ainsworth is doing laundry work, but no substitute has yet been secured for Miss Melville.

It is hoped that worn curtains and bedspreads in the Boys' Block may be replaced by some to match the curtains if the material is still obtainable.

Gifts amounted to £3-15-2.

Confirmed: L. Cook 7/7/32.

July meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. July 6, those present being Mesdames Black, Cook, Hodder, Howells, Odell, Pratt, and Misses Howell and Williams.

In the absence of Mrs. Marsh, Mrs. Odell was asked to take the chair.

An apology was received from Mrs. Thornton.

Matron's Report: The health of the children is mainly good, though there are some coughs and colds, and two of the smaller children have measles. There are 34 boys + 25 girls in the Home.

With winter conditions prevailing, labour-saving devices are proving a boon in keeping the Home clean.

Painting of the Boys' Block is nearly complete. A suitable heater for the Staff sitting-room has not yet been procured.

There is still no assistant for Sister Rona on the Boys' Block.

Mr. Howells has interviewed the Headmasters of schools attended by the children, and received good reports

of their work and behaviour.

Vegetables are still in good supply and there have been very generous gifts of jam.

Some very attractive floor rugs were inspected by the Committee, & it was left to Mrs. Howells to choose what were needed for the staff bed rooms.

Gifts amounted to £23-0-0.

Confirmed:
K. J Pratt
15.8.52.

August meeting.

This was held at the Home on Wed Aug. 13 those present being Mesdames Hodder. Howells. Odell, Pratt [presiding] & Thornton.

Apologies were received from Mesdames Black. Cock. Marsh. Misses Howell & Williams.

Matrons Report. There are 33 boys & 25 girls in the Home, at present, and the health and general tone is good. apart from seasonal colds & some mild cases of influenza.

The staff is once more complete, Miss Pilgrim assisting Sister Rona. School reports are varied on the scholastic side, behaviour being generally good. [redacted] came top, with several firsts to his credit. Games have been held regularly; Peter Hardy & Maurice Pugh have given their help, as well as teaching at S. School. An entertainment was given by a group of Rotarians, with sweets, icecream. and varied musical items, and gifts of gardening and carpentering tools were made to the children.

[redacted] writes happily from her new home; [redacted] and [redacted] have all paid visits to the Home.

Efforts to find a home for [redacted] in the Nelson area have so far proved unavailing.

[redacted] has been a great help during the last few weeks when members of the staff have been ill.

[redacted] is now boarding in a Methodist home at Stoke and attends the Sydenham Church.

It is hoped to hold the annual reunion on Oct. 18 or 11, whichever is the more suitable.

Concrete has not yet been laid in front of the volley board; there is a crying need for a small playing ground in concrete in this area, as the grass is wet + muddy for winter games, + for access to bicycle sheds and playroom.

Gifts were received to the value of £2.0.0.

10/9/52 D Marsh
Confirmed:

September meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. Sept. 10, those present being Mesdames Cock, Hodder, Howells, Marsh [presiding], Odell, Pratt, Thornton, Miss Howell

Apologies were received from Mrs Black & Miss Wilkie.

Reunion Arrangements were made to hold the reunion on Sat., Oct. 11. Mrs. Howells has sent out invitations for this date, and Mrs. Marsh volunteered to obtain the services of a ventriloquist.

Matron's report There are 59 children in the home at present, 33 boys + 26 girls, and the general health is good.

Miss Joan Webby from Richmond, Nelson, has taken up the position of laundress

The ground adjacent to the volley board has been asphalted.

The children were guests at the Industries Fair, and also at a screening of a film "The Pilgrim's Progress". Children remaining at the Home during the holidays took part in hikes, hockey games & a concert.

The Street Day Appeal brought in one £811 this year.

Blankets Thirty pairs of grey blankets

and three pairs of white have been purchased at a very satisfactory price from the Bruce Woollen Co.

[redacted] is to have three months training in the Navy.

Some discussion took place as to the advisability of holding the Youth Conference at the Home in January. The general opinion was that it is rather a heavy burden to place on the Matrons Staff. As a good deal of adjustment is necessary to adapt a Home suitable for 60 children to the needs of 200 young people.

Gifts amounted to £7-10-0 for the month.

Confirmed: D Marsh 8/11/57

October meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. Oct. 8, those present being Mesdames Hodder. Howells. Marsh [presiding] Odell. Pratt. Thornton.

Apologies were received from Mrs. Black & Mr. Cook.

Matron's Report. The roll number stood at 59, with a full staff, and general health good.

Some of the elder boys visit the Home regularly, and [redacted] has been back recently. Reports of other older children are good.

Games evenings have concluded, with many thanks to those responsible for their organisation.

The House Committee inspected the area recently asphalted, and found it very satisfactory.

"Aunt Hayse" spent an evening at the Home. which all enjoyed very much. and is to bring a concert party later.

Mr. Hawke has completed 14 years of very faithful service to the Home, and continues to give of his best.

Gifts of eggs and jam have been

received from various circuits.

Reunion Everything is in train for the reunion on Sat., Oct 11. And it is hoped that there will be a good attendance of ex. boys + girls.

Gifts to the value of £10-0-0 were received during the month.

Confirmed: 12/11/52

D Myers

February meeting

This was held on Wed., Feb. 11 at the Home, those present being Mesdames Black, Cock, Howells, Marsh, and Misses Horrell & Williams. Apologies were received from Mesdames Hodder, Pratt, and Thornton.

No minutes were available from the Nov. meeting. The Secretary was asked to write to Mrs. Pitcher asking her to join the House Committee.

It was suggested that an "Open Day" be held at the Home, with afternoon tea provided.

Matron's report: There were 24 girls & 31 boys at the Home. [redacted] have returned home to their home, as their mother has remarried. [redacted] has returned home to be with her father.

Youth Conference: A good report was given of the Conference held at the Home after Christmas.

It will be necessary to purchase dried fruits as there is a very poor crop of apples.

Gifts of apricots and plums have been received.

Confirmed: 8 March 11/3/33

March meeting. This was held at the Home on Wed., March 11. Those present being Mesdames Black, Cock, Hodder, Howells, Marsh (presiding), Pitcher & Pratt, and Misses Horrell & Williams.

Mrs. Pitcher was welcomed to her first meeting of the House Committee.

An apology was received from Mrs. Thornton and the Secretary was asked to write sympathising with her in her illness. Mrs. Marsh offered to send flowers from the Committee.

A letter was also to be sent to Mrs. Odell as a farewell and appreciation of her work on the Committee.

Matron's report: Numbers remain the same, general health and spiritual tone are good. [redacted] have all paid visits to the Home; and [redacted] is a regular visitor. It is very satisfactory that [redacted] is to stay at the Home for a further year.

Proceeds of Harvest Festival have been sent to the Home, and a sum of nearly £12 from the Leeston Garden Party which was attended by Mr. Howells & Mr. Harris.

The first batch of beds to be rewired has been sent away.

The Staff remains unchanged. Wage increases have been appreciated, and it is hoped to obtain a suitable reliever.

The children enjoyed the Papamui Sunday School picnic at Kaiapoi Domain.

Open Day It was decided not to proceed with this at the present time.

Tablecloths Mrs. Howells feels that it would be better for the children to have tablecloths in the dining room rather than bare painted tables. The House Committee agreed unanimously, and asked Mrs. Howells to obtain suitable cloths for the purpose.

An electric heater is to be purchased for the staff room before winter.

The Fire Department has ordered the closing of the Hot Box in the Furnace Room - this will bring up the problem of airing clothes in the winter months, and may mean that it will be necessary to buy another change of clothing. E Marsh

Gifts amounted to £4/ 8/4/53

Confirmed:

April meeting. This was held at the Home on Wed. April 8, those present being Mesdames Cock, Hodder, Howells, Marsh (presiding) Pitcher, and Miss Horrell. Apologies were received from Mrs. Thornton & Miss Williams.

Matron's report: The past month has been uneventful, with general health good. There are still 31 boys and 24 girls. Those whose health background warrants it are being given emulsion and malt.

Seven boys attended Amberley Easter camp, and six girls went to Leigh Camp with Sister Rona. The state of the spiritual life of the children is very encouraging.

The staff also remains the same. Tablecloths are nearly completed, and look very attractive in red and blue checked with white, with plain trimmings to match.

More beds have been sent for re-wiring.

[redacted] spent two days at the Home.

Gifts this month totalled £21-11-6.

Confirmed: E Marsh 13/5/53

May meeting This was held at the Home on Wed. May 13. Those present being Mesdames Black Cock. Hodder. Howells. Marsh [presiding] Pratt. Thornton. Misses Horrell & Williams.

Matron's Report The children's general health is good, but [redacted] sustained a nose injury at football. About half the children are away for the holidays, the others being entertained with games & outings. Useful gifts received have been football boots from Mr. Beamont, and a large quantity of jam from the Presbyterian Social Service Association.

Saturday night games have started for the boys.

[redacted] has gone to join her father at Picton, and the four [redacted] children have gone to their father who has remarried.

Vegetables are still in sufficient supply, and so is milk.

A handsome new heater has been bought for the staff sitting room for £14. a reduction of £3 on the price quoted last year.

An inspection was made of the workshop — with new tools donated by the Rotary Club — and the new football ground.

The re-wiring of beds is now finished and all are in good order.

A letter of appreciation was received from Mrs. Odell. now in Auckland.

Gifts to the value of £36-2-6 were received during the month.

Confirmed: E Marsh
10/6/53

June meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. June 10. Those present being Mesdames Black Cock. Hodder. Howells. Marsh [presiding] J. Pitcher and Thornton.

Apologies were received from Mrs. Pratt and Misses Horrell and Williams.

Matron's Report The health of the children is good apart from some colds and a few minor injuries. There are 21 girls and 20 boys in the Home at present.

Gymnasium classes are held for the girls on Thursdays and for the boys on

Mondays.

Entertainments included a visit to a performance of "Magyar Melody", a film evening given by the Rotary Club, and Coronation celebrations, including a Social when the dining room was suitably decorated for the occasion.

Visitors included [redacted] and [redacted] as well as the usual Old Boys' visits on Sundays.

Staff Miss Pilgrim is leaving for a new situation in a week, and it is hoped to find someone to take her place soon.

Holbox The Wairnairi County Engineer has given permission for the Hot Box to be reopened, as long as it is inspected regularly every night.

The very fine floar, decorated by the Wairnairi County Council for the Coronation procession was driven round to the Home for inspection. The Secretary was asked to write a letter of thanks to the Engineer.

A very well-made set of replicas of Coronation insignia was made by Neville Paris for use in the Church Service on Coronation Sunday morning, in which Neville also took a speaking part.

Curtains and bedspreads are to be renewed in the Girls' block, and a cover obtained for the couch in Sister Rona's room. It was also decided to purchase two more fireside chairs for the staff sitting room.

Gifts for the month amounted to £5.

Confirmed:

9 March
8/7/53

July meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed., July 8. Those present being Mesdames Black, Cook, Holder, Howells, Marsh (presiding), Pitcher, Pratt, Thornton, and Misses Hotrell and Williams.

Matron's Report: There are still 50 children in the Home, and all are in good health.

Staff. Miss Pilgrim has left, and Miss Shirley Bradley from Shirley Church has replaced her.

[redacted] has passed an examination at Tinara Hospital.

Games evenings continue to be popular with both boys and girls.

Since [redacted] started school, there is just one pre-school child. [redacted] at the Home. School reports are on the whole good.

Grounds. Asphalting has been completed at the rear of the Laundry & the Girls Block, and the tennis courts top-dressed. Swings have been moved from the boys' sandpit to the girls' sandpit.

Mr. Howells was pleased with the way in which the girls took charge of the weeknight devotional service last Wednesday.

Deputation work. Mrs. Howells and Sister Rona have talked to various women's groups on the work of the home, and Mr. Howells is busy with preparations for the Combined Orphanages Appeal.

Mrs. Howells is to have the Chesterfield in the meeting room renovated, and to obtain suitable rubber mats for use on the concrete floor of the Laundry.

Gifts for the month amounted to £10-15-0.

O Marsh

Confirmed: 12/8/20

Finance meeting:

This was held at the Home on Wed. Aug. 12. Those present being Mesdames Black. Hodder. Howells. Marsh [presiding] Pitcher. Pratt. + Misses Howell + Williams.

Matron's Report. The number of children remains the same. 29 boys - 21 girls. and their health is good.

The children worked well for the Sunday School examinations [redacted] gaining 97 marks.

School reports are also good, [redacted] doing particularly well.

[redacted] who is captain of his school

football team, has been chosen to represent Canterbury against Sth. Canterbury and Southland.

This has been a busy month for football, hockey, and entertainments. Rural Transport and Junior Leaguers gave a concert for the children & the Rotary Club gave a Film Evening

The mass X-ray taken of children and staff showed a clean bill of health, which was very satisfactory.

Two very comfortable fireside chairs have been bought for the staff sitting room.

Staff remains unchanged. It is hoped to obtain the services of Miss June Peterson reliever.

[redacted] has left Oamaru, and has a position in Hay's Ltd. It is hoped to obtain suitable board for her soon.

[redacted] has spent two days leave at the Home.

The Papanui Fireside Fellowship met at the Home last evening, and after seeing round the Home, heard an interesting address from Mrs. Howells, followed by supper.

Preliminary arrangements were made for the annual reunion, to be held on Oct. 31. It is hoped to obtain the services of Harold [redacted] and [redacted] for the evening concert together with a short programme of items by the children.

Gifts were received to the value of £8-12-0

Confirmed: D Marsh

9/9/53

September meeting:

This was held at the Home on Wed. Sept. 9. Those present were Messrs Blackcock, Hodder, Howells, Marsh (presiding), Pitcher, Pratt, and The Warden

Apologies were received from Mrs. Thornton and Mrs. Williams.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Matron's report: This has been a busy month with school holidays. Mrs. Howells and some of the staff and 34 children were the guests of the Rotary Club at the operetta "The Princess and the Swineherd". This was in addition to the usual picture evening given by the Rotary each month at the Home

As one of the two cows has unfortunately died, some milk has had to be bought this month, as well as some apples and onions. Silas ~~Rice-Webb has come from~~ Nelson, and Miss Irene Peters is to be relieved from now up to Christmas to enable other staff members to take their holidays. Mrs Clark and Miss Cook have already taken a week each.

[redacted] is still living at the Home, and it is hoped to obtain board for her in Papanui, as she is going to teach in the Primary Sunday School.

Mrs Howells is to buy some mats to replace the worn out carpet in Sister Rice's sitting-room.

Reunion [redacted] is unable to come to entertain, but [redacted] is willing to provide an hour's variety entertainment. The usual arrangements were made for the tea.

Cash amounts to £9-5-0.

Confirmed: R. J. Pratt
14/10/53.

Devonport meeting:

This was held at the Home on Wed. Oct. 14, 4 those present being Mesdames Black, Cook, Hodder, Howells, Pratt [presiding], and Miss Williams.

Apologies were received from Miss Worrell & Mesdames Marsh and Pilcher.

Matron's report: The health of the children is good. Rotary pictures have been held as usual, and the older children have been active in Pledged Members and Medes, Guild. Several prizes were won in the children's sections of the church Flower Show, including 1st & 2nd prizes for boys' knitting. The Bible Class & under 16 Shield has also been won, and [redacted] has gained the Stamp Club Cup.

Inquiries are being made for holiday homes for the children.

The Buildings Committee has some suggestions to bring before the Board meeting this month, but as yet there is no recommendation that a vehicle be bought for the use of the Home.

With the purchase of a new cow, there is no need to buy milk, but dried fruits and vegetables are in short supply.

All the mattresses are now protected with properly fitted covers of jute material, and Mrs. Howells is looking for suitable mats for Sister Rona's sitting room.

[redacted] has obtained board in Innes Rd., St. Albans, and will probably attend St. Albans Church. [redacted] has joined the Church Choir.

Final arrangements have been made for the Reunion, including a film of Dickens' "Christmas Carol."

Gifts amounted to £5.4.0.

Confirmed: D Mason
11/11/53

November meeting This was held at the Home on Wed., Nov. 11, those present being Mesdames Black, Cock, Hodder, Howells, Pilcher and Hardy (presiding) and Misses Howell and Williams.

Apologies were received from Mesdames Pratt and Thornton.

Matron's report There are still 21 girls and 20 boys at the Home.

Crockery ordered a long time ago has now come to hand.

The children were the guests of Bunham Camp and of the Junior Chamber of Commerce for Guy Fawkes celebrations, which were much enjoyed.

Mr. Howells took six children with him on a deputation visit to Kaiapoi, where they were very well received.

Staff Miss Urquhart intends to leave at the end of the year, and it is hoped to obtain the services of a successor to her to start in February.

Mrs. Howells is well, on the way to getting the children settled in holiday homes, at Christmas.

The spiritual life of the children is good, the additional voluntary services being maintained.

Three new mats and a fireguard have been placed in the sitting room on the Boys' block.

Reunion This was very successful. There were 46 visitors, mostly those who have left the Home fairly recently. Mr. & Mrs. Norman Carson gave an hour's entertainment

of Community singing and novelty items, an accordion and piano, which were greeted with great acclamation by the Children. This was followed by an hours film entertainment, with supper afterwards. [redacted], who attended the reunion, has had his appendix removed. [redacted] sent a gift of £10 in appreciation of the care given his children by the Home.

Other gifts were received to the value of £3 during the month:

Confirmed: O Marsh
10/2/24

February meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. Feb. 10. Those present being Miss Honell and Mesdames Cock, Hodder, Howells, Marsh [presiding] Pratt and Thornton. An apology was received from Mrs. Black.

The minutes of the November meeting were read and confirmed.

Mrs Howells report. The children have benefitted from the holidays, and reports of their behaviour are good. Numbers are reduced to 19 girls and 26 boys; those leaving are [redacted] There has been one admission, [redacted] of Mt. Albert: Auckland.

Christmas cheer was provided by several different organisations and was appreciated by the children.

During the holiday period the Kitchen was painted a very attractive light green, and the girls' dormitories papered and varnished. Visitors to the Home included Mervyn & Desmond Hooper, Ray Watson and his wife, and Mr. & Mrs Thomas of the Masterton Home, who stayed for 10 nights.

[redacted] is on a farm near Rangiora. Miss Urquhart has left, and her place has been taken by Miss Wakelin.

Gifts amounted to £1-2-6.

Confirmed: O Marsh
10/3/24

March meeting This was held at the Home on Wednesday, March 10, those present being Mesdames Black, Cook, Hodder, Howells, Marsh [presiding] Pitcher, Pratt, Thornton and Miss Horrell.

An apology was received from Miss Williams Matron's report. There are 20 girls and 28 boys in the Home at present. [redacted] now attends Wainoni Bible Class, and [redacted] that at Sydenham. The children are well settled in to the year's work, and Mr. Howells has had good reports of their behaviour on holiday from ministers of various churches. There are four new children, [redacted]

The Sunday School picnic was held on March 6 at Abberley Park, and although the weather looked threatening all day, the children enjoyed themselves.

Mr. Stock of the N.Z. Alliance showed a Temperance film.

The children have begun studying for the S. School examinations.

The Child welfare branch made an inspection during the month, and were well pleased with conditions at the Home, and with the papering, varnishing, and painting which had been done. They also gave good reports of [redacted] who is now at Leeston.

[redacted] happily settled with Mr. & Mrs. Netherclift of Kaiapoi, a Presbyterian family.

New equipment needed at the Home this year includes loose covers for the office furniture, which is both faded and worn - Mrs. Howells was asked to obtain suitable covers.

A food mixer is needed in the kitchen, as it would do away with many tedious and time wasting jobs now done by hand.

The electric floor polisher purchased in 1951 has broken down several times under the continuous work it is called upon to do. It is felt that a stronger machine would be a very good investment particularly for the Boys' Block where the work is heaviest. The present

machine has well proved its worth, but is being much overworked.

Gifts amounted to £2-10-0.

C Marsh

14/4/54

April meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. April 14, those present being Mesdames Black. Cock. Hodder. Howells. Marsh [presiding] Pitcher. Pratt. and Misses Horrell and Williams.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Matron's report. There are still 20 girls and 28 boys in the Home, and health has been reasonably good for the time of year. There have been some colds and sore throats. and [redacted] injured his ankle at football.

There have been more inquiries about admittances than for some time past.

Staff. This remains the same; the new seamstress Miss Wakelin fits in well with the other staff members and is good at her work.

The concert organized by Mr. Sweney for the Combined Orphanages Appeal was well attended, and the sum of £140 was realised.

Gifts of harvest produce have been sent in during the past month, but so many have rung up to ask if the produce is wanted that Mrs. Howells fears that a wrong impression may have been made by someone. Gifts of produce are always welcome, and the Secretary was asked to write to the Chairman of the District Station, this, and asking that he make it known among the Churches of this district.

Several boys and girls are preparing to go to Easter Camps, and three boys have already made a decision for Christ. Helpful cooperation among the staff greatly assists in keeping a good spiritual tone among the children.

Curtains have been put up in the boys recreation room, and Mrs. Howells has obtained new loose covers for the office suite.

A light commercial polisher similar to that used in the Connexional Office

has been obtained at a price of £45-10-0. Inquiries made about a food mixer show that a machine strong enough to stand up to the work would cost from £125 upwards, so the Secretary was asked to write to the Secretary of the Board asking permission to purchase one.

Older boys and girls make frequent visits to the Home, which is very satisfactory.

Mrs. Howells gave a talk at Edgeware Ladies' Guild which was very much appreciated.

Gifts amounted to £38-0-0 this month; in addition a lady's second-hand bicycle was sent from Kaikoura, and is proving a very useful gift.

Confirmed J Parish
12/5/52

May meeting This was held at the Home on Wed. May 12. Those present being Misses Howell and Williams + Mesdames Black. Cook. Hodder. Howells. Marsh [presiding] and Pitcher.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Home has lost a good friend in the death of Mr. Brookes of Sumner. During the past month Sister Rona's mother has died suddenly; members passed a vote of sympathy which the Secretary was asked to convey to Sister Rona by letter.

Matron's report The roll number remains the same. 20 girls and 28 boys. And health is good. Nineteen children have gone away for the school holidays. Some of those remaining at home are assisting with the Centennial celebrations of Papanui Church from May 8 to 16.

The monthly Rotary pictures have started again, as well as the Stamp Club and boys' games evenings. Mr. Sm. Smith is well again and once more able to visit the Home.

A good representation went to Boys'

Girls' Easter camps, and derived great bene-
fit therefrom. [redacted] also attended
from Wainoni and [redacted] from Freeston,
while [redacted] attended for part of the
time.

Miss Yeoman has been away for a
fortnight's holiday.

The floor-polisher is proving its worth,
and the food-mixer at, approximately,
£125 is to be purchased as soon as avail-
able.

Mrs Marsh volunteered to send flowers
on our behalf to Mrs. Clark, on the
occasion of her 70th birthday.

Gifts this month amounted to £11-7-0.

Confirmed: D Wood
9/6/54

June meeting This was held at the Home on Wed.
June 9. Those present being Mesdames Cook,
Hodder, Howells, Marsh (presiding) Pilcher, Pratt,
Thornton and Miss Horrell.

Apologies were received from Mrs. Black and
Miss Williams.

The minutes of previous meeting were read
and confirmed.

Matron's report. One new boy has been admitted,
[redacted] and
there is a likelihood of three girls being with-
drawn from the Auckland Home.

Children and some staff members took part
in the Centennial Pageant of Papanui Church
and attended some of the celebrations. On Sat.,
March 15, about 200 visitors were shown over
the Home, and given tea and biscuits.

Mr. Howells had had some trouble with
parents during the schoolholidays and
considerable discussion had taken place
at the Annual Board meeting as to the
legal position of the Home's tenure of children
committed to it. There was a general
feeling among members of the house committee
that, where the matter was not satisfied

with the conditions under which children who had been removed from the home were living. he should report this to the Child Welfare Department and thus obtain their cooperation.

Mrs. Howells had seen a demonstration of a "Hunt" food mixer, of 15 quart capacity, of ¼ H.P. motor, at a price of £125, so it was decided to purchase this from Henry Berry & Co. if the one from John Burns Ltd. was not yet available.

Repairs have been carried out to the floor of the music room.

The children's health is good; gymnasium classes have begun. as well as Sunday outings and meetings of the Wesley Guild at Papanui Church.

Gifts this month amounted to £7-3-0

Confirmed:
14/7/54 R.J. Pratt.

July meeting

This was held at the Home on Wednesday, July 14 those present being Misses Hotrell and Williams. and Mesdames Black, Cock, Hodder, Howells, Pitcher, Pratt, and Thomson. In the absence of Mrs. Marsh. Mrs. Pratt was asked to preside.

Matron's report: There are at present 20 girls and 29 boys in the Home, and there have been some cases of sore throats and high temperatures. [redacted] has settled down well.

All the children who entered for the Sunday School examinations passed. and [redacted] gained 100 marks in his grade.

Entertainments during the month have included a Rotary film evening, Missionary films by Dr. Bramwell Cook, of India, and a young peoples social at the Church when members of Presbyterian, Anglican, and Methodist youth groups united.

[redacted] became Church members at a service on July 4.

The Church Quarterly meeting was held at the Home on July 5.

Staff. Miss Thelma Churchill of Wellington wishes to come to the Home early in 1955

to work under the Order of St. Stephen.

Mrs. Vallance is willing to continue working in the Kitchen until Christmas.

Mrs. Howells is to obtain the services of a reliever as soon as possible, as she herself will have to enter Hospital in August to have her Tonsils removed.

Deputation work was well received in Greendale and Darfield.

The girls' block has had the roof healed with Tulseal.

Members inspected the new Hunt's food mixer, which is installed in the Kitchen and proved of great value in a variety of ways.

Elder boys and girls who have left the Home continue to visit; this is very gratifying, and must assure the Master and Matron that they are providing a real home for the children under their care.

Gifts amounted to £3-14-0

Confirmed:

D Ward
11/8/54

August meeting

This was held at the Home on Wednesday, Aug 11 those present being Mesdames Black, Cock, Hodder, Howells, Marsh [Presiding] Pilcher & Thornton, and Misses Horrell and Williams.

An apology was received from Mrs. Pratt.

Matron's report: Numbers still stand at 20 girls and 29 boys, and health is once more good, after the prevalent Stomach trouble had cleared up. All our two little boys have now attained school age.

Although the scholastic attainments of our children are not in general of a high standard, their school reports show that their conduct and general progress are good.

Several of the older children took part in Choir singing for the Bible Class competitions and their efforts were classed as "commendable" by the adjudicator.

The sealing of the Girls' Block roof with Bulseal has so far proved satisfactory.

Mr. Howells has been on deputation work to Te Pirita and Glenroy.

Staff: Efforts to obtain the services of a reliever have so far proved unsuccessful

but Mrs. Howells will advertise again before she enters hospital on Monday.

Reunion Tentative arrangements were made for the Reunion to be held on Oct. 9 or 16, Mr. Sad: Boughen to be asked to give confirming items.

The Combined Appeal collection this year brought in over £300, and Methodists worked well as collectors. It is felt however, that it would be desirable to have more Methodist representatives on the Committee, and that churches should be asked to help with the providing of meals for collectors.

Gifts amounted to £5.

Confirmed:

D Marsh
8/9/54

September meeting This was held at the Home on Wed., Sept. 8, those present being Miss Williams and Sister Rona, and Mesdames Cock, Hodder, Marsh [presiding] and Pratt.

Apologies were received from Miss Howell, and Mesdames Black, Howells, and Pitcher.

Master's Report Our large family are well and settled down to school again. There are five new children. Valerie. Dawn + Margaret Larsen on transfer from our Auckland home and Maurice + Ava Smither, bringing our numbers up to 30 boys and 24 girls.

Miss Lynn Barker of Harewood is acting as reliever, thus enabling Mrs. Howells to take four weeks leave after her operation as advised by the Doctor. We were very pleased to hear that she is convalescing satisfactorily.

In addition to the children's regular games and entertainments, they were delighted with a visit from Don Reinderer of the Tauranaki Rugby team.

Mr. Howells has had occasion to remonstrate with parents who use taxis to bring children to and from the Home, and who give the children expensive presents, thus running the risk of upsetting their sense of values. The House Committee fully supports Mr. Howells in any action he may take for the children's physical and spiritual welfare.

Only a few children were away for the

school holidays and the rest had a happy time carrying out their holiday programme at home.

Mr. Beardsley of Beckenham has very generously offered to take coloured films of the Home and show them to congregations within 50 miles of Christchurch. This should be of considerable value in arousing and maintaining interest in the Home.

The Reunion is to be held on Oct. 9, and will follow the usual pattern with tea and an evening's entertainment to follow.

Gifts amounted to £2-2-0.

Confirmed:
M.G. Pratt
13.10.54.

October meeting This was held at the Home on Wed. Oct. 13. Those present being Mesdames Black, Cock, Hodder, Howells, Pilcher, Pratt & Miss Williams. Apologies were received from Mrs. Marsh and Miss Horrell. In Mrs. Marsh's absence, Mrs. Pratt was asked to preside.

Matron's report: Numbers of children remain the same. 24 girls and 30 boys, and staff is unchanged with the addition of Miss Lynn Barker as reliever. Mrs. Howells has returned to duty.

General health is good, but several have been in bed with a mild form of measles.

Holiday homes are now being sought for the children, and this presents some problems as a few of the children have not yet settled down well enough to be a good advertisement for our Home, and may prejudice their hosts against taking someone to stay on further occasions. The committee could suggest nothing more helpful than that these children should be sent only to those who could be told about their drawbacks and would understand. Keeping them at home would also present problems, as more staff would have to be kept to look after them than would otherwise be necessary.

Mr. Beardsley has made a start on his film with some shots taken about Christchurch.

The Reunion on Oct. 9 was very successful, and much enjoyed by all. There were 35 past members present, and the Honeybone family were unable to come because of transport difficulties. The programme was excellent, consisting of items by the Home children, a puppet show by Mrs. Riseley and her two children, magic by Mr. Jack Boughen and pictures shown by Rev. B. Riseley.

Mr. and Mrs. Howells have always before them the strengthening of the children's spiritual life as well as their physical well being, and they find that the latter part of the year brings a feeling of added tension, perhaps due to the extra activities and entertainment at this time.

Gifts this month amounted £6/16-12-0.

Confirmed:

J. B. Cock

Stamps: 3, 6, 3, 3, 3, 3

Mrs. Schwab, 173 Somerville Street, Oddy [illegible]

Rev. A. O. Harris, ~~237 Salisbury St. Ch.~~ 44 Redruth Ave. Spreydon.

Mrs. A. Black, 4 Karaka St., Riccarton

Mrs. Cock, 106 James Rd. Papanui

Mrs. Hodder, 57 Mary St. Papanui

Mrs. Marsh, 7 Westenra Tce. Cashmere

~~Mrs. Odell 3 Replin St, St Albans~~

Mrs. R. J. Pratt, 115 Knowles St., St Albans.

Mrs. C. Thornton, 7 Whareora Tce. Cashmere.

Miss D. Hotell, Horeluille, Rangiora R.D.D.

Miss E. M. Williams, 89 Merivale Lane, Merivale.

Mrs. Pitches, 55 Jeffreys Rd. Bryndwr

Feb. 15th 1957

Dear Sister Rona,

The Leaders' House Committee has asked me to write + express our deep appreciation of your loyal service to the Home during the time you have been there and especially during the last few months when you have been doing all the work of the Boys Block. We do realise the difficulties, + as you know, every effort has been made to obtain the services of an assistant. It is heartening to know that the children are getting the best of attention, and we know that it is through love of them + not from a sense of duty to them that you are given the strength to meet your tasks.

We are all thinking of you + praying for you, + would like you to accept our loving thanks and appreciation.

Yours in His service

B. I. M.

Sir

Dear Secretary,

At a meeting of the L.H.C. on Wed. Feb. 14th, a very full discussion took place on the methods of cleaning used in the Home.

Firstly, the vacuum cleaner used is an old model which is definitely not up to the work reqd. of it. The H.C. recommends that an up-to-date Electrolux should be bought.

Secondly, the Matron + the H.C. are concerned at the amt. of time given to floor polishing, which is placing an undue strain on Staff members who need the time securely for other work. In addition the Matron feels that the boys, especially

spend time in indoor domestic work which would be much better employed in out door activities. We consider that an electric floor polisher is a necessity in an establishment of this nature & size.

We hope that these recommendations will meet with early & favourable consideration from the Board.

Report Nov 1 - Jan 31.

The annual reunion of past Home members was held on Oct 28, 27 being our guests, incl[g] one man who was in the Home in 1914. After a party tea there was an excellent programme of films & motion pictures arr[d] by Mr. Howells

Staff problems are still with us. There is also no relieving asst & no one to assist Sr Jones on the Boys Block. She has been doing the work alone for some months now, & is most loyal & conscientious, but the Comm feels strongly that it is too great a burden for her. We have placed our appreciation of her work on rec. in our minutes & written to her accordingly. Miss Neville has also resigned due to pressure of home ties, & will leave as soon as she can be replaced. She also will be greatly missed as she is a fine type of worker.

~~Changing~~ Matrons have been considered & are the subject of a separate letter with recommendations

Dear Mr. Harris

At a meeting of the L.M.C.
held today it was decided to recommend to the
Bd. that a light be erected somewhere near
the entrance to the Home, preferably at the
junction of the two driveways. It is extremely
dark & overshadowed along the drive for
anyone walking. The Committee feels
that a light would be a convenience &
protection both to members of the staff
& to the older children who have
occasion to be out after dark.

We realise that there will probably
difficulties in the way with the
power position as it is, but we
feel that the need is really urgent.

Yours in His service

B. A. H.

H. Sec.

Aug. 1957

Dear Mr Harris,

The L.H.C. at their Aug. meeting decided to recommend to the C. Bd. that the extra Social Security Bonus paid to the Home should be spent on a piano. This is a pressing need, as a number of children are learning music and are restricted to a practice period of only 15 mins. each per day; in addition the piano in use at present is very much worn. It is not really fit for the work it is called upon to do.

We hope that this rec. will be favourably considered by the Bd. + that the children will reap the benefit therefrom.

Present: Black Cock Hooker Howell. Pitcher Pratt.
Miss Dunn.

Cycl. Mrs. Marsh Miss Howell

Reunion 'Homeborn not here 35 visitors.
Very satisfactory.

Reports 54 9.34 Staff Miss Baker: elsie
Measles mild Gen health good.

Holiday homes: Somerset air Hiver 16 place

Film some shots taken.

Service a spiritual one: Jesus in the storm.

12 - 10 - 0
12 - 0
3 - 0 - 0
10 - 0
16 - 12 - 0

Letters April 16.

Dear Mr. H., You will recall that at the last C. Bd. meeting permission was given for a food-mixer to be bought for the Home. Since then Mrs. Howells has made enquiries of firms selling them & also of people using them & has been told that one of a strong model of a commercial type would stand up to the work required. Now this is a much more expensive business than we had expected, as the lower price suitable model seems to be one from John Burns at £125. Another suitable one inspected was at Hobart-Berkel for £158.

The L.H.C. is still very much in favour of buying the mixer as it would do away with many tedious jobs now done by hand, but did not wish to incur the greater expense without further ratification from the Bd.

Perhaps you will let Mrs. H. know if she is still to get the mixer as I understand she would have some weeks' wait for the model from J.B. ~~would like to order it~~ as soon as possible.

Dear Mr. J. At a meeting of the L.H.C. of the C. Home held ~~recently~~ the matron ~~stated~~ said that she had had a great no. of many telephone calls during the last month inquiring whether the Home could still use Harvest produce. This surprised me, as the Home has always been very pleased to receive these Harvest produce sent in. And she is wondering if word has gone round in some way that the Home no longer needs gifts of fruit & vegetables. Could you perhaps at the Ministers Fraternal please correct this impression, and let all ministers of churches which have previously sent Harvest produce know that the Home is still ~~glad~~ grateful for Harvest gifts and makes excellent use of them.

Yours faithfully.
Beryl J. Hodder

Ladies' House Committee.

Annual Report for 1951

There have been ten meetings of the House Committee during the year, at which members have cooperated with the Matron in considering the domestic needs of the Home.

The staff position was somewhat difficult in the early part of the year, when Miss Neville left for family reasons, and Sister Rona was for some months alone in charge of the Boys Block, but towards the end of the year the position became easier. To make the work simpler in such a big building, several labour saving conveniences have been installed. An electric stove, new vacuum cleaner, floorpolisher, and ironer. It is hoped that staff will be more easily obtained and kept when up-to-date equipment is in use. The new lights put up on the front drive is a great improvement.

Other domestic improvements have been the reconditioning of all the mattresses, and the papering, painting and curtaining of the boys' dormitories, as well as curtaining to secure privacy in the big girls' dormitories. The Committee feels that the children's surrounding should be as home-like as we can make them, so that when they leave the Home, they have a better chance of settling down in the atmosphere of a private home.

The Annual Reunion once again brought former members of our big family to have tea and a good evening's entertainment at the Home. It is good to keep in touch with our old boys and girls, and to spread the interest

in our work ever as wide an area as possible. Mr. Howells is already doing this by his visitation work. but the Committee feel that everything possible should be done to foster a wider interest in the upbringing of these children who, through no fault of their own, are committed to our care. This is a field of constructive Christian service, and we ask God's help in making it as fruitful as possible.

Report of Ladies' House Committee

March. 1954

Two meetings have been held this year; in February members inspected the newly painted kitchen, and the girls dormitories which had been papered & varnished. The children were feeling the benefit of their holidays, and the staff were well settled in to the new year's work.

New equipment needed at the Home this year includes loose covers for the office suite which is both faded, and patched. Mrs. Howells was asked to look for suitable material for new covers.

Much time and energy would be saved in the kitchen by the use of a food mixer, which would cut out many tedious jobs now done by hand. The electric floor-polisher purchased in 1951, has broken down several times under the continuous work it is called upon to do, but it has well proved its worth. The Committee strongly recom

mends the purchase of a ~~heavier~~ larger machine to be used particularly in the Boys Block where the work is heavier. We are fortunate at present in having a very cooperative staff, and it is feer that these modern labour-saving devices will be a good investment.