

[8146.15]

South Island Methodist  
Children's Home.

Ladies' House Committee  
Minute Book.

1954 - 1961

November meeting, 1954.

This was held at the Home on 16 Nov. 10.  
Those present being Headnames Black,  
Cock, Hadder and Howells.

Apologies were received from Misses  
Hewell and Williams.

In the absence of Mrs. Marsh, Mrs Cock  
was asked to preside.

The minutes of the October meeting  
were read and confirmed.

~~Holiday work.~~ With the approach of the  
end of the year, there are many  
invitations and an increased feeling  
of excitement among the children.

The admission of [redacted]

[redacted] brings the numbers up  
to 57, 31 boys and 26 girls.

Miss Jane Peters is again available  
to live at the Home during the Christ-  
mas holiday period. There is every  
possibility that all the children will  
find holiday homes.

So far there is no word of any child

staff leaving.

Activities for the month have included the final Rotary film evening, a dance recital, and Guy Fawkes celebrations by the Junior Chamber of Commerce and at Burnham camp. All very much enjoyed.

In addition, a Stamp Club Prize Giving Social Evening was held at the Home with the Revs. H. Campbell Presbyterian and W.T. Blight, and several local philatelists present. [REDACTED] has again won the Fay Cup.

The S.S. Anniversary was very successful, with our children taking a good part. Thanks are due to the S.S. staff, Mrs. Blight and Misses Chan, Huston and Robinson for their work with the children throughout the year.

There is a possibility that the tennis courts, which have been used very little this year, will be made use of by the St. Louis Branch.

Young people.

Vegetables are beginning to be more plentiful now. Mr. A. Kind friend has kept the home supplied with annual flowers while other vegetables have been in short supply.

As with others having the care of children, Mr. & Mrs. Howell find various problems arising in the spiritual life of the Home. Our own children are very fortunate in having guardians who understand and meet their needs so well.

Lift amounted to £6-0-0.

Confirmed:

S. Jones  
9/2/33

1955 The monthly meeting was held at the home on Wednesday, Feb. 9, those present being Mesdames Black, Cook, Hodder, Howells, Marsh [presiding], Pitcher, & Miss Horrell.

An apology was received from Miss Williams, who has been in hospital, and the secretary was asked to write to her. Mrs. Pratt also sent an apology.

Nation's report: There are 22 girls and 27 boys, with a possibility of more admissions.

[REDACTED] have gone to live with their father; [REDACTED] to Hilo, ratā where he is working with colored people on a sheep farm: [REDACTED] is a bricklayer's apprentice; [REDACTED] in the Post Office: [REDACTED] is to work with children at a private home in Kendallton, and [REDACTED] have returned to their home.

Staff: Mrs. Clark is to leave and make her home at Whitecliffs for the present. Mrs. Marsh undertook to procure a suitable gift for her and to express our

appreciation of her good work. Miss Joan Webby has agreed to take on the kitchen work, which leaves a gap in the laundry, which it is hoped to fill soon. Miss Thelma Churchill is due to come from Wellington under the Order of St. Stephen.

Vehicle: A 10 cwt. Bedford station wagon suitable for transporting children or goods has been obtained and will fit along well with the Home.

School reports were on the whole good.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] obtaining merit certificates. [REDACTED] his school certificate.

Holiday arrangements were mostly satisfactory, and conduct good with a few exceptions.

As so many children now attend Heaton St. Intermediate School, it has been found more satisfactory to provide them with bicycles so that all may have dinner at home.

£100 amounted to £25.0.0 in value.

Confirmed: R. J. Pratt  
13/4/55.

April meeting.

This was held at the Home on Wed. Ap. 13 those present being Misses Howell and Williams, and Residents Black, Cook, Hodder, Howell, Pitcairn and Pratt.

An apology was received from Mrs. Marsh. And Mrs. Pratt was asked to take the chair.

Mrs. Howell reported that there were now 22 girls and 33 boys in the Home, and the general health was good.

Staff: Mrs. Clark has left, and Miss Webb is doing good work in her place. Mr. Hawke will be leaving soon, and is to be replaced by Mr. Patient who will live in the Board's house opposite the Home. Miss Bradley will be leaving shortly to be married, and Miss Watkin has been appointed matron of the Y.M.C.A. No one has yet been obtained as seamstress in her place but Miss Ross of Rakaia is to work

The children were taken <sup>in the laundry</sup> for a picnic to Kaiapoi in a special bus and entertained to dinner and tea and the

pictures. They also went to Mr. Sweeney's annual concert in aid of the Combined Orphanages appeal, and the older children also saw the film "Martin Luther".

Mr. & Mrs. Howell and Rev. A. O. Harris saw the preview of Mr. Beardslip's film about the Home and were very favourably impressed with it.

Admissions during the month included [REDACTED] who became ill with glandular fever as soon as he arrived; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] of Roxton; [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], whose mother died in hospital.

Six boys and six girls attended Sader camps, as well as bad pupils [REDACTED]

On Sunday at Birring Square Church brought 260 jars of jam, for which the Home is very grateful. It is unusual in a Home of this size

problems sometimes arise among the children, but the pastor and deacon commit all things to God, who best knows the difficulties and how to overcome them.

Mrs. Howell was authorized to purchase two dual hose combs for use in washing the children's hair.

Gifts this month amounted to £18-17-6.

B. J. Hodder,  
Hon. Sec.

Confirmed: 23<sup>rd</sup> March  
11/3/55

### May meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. May 11. those present being Desdames Black, Cook, Hodder, Howell, Marsh [presiding] Pitcher Pratt, and Misses Howell and Williams. An apology was received from Mrs. Thornton Marion's report. There are still 22 girls, and 33 boys in the Home, and the general health is good with the exception of some cases of chicken-pox.

[REDACTED] continues to have high temperatures at times since his fever, and may have to have his tonsils removed.

Staff: Miss Young who is keeping on the boys' side is doing a good job, but Miss Ross in the laundry is not satisfactory. Mr. Hawke is to be farewelled at a function near the end of the month. No replacement has yet been found to take Miss Wakelin's place, but Miss Chumhill is helping with the sewing.

The milk supply is good, and there have been several useful gifts of harvested produce; gifts of jam have

increased slightly since last year, and  
balls of honey were sent in by Dr. Gordon  
such as Te pūtā.

Older boys and girls often come back  
to visit the Home, and a party was  
held to celebrate [redacted] engage-  
ment. Mr. Howells spends considerable  
time in trying to find suitable work  
and accommodation for those who  
need them.

Mr. Howells was pleased to represent  
the Board at the Annual meeting of  
the National Methodist Social Services,<sup>trust</sup>  
held in Auckland.

Twenty-two children are away for  
the term holidays, but the others  
were guests at the Industries Fair on  
our meeting day.

A radio is badly needed on the girls' side, and that on the boys' side is quite  
old; it is hoped that these will soon  
be replaced.

The Sydenham Ladies' Friends Fellowship  
paid a visit to the Home in lieu

of a meeting, with a welcome cup of tea  
and biscuits to follow.

The Secretary was asked to write to  
the superintendents' ministers of  
Cl. Cusack, Shirley, Richmond, Woolston  
and Ailington circuits, asking them  
to recommend someone suitable to  
come on to our Committee.

Gifts amounted to £9.3.0.

B. J. Hodder

Hon. Sec.

Confirmed:

8 March  
8/6/55

#### Time meeting

This was held at the Home on the 2nd. Times.  
Those present being Miss Hartree, Mrs. Davies Black,  
Coll. Hodder, Howells, and Marsh [presiding].

Apologies were received from Miss Williams and  
Mrs. Pratt.

M. Lion's report. General health is good, and  
new children are settling down well, helped by  
the other children. Numbers stand at 24 girls  
and 33 boys. New admissions are [redacted]

[REDACTED] and  
there are numerous other inquiries for  
admission. [REDACTED] have  
joined their former, who is married again.  
The Rotary film evening was held as usual  
and Saturday night games are in full swing;  
some of the children attended the Home  
mission evening held at the church by  
Rev. B. Chrystall.

The Master and Matron make every effort  
to keep in touch with those children who  
have left the Home to go to work, and  
many come back to visit on Sundays.

[REDACTED] who is a prefect and hockey  
captain at Papanui High School, went as 4th  
Grade Canterbury representative to the West  
Coast, and spent Sunday night with Rev. & Mrs.  
Bruce Gordon.

Staff There is still no seamstress offering.  
Mr. Hawke was honoured at an afternoon  
unction when members of the Board were  
present and presented him with a cheque.  
The staff and children gave him framed  
ictures of themselves as a memento of  
his long term and happy relations with them.

and Mrs. Hawke was given a spray.

Mr. Patient has begun work as gardener,  
and he and his family are living in the  
Board's house opposite the Home.

The Master & Matron regard the chil-  
dren's spiritual life as their chief respon-  
sibility, and although they do not always  
see immediate results for their efforts,  
there is no doubt that the children will  
feel the benefit of this upbringing in  
later life.

Mr. Beardsley's picture of the Home, "Room  
for One More", is to be shown to a group of  
over a hundred interested people on Tuesday  
at Durham St., and supper is to be served  
by our Committee.

Gifts amounted to £8-10-0.  
B. J. Hooper. Confirmed:  
Hon. Sec

D. M. arch  
15/7/50

## July meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. July 13 those present being Presidents Black, Hodder, Howell, Marsh [presiding] Pitcher & Pratt.

Apologies were received from Presidents Carr, Cock and Newton, & Misses Howell & Williams.

Two new members, Mrs. Carr [Addington] and Mrs. Newton [Woolston] have agreed to join the House Committee.

Nation's Report: Children number 24 girls and 32 boys. [redacted] has returned to his parents, who are grateful for the Home's care of him.

Miss Ford, an English woman, will act as seamstress until she returns to her home in October. She is very friendly and helpful.

An inspection of the Home has been made by Mr. Kirby and Miss Tolman, who were very pleased.

The children's health is good with the exception of seasonal coughs and colds.

An excellent temperance film was shown by the N.Z. Alliance, and most of the staff attended the preview of the film.

"Room for one more": This was seen by a good crowd of interested folk from other Churches and organisations occupied with children's welfare, and has since been shown to congregations at St. Albans and at Baring Square, Ashburton.

[redacted] spent a pleasant week at the Home. [redacted] has caused some worry since he started work in the Post Office.

Our children did well in the Sunday School examinations, particularly [redacted] who, as runner-up to the Gold Medallist, gained the Virtue Memorial Prize with 96 marks. Papamui Sunday School gained the A shield.

Meat is being bought, and vegetables are in poor supply.

It is hoped to obtain a radio for the Girls' block soon, and one for the Boys' block at a later date.

The combined appeal is to be held on August 5; Mrs. Black and Mrs. Pitcher are to help Mrs. Marsh with the catering.

on that day.

Linen-cups in the girls' passage, and in  
the boys' block staff sitting-room, are  
not in particularly good order.

Mrs. Howells was authorized to buy  
new curtains for the dining-room.

Gifts for the month amounted to  
£8. 15. 0

B. J. Hodder.  
Hon Sec.

Confirmed: D. Marsh  
14/9/33

The September meeting was held at the  
Home on Wed. 14th, those present being  
Miss Howell, Mesdames Black, Carr, Cook,  
Hodder, Howells, Marsh [presiding]  
Pitcher and Pratt. A welcome was  
extended to Mrs. Carr, as this was her  
first meeting with us.

An apology was received from Miss  
Williams.

A letter of thanks was received from  
Mrs. Howells in answer to our messages  
of sympathy with her in her father's  
death.

Nation's report: There are now 23 girls  
and 30 boys in the Home, including  
two new boys. [REDACTED], 6 years, and  
[REDACTED], 14 years.

[REDACTED] have left to live with  
their respective fathers. [REDACTED] has returned  
to his mother, and [REDACTED] has left to  
live with a Retired Doctor's family at Nelson.

Primary school reports were not good,  
but those from High School were very

encouraging. [REDACTED] was again 1st;  
[REDACTED] 1st, and Yarn Captain.  
[REDACTED] 2nd. [REDACTED] 2nd.  
And [REDACTED] 3rd, and conduct-  
reports were equally good.

As well as drawing monthly pictures  
at the Home, which Rotary kindly  
provided free tickets for the show "Beauty  
and the Beast," which was very much  
enjoyed by all who went.

Mrs. Howells was able to make a  
hurried visit to Timaru to see  
[REDACTED] receive her nursing  
certificate, thus giving Neleen real  
pleasure.

Staff remains the same till the  
end of September when some change  
will take place. Sister Rena's father  
visited the Home, giving the Baden-P<sup>t</sup>  
Nation an opportunity of expressing  
appreciation of Sister Rena's selfless  
service to the Home.

The new dining-room curtains are  
up, and look very light and cheerful.

Reunion: Preliminary arrangements  
were made for the Annual Reunion  
which is to be held on Sat. Oct. 29;  
Mr. Howells was asked to make suggestions  
about the evening's entertainment  
in addition to some items by  
the children, which are always  
appreciated.

B. J. Hodder Confirmed : 2 years  
Hon. Sec.

12/10/55

The October meeting was held at the Home  
on Wed. Oct. 12, those present being  
Mesdames Carr, Cock, Hodder, Howells,  
Marsh [presiding] Newton and Pratt,  
and Misses Horrell and Williams.

Apologies were received from Mesdames  
Black and Pitcher, and Mrs. Newton, a  
new member, was welcomed.  
Patrons report: The Home grounds  
are looking very beautiful at present.  
There are still 23 girls and 30 boys,  
but 14 new boys of one family are to  
come after Christmas, and their sides  
at any time.

Staff: Miss Yold has left, leaving very good impressions of her work and personality. Miss Sandbrook has taken over her work as seamstress, and a new helper will begin on the Girls' block on Nov. 1, Miss Frieda Page.

An old boy, [REDACTED], brought his wife to visit the Home on their honeymoon.

Many of the children put in exhibits at the Papamui Spring Flower Show and older ones attended the concert at night.

Mr. & Mrs. Haup have kept up the interest of our children in the Stamp Club, and [REDACTED] won a silver cup for the best original effort.

Mrs. Howells addressed the Ladies' Guild at Darfield, and Mr. Howells the young people of the Church of Christ, and the Pinewood Methodist Church, showing the film "Room for One More".

Besides the Rotary films this month,

some of the children have paid visits to entertainers, including Donald Peers.

The Saturday evening games are now concluded for this year, and our thanks are due to Miss Janice Robinson and Mr. Tom Smith for their help.

Some of the older children attended Dr. Soper's meetings at Dunham Street and the Civic Theatre.

The street appeal for Combined Homes showed a slight increase on last year, but the house to house appeal has so far shown a decrease. A tape recording made for broadcasting by Haup Ltd. made little use of the children.

The rainwashing hoses have been installed, but necessitated more plumbing than was expected.

The Secretary was asked to write to Rev. A. J. Harris recommending that some tangible recognition of her services should be made to Miss Churchill by the Board before she

leaves next January.

Reunion Mr. Howells was engaged for a good programme including a magician and lightning sketch artist from South Canterbury. His daughter a ventriloquist, a pianist, two banjo players and a Highland dancer, as well as items by the children.

Final arrangements were made for the catering.

Gifts this month amounted to £7.1.6.

B. J. Hodder.

Hon. Sec.

Confirmed:

2 years  
8/1/55

The usual monthly meeting was held on Wed. Nov. 9 at the Home, those present being Desdames Black, Hodder, Howells, Marsh [presiding], Newton and Miss Williams.

Apologies were received from Desdames Carr + Cock and Miss Horrell.

The matron reported 54 children now in the Home, 24 girls & 30 boys. A new girl, [redacted] aged 6 years has been admitted, and her four brothers are to come after the Christmas holidays. General health is good, but [redacted]

[redacted], aged 3, has been in hospital for a week under observation with a lump at the base of his spine. Results are not yet known.

Our children played a prominent part in the Papamui S.S. Anniversary and concert which was ably compered by Mr. Howells.

Entertainments for the month included the final Rotary film showing, as well as a visit to the show "Wild Violets" for

some of the older children.

Fireworks displays were seen by the older ones at Burnham camp, and by the younger ones, at the Home, the latter arranged by the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Two traffic officers visited the Home and gave an interesting and entertaining talk on Road Safety, aided by a talking doll.

Mrs. Howells & Mr. Beardoley have shown the item "Room for One More" to congregations at Linwood, Sydenham & Longjora.

The Reunion was perhaps the most successful yet held. 52 old pupils attending. The programme organised by Mrs. Howells was outstanding, and Gymnasium displays by the children were much appreciated. [REDACTED]

was once again away the visitor showed his appreciation of what the Home had done for him. [REDACTED] is now removed from the jurisdiction of

the Child Welfare Department, and has saved £200 since he began work.

Some discussion took place about the difficulty of accommodating such large numbers of visitors for a sit-down meal, but it was decided to carry on as at present for one more year, perhaps revise plans after next reunion.

Staff position is satisfactory until after Christmas. When the cook, Miss Wilby, will be leaving to be married at Easter, and Miss Ross will be leaving the laundry.

Mrs. Howells reported that one of the sinks in the Kitchen is leaking into the cupboard below and needs attention. The secretary was asked to recommend to the Board that both sinks should be replaced with more durable ones, preferably in stainless steel as soon as possible.

Gifts amounted to £3. 6s.

B. J. Hodder  
Hon. Sec.

Confirmed: 9 March  
8/4/56

1956 February meeting

The first meeting of the Ladies' House Committee for 1956 was held at the Home on Wed. Feb. 8. Those present being Misses Horrell and Williams, Mardames Black, Hodder, Hawells, Marsh [presiding] Prater, Thornton. An apology was received from Mrs. Cock.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

A letter was received from Mrs. Pitcher, resigning from the Committee, as her husband has been transferred to Tilton. The Secretary was asked to write accepting the resignation and expressing our appreciation of Mrs. Pitcher's work with us. Nation's report: Holiday homes were obtained for all the children, and most reports were good. Numbers of children left the Home at Christmas. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

the numbers now being 21 girls & 27 boys.  
Staff: Miss Clunie & Miss Webster both leave this month. Mr. Hawells is hopeful of obtaining a cook, but has at present no prospects of getting a laundress. Mr. Curtis is helping there for the present.

High School reports last year were very good. Four firsts, and two seconds being earned. As well as good conduct reports.

[REDACTED] son and boy of the Home, is settled with his wife at Lamoni, and is a regular church attender & S.S. worker.

[REDACTED] is to be married at Luane, and [REDACTED] has passed her medical examination for nursing.

[REDACTED], after treatment for a lump on his back, is well again.

[REDACTED] had to have a badly stitched wound on her chin attended to.

The stainless steel sinks are being installed. The Secretary was asked to recommend to the Board the purchase of a new electric sewing machine, the old one to be relegated to one of the blocks.

Also recommended was the fitting of wooden pelmets & rod for curtains in the reception room, the present curtains to be used in the sick room.

Bills amounted to £12-10-0

B. & H. Hodder House. Confirmed: 9 March

14/3/51

#### March meeting:

This was held at the Home, on wed. March 14. Those present being Madames Black, Carr, Cook, Hodder, Hawells, Marsh [presiding] Pratt, and Miss Williams.

An apology was received from Miss Horrell.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

It was reported from the Board meeting that the purchase of an electric sewing machine had been authorised, and that the Buildings Committee were to attend to the fitting of pelmet boards & curtain rods. Mrs. Black and Mrs. Marsh were appointed to choose the curtain material.

Nation's report: Health has been good except for minor troubles. [REDACTED] is quite well again and [REDACTED] chin operation which necessitated a few days' stay in St. George's Hospital, was very successful.

Staff: Mrs. Eare has been keeping part-time in the kitchen, and it is still hoped to obtain the services of a cook in mid-April. A laundress is still needed and, as Miss Page is likely to be leaving at Easter, someone will be needed to replace her on the Girls' side.

Outings during the month included the Sunday School picnic to Spencer Park, a visit to a Training Course at Hythe, a visit by Senior Choir members to sing at Wexley Lodge, and a harbour excursion planned by the Banks Peninsula Sailing Club to Diamond Harbour.

Repairs to the fixtures on the Girls' block, and fitting of new sink tops are awaiting completion.

The four [redacted] and [redacted]  
have now settled in. [redacted]

[redacted] have left to live with  
their parents in a new home. This  
brings the number of children who  
have recently left to live with parents  
to 11, an unusually large number.

It is not so easy to maintain a  
stable spiritual outlook among the  
children when staff and children  
are changing. But it is always the  
chief concern of our moderation.

The purchase of a head-cutter  
was recommended to the Board.

Gifts amounted to £2.15.6

B. J. Hodder-Hew. Sec. Confirmed: 2 yard

10/4/56

#### April meeting

This was held at the Home on Wednesday, April 11,  
with Mrs. Marsh presiding.

Apologies were received from residents  
Carr & Hodder.

Minutes of the previous meeting were  
read by Mrs. Howells.

Mabion's report: Present numbers are  
20 girls and 25 boys, the lowest for  
some time. Three young children,  
two girls and a boy, have been provis-  
ionally accepted from the south.

Staff: Miss Page has now left. Miss  
Matthews begins cooking on Monday,  
but we still need a laundress and  
an assistant on the girls' side.  
Repeated advertising has brought  
little result.

Visitors: Sister Ronalda's sister and  
brother-in-law were visiting for a few  
days. They have been very good to our  
children on holiday up north.

Rotary films have commenced, with a  
monthly showing for the winter.

A stainless steel sink has at last

been installed in the kitchen and is much appreciated.

The Stamp Club has recommenced under the leadership of Mr & Mrs. Arthur Young, and provides a very good hobby for those taking part.

Easter camps were spoken of very highly this year by both boys & girls, the Rev. T. Penman being particularly mentioned for outstanding messages when visiting camp with Mr. Howells.

[REDACTED] fell, and required two stitches in the lobe of his ear, but is now quite recovered.

Two friends from the Church of Christ near Invercargill paid a visit. They have provided a holiday home for some years.

Mr. Beardsley & Mr. Howells continue to show the item "Room for one more", which definitely shows its worth in increased interest.

Many excellent harvest festival goods were sent in this year, thus

Raising our own vegetable supply for a few weeks.

Easter camps have been helping in strengthening the spiritual life of the older children.

Gifts amounted to £21.

B. S. Heddle.

Hon. Sec.

Confirmed: 9/5/66.

R. F. Pratt.

#### May meeting

This was held at the home on Wed., May 9, with Mrs. Pratt in the chair. Apologies were received from Mmes Marsha Heddle.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mrs. Black.

Nation's Report: Numbers now stand at 27 boys + 21 girls, new admissions being [REDACTED] Health is good and the children are in good heart.

Staff: Repeated advertising has met with little success, for laundress & assistant for the girls' block. Those

Staff members now carrying extra burdens are doing splendid work. After a discussion on staff hours & salaries it was decided to recommend to the Board that the present salary scale be reviewed.

Sunday School exams: A number of our children entered for these, and much hard work was put in by their teachers.

A number of our children belong to the Junior Choir, trained by Miss Amy Tristram, and it would be fitting to record our very warm appreciation of her work.

Sister Rona, Miss Sandbrook and [redacted] were present at the wedding of Miss Jean Webb, who has laboured very loyally at the Home for 3½ yrs.

Boys' games evenings have commenced, with Uncle Tom Smith again full of enthusiasm. There has also been another showing of Rotary films. The annual conference of the

Methodist Social Service Assn. was held in Ch. Ct., and inspected the Home and had lunch. Sister Ivy Jones of Auckland stayed at the Home for three days. It was a profitable occasion.

Not many children have gone away for school holidays; one boy has attended a Bible Class camp.

Motis are increasing, and it was decided to recommend to the Board that the house be treated in the same way as it was five or six years ago, which proved very efficacious.

Panels & curtains have now yet been fitted in the reception room.

In the absence of the Secretary, Miss D. Hornell was asked to write a report for the Board meeting and include the above recommendations.

Gifts amounted to £13-6.

E. G. Horne,

Hon Sec

Convinced:

D. March

13/3/36

June meeting:

This was held at the Home on Wed. June 13 those present being Misses Horrell & Williams, & Messdames Black, Cock, Hodder, Howells, Marsh [presiding], and Newton. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Nation's Report: General health is good numbers stand at 22 girls and 31 boys. New admissions are [redacted] aged 5, [redacted] aged 7 & 9, and [redacted] aged 11 & 9.

Children are enjoying Sunday outings and Saturday night games.

A party of our children visited the Industries Fair.

Mr. & Mrs. Howells and Sister Rona were present at the wedding of [redacted]

[redacted] and were very pleased to see how well [redacted] acquitted himself as best man.

Older children saw the film of John Wesley's life, shown at the Papamoa Church.

Visitors this month have included

Sister L. G. White and former staff members Miss Wakelin, Mrs. Clark & Mrs. Sutton.

Staff: Miss Matheson is doing the cooking, and Miss Rose is in the laundry.

Miss Young has been transferred to the Girls' Block, leaving Sister Rona without help on the Boys' Block. Mrs. Mathews who was to help on the Girls' side left almost as soon as she had come. Mrs. Howells considers that the employment of two women by the day would cut down working hours for the permanent staff, and <sup>they</sup> would not be so difficult to find, or to house, as more permanent staff members. The House Committee asked her to try and find daily help.

Members saw a demonstration of a feed-cutter costing £48, and were very favourably impressed by it.

Mr. & Mrs. Howells continue to place the spiritual life of the children well to the fore, with good results.

Gifts amounted £52-11-0

B. J. Hodder Hon. Sec.

Continued: R. J. Pratt 11/7/56

## July meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. July 11, those present being Desdames Black, Cook, Hodder, Howells, Newton, Pratt [preaching] and Misses Horrell & Williams.

Apologies were received from Desdames Carr & Marsh.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Health report: Health is remarkably good considering the amount of winter illnesses which are about: Boys three number 31, girls 22.

Staff: The system of part-time relief workers has been put into action. Miss Cook, who has been in the laundry for a long time, is relieving on the Boys' Block with Sister Rona, and to relieve the pressure of laundry work, the flat work is being sent out to be laundered.

Film: Mr. Howells has taken the film "Room for one more" to Beckenham and Richmond. And has three more bookings in the near future.

The Caversham Goldfish Club has presented the Home with an aquarium and two gold fish.

The annual inspection by the Child Welfare Department was made, and satisfaction was expressed verbally, though the written report has not yet come.

### Entertainments:

In addition to Camp Club, Boys' & Girls' Games, & Rotary films, fifteen children and Mrs. Howells were the guests of Captain Hughes and the crew of the ship "La Hacienda", and were given a warm welcome. Subsequently, two of the crew paid a return visit to the Home.

As Sunday bus services have been severely curtailed, owing to other suburbs on Sundays may have to be discontinued.

Permits have not yet been fitted in the Reception Room.

Preserved fruit, jam, and vegetable, are still in good supply.

Some discussion took place on the possibility of staff vacancies being filled by immigrants. And the Secretary was asked to find out from the Board whether the Methodist Church was, or could be, represented on the Immigration Committee.

Mrs. Howells asked the opinion of committee members on the advisability of having 9-10 yr. olds injected with anti-polio serum; she was advised to ask the opinion of the Home's doctor.

Mrs. Quenée, the former Secretary was welcomed by members. She is on a visit from Raetihi.

Gifts amounted to £1.17.6

B. S. Hodder  
Hon. Sec.

Confirmed: 9 March  
8/8/56

#### August meeting:

This was held at the Home on Wed. Aug. 8. those present being residents Black, Carr, Hodder, Howells, Marsh [presiding] Newton, Pratt, and Misses Howell & Williams.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed.

Native report: The children are well except for minor ailments; numbers still stand at 53. with 6 applications for admission to be considered.

The system of daily part-time reliving staff is in operation, but the Native considers it is not, at all the ideal solution to staff problems. Miss Grose will continue to work in the laundry, and Miss Barrett, an English Baptist, will work with Sister Rena.

Gymnasium, Saturday night games and films have kept the children entertained.

Mrs. Howells has taken the film "Room for One More" to Shirley, East Beck, & Woodton Churches since our last meeting.

Visitors have included [REDACTED]

School reports are very encouraging. Our High School pupils have shown up well at work & all sport, and three of them went to Benheim on a 3 day trip with school teams.

The Street Day Appeal brought in £150, a drop off £70 on last year. The day was cold & wet & collectors were slow.

Vegetables are in good supply, and some generous donations of potatoes have been sent in. Milk is short, but a new cow is to arrive shortly to increase the supply.

In spiritual life, there are indications that the children watch and listen to members of the staff more intently than they are sometimes aware of, which gives them a good deal of responsibility at all times.

A letter was received from Mrs. Cock resigning her position on the House Committee. Members were very sorry indeed to lose the services of such a faithful and

cheerful worker, but, considering that she had given the matter thought for some time, decided to accept the resignation with regret. The Secretary was asked to write to Mrs. Cock expressing the Committee's appreciation of her great interest in the Home for the past twenty years.

Pelmets are not yet up in the Reception Room: Mrs. Howells is to buy new curtains for the music-room, and do what she thinks necessary to replace blinds in the dormitories.

The Reunion was fixed for Oct. 6, further arrangements to be made at our next meeting.

Gifts this month amounted to £35.16.0.

B. J. Hodder,  
Hon. Sec.

Confirmed: 2 March  
12/9/6

September meeting

This was held at the Home on wed. Sept. 12 those present being Misses Howell's Williams, Mrs. Adams Black Carr, Hodder Howell, Marsh [presiding] Newton, Pratt

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The pelmet fixtures had been put up in the reception room, office, but were thought to be too shallow to be satisfactory. Mrs. Marsh agreed to buy the curtains.

Mabion's report: Numbers now stand at 59, 26 girls & 33 boys. New arrivals are [redacted]

[redacted] General health is good.

Staff has been at full strength, but Miss Rose is to leave.

Mr. Howell has been to Dunedin with the film "Room for One More" and has been showing it somewhat on most Sunday evenings.

[redacted] An old girl of the Home, was married recently in

Papamoa Methodist Church, which was decorated with flowers by Mrs. Howell's & the girls.

The second stainless steel sink has now been installed in the kitchen.

[redacted] aged 13 went to Scotland to play Rugby, and was good enough to be commended in the Invercargill paper.

Visitors included [redacted] now at Weston & taking an active part in church life; and the Mabion of the Baptist Home at Danrewa.

Invitations have been sent out for the Reunion on Oct. 6, and Mr. Howell has arranged an interesting programme of magic, banjo & mandolin music, & items by the children.

The usual arrangements for catering were made.

Staff chairs in the dining room, which have been in use since this home was opened, have become very unsafe. The secretary was asked to write to

the Board asking that 18 new ones  
of a good solid type be obtained.

members decided to buy Mrs.  
Cock a small memento of her  
work on the Committee, and to  
present it at the Reunion.

Gifts amounted to 12/-.

B. J. Hodder  
Hon. Sec.

Confirmed: D M Howell

#### November meeting.

This was held at the Home on Wednesday,  
those present being Desdames Hodder &  
Howells, & Misses Horrell & Williams.

Apologies were received from Mrs. Black &  
Mrs. Marsh, and Miss Horrell was asked  
to take the chair.

The minutes of previous meeting were read  
& confirmed.

As no curtains had yet been bought  
for the reception room, Mrs. Howells agreed  
to buying and hanging them.

The reunion was very successful.  
nearly 70 old boys & girls being present as

well as two post-matrons. Mrs. Haynes &  
Miss Barclay. Opportunity was taken to  
present them, as well as Mrs. Howells, with  
sheaves of flowers, for which they ex-  
pressed their thanks. The staff had  
worked valiantly in catering for such a  
large crowd, with help also from the  
children; the committee feels that  
providing meat and salad for those re-  
turning is rather unnecessary, making  
a good deal of extra work for the staff  
in preparation setting of the tables.

Numbers are becoming so great that the  
dining-room is filled to capacity, and  
some re-arrangement may have to  
take place in subsequent years. The  
programme arranged by Mr. Howell  
was of the usual high standard,  
and the children's items are particu-  
larly popular with the visitors. Our  
best thanks are due to the Master,  
Master, staff & children for the success  
of the reunion, which is increasingly  
fulfilling its purpose of keeping the

Home in touch with children as they leave its doors.

The Master's report for past two months showed good general health. Numbers still stand at 269 girls + 33 boys.

[redacted] has left for a position in the Grocer's United States.

Our old boy, [redacted], was killed in a tractor accident in the North Island; our sympathy is with his brother & sister, most of whom have been in the Home's care.

Staff There is still no laundress, and more to the staff are likely to be leaving before long. Miss Barrett, a Baptist from England, will be leaving at Christmas.

The film "Room for one More" has been well received everywhere, and the Home children have seen a screening of it.

Games on Saturday nights have concluded for the year, and our thanks go out to Uncle Tom Smith and the Bible Class members who have

organised them.

Stamp Club still meets, and members have visited an exhibition held in the city; Home children took a big part as usual in the Sunday School Anniversary Services and week night Concerts. They also exhibited entries in the Children's section of the Papamui Methodist Flower Show, and gave some excellent Gymnastic displays at the Concert all night.

Gum-trunks Day was unfortunate, wet, but the children were entertained on the next night with bonfire, fire-works + supper at Burnham Camp.

Sister Rena had addressed several services + meetings at Blenheim on behalf of the Home.

As always, the aim of the Master's Nation is to seek first the Kingdom of God, and the Children's spiritual welfare is their constant care.

The next meeting will be on Feb. 13. The Secretary is asked to send flowers to Mrs. Black in Calvary Hospital. Gifts amounted to £11.1.6.

Confirmed: 9 years  
13/2/57

1957 February meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. Feb. 13, those present being Madames Black, Carr, Hodder, Marsh [presiding] Newton, Pratt, Misses Horree & Williams and Sister Rena.

Mrs. Black thanked the Committee for flowers sent to her in Calvary Hospital.

Sister Rena gave a report of this year's work so far. There are 49 children, quite a lot having left the Home at the end of last year. Health is good, but there is one mild case of measles since the holidays. Holidays on the whole were very beneficial to the children with the exception of [REDACTED] who sustained head injuries in a tractor accident. [REDACTED] who had a finger removed and is still having plastic surgery to another, and [REDACTED] who had laryngitis.

The new master and matron, Mr. & Mrs. Harsten, arrive from Rotuma on

Feb. 21, and a new cook, Miss Newman, will also arrive on that day. Mr. Howell will be on call until they come. Miss Kerr is helping Sister Rena in the Boys' Block, Miss Sinclair is relieving Mrs. Curtis doing good work as Acting cook. Miss Cook in the laundry, with part-time help of Mrs. Findlay for two months. Miss Sandbrook expects to leave on March 31.

Miss Tammie has been ill with a bad back, and Sister Rena with an infected leg.

It was decided to hold an extra meeting on Feb. 28 to discuss anything necessary with the new matron. The committee inspected the master-matrons rooms, but left any decisions until the meeting.

Gifts amounted to £2-18-0

B. S. Hodder

Confirmed:

27/2  
1/3/57

An extra meeting of the Committee was held on Thurs. Feb. 28, those present being Mrs. Dames Black, Carr. Hodder, Marsh (presiding) Karsten, Pratt and Miss Williams.

Apologies were received from Miss Howell and Mrs. Newton.

Mrs. Karsten reported that she had obtained the services of a help for the kitchen and of a seamstress. As Miss Sandbrook does not leave until the end of March, this will give her good opportunity to leave all her work up to date. An extra staff room has to be provided for that period.

The living-rooms of the Matron and Rector were inspected again, and, although the lay-out is anything but satisfactory, no way of improving this could be seen. The lino-tile on the concrete floors is buckled and split in places with the heat; so the Secretary was asked to communicate urgently with the Board to

obtain a carpet covering for the bedroom and lounge. The Matron could then use the existing carpet square in one of the other bedrooms, with smaller rugs where necessary.

No one wished to be appointed to the Grounds Committee, but members feel that the presence of Mrs. Marsh on the Building Committee would be of great assistance.

B. I. Hodder.

Confirmed:

Hon. Sec.

March  
13/3/57

#### March meeting.

This was held at the Home on Wed. March 13, those present being Misses Howell, Williams, Mrs. Dames Hodder, Karsten, Marsh [presiding] Newton, & Pratt.

An apology was received from Mrs. Black.

Minutes of the two February meetings were read and confirmed.

Three new children of the [redacted] family have been admitted from the Waltham Orphanage; [redacted] slipped and

broke his leg just before coming here & is still on crutches.

[REDACTED] who is having plastic surgery for his fingers, is still in Hospital though well otherwise, & [REDACTED] is well again.

The staff is at full strength. The cook is very good and tries to keep the children on a balanced diet. Miss Wilson in the laundry is also good, and does other work well also when required. Miss Tennent still has a bad back and is not at all well.

Preliminary arrangements have been made for the Combined Appeal with the Street Day in August & the House to House Appeal in October.

B. J. Hodder

Hon. Sec.

Confirmed:

8 March  
10/6/57

#### April meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. Ap. 10, those present being Desdames Carr, Hodder, Karslén, Marsh [presiding] Newton, and Misses Horrell and Williams.

An apology was received from Mrs. Pratt. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Master's report: There are 31 boys and 24 girls in the Home at present, four boys and two girls having been recently admitted. Health has been good in general, with the exception of one mild case of mumps and a few cases of boils. [REDACTED] is still in Hospital.

Staff: The position has been very critical since our last meeting. The Master has found the staff as a whole very unco-operative, and opposed to any changes she has made, even though these have bettered their conditions in some ways. As a result, Miss Young and Miss Cock have resigned, Miss Tennent has been given notice, and Sister Rena is to have leave of absence for two months. In

addition, Miss Wilson, the laundress, has been given notice, as she was entertaining a man friend in her bedroom, which is quite intolerable in a home of this kind.

Replacements of staff are - Mrs. Simpson and Mrs. Stillbridge in the laundry by the day, with no laundry work to be done in the Boys' & Girls' blocks; Miss Mary Terry and Miss Cummings on the Girls' block, and Miss Kerr & Miss Sinclair looking after the Boys' block with considerable supervision from Mr. Karsten. Mrs. Hudson assists Miss Newman in the kitchen from 9 to 5 daily.

The Committee assured Mrs. Karsten of their co-operation, and hoped that things would go more smoothly with a staff of her own choosing. As has been done in the past, the Committee will meet such staff members, as are available at the next meeting.

The Buildings Committee has inspected the floor covering in the entrance hall, which is badly buckled, and has agreed to replace it with a suitable covering to be agreed upon. The House Committee agreed that the table in the hall should be re-conditioned.

Gifts for the month amounted to £10.

B. S. Hodder.  
Hon. Sec.

Confirmed: 8 March  
3/5/37

#### May meeting

This was held at the Home on Wednesday 8th, those present being Misses Horree & Williams, Dexdunes Carr, Hodder, Karsten, Marsh [presiding] and Prate.

An apology was received from Mrs. Newton Mabion's report. There are 55 children in the Home, and general health is good except for an odd case of influenza and three cases of mumps among the boys.

[REDACTED] is out of Burwood Hospital and back at school. [REDACTED] now

has the plaster off his leg. [REDACTED] cracked a bone in his finger when cranking the motor-mower. All the children are to go away for the school holidays.

Staff: Miss Newman has resigned and Mrs. Hudson is carrying on with the cooking. The two women engaged for the laundry did not arrive, but Mrs. Newsome has been engaged to replace Miss Cook. The Girls' block is in good order under Miss Henry, the Boys' block not quite so good.

Mrs. Kardon considers that another electric floor polisher is needed for the centre block, as work is held up there waiting for the blocks to be finished. A suitable light commercial model would cost £10. The committee discussed the possibility of having the floors treated with plastic floor coating to do away with so much polishing, and recommended that the extra polisher should be bought.

The Grounds Committee should be asked to have potholes filled in on the front driveway. Gifts for the month amounted 16k 12s 5d. B. J. Hodder. Hon. Sec. confirmed:

On March  
12/6/7

#### June meeting

This was held at the Home on Wednesday 12th, those present being Messrs Black, Carr, Hodder, Kardon, Marsh [presiding], Newton & Pratt, and Misses Howell and Williams. An apology was received.

Matron's report: There are 56 children in the Home and general health is good except for a fairly widespread bout of stomach influenza among children & staff. All children were well while on holiday except [REDACTED] who had mumps.

Staff situation is fairly good at present. Mrs. Newsome in the laundry left without notice, and Mrs. Keith and Mrs. Leman are now coming in by the day from 8 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. Miss Cook is assisting in the kitchen. Miss Esther Risley, daughter of Rev. B. Risley, &

Kaiapoi is very much desirous of obtaining a position at the Home. Although there is no definite vacancy at the moment, Mrs. Karslein feels it would be a good idea to have the girl for training so that she would be ready for a full-time position later. Members agreed with this view.

[REDACTED] has very bad tonsils and adenoids which need operation urgently, but he could not be admitted to Public Hospital in under 12 months at the earliest. The Secretary was asked to write to the Board's Secretary recommending that he be operated on in a private hospital. Mrs. Karslein has already been offered a gift of £5 towards his expenses.

Mrs. Karslein says that the two washing machines in the laundry are badly worn and will need expensive repairs. Committee

members inspected the laundry and agreed that the equipment was not very up-to-date for the amount of work done. It was decided to recommend the purchase of a new machine.

Mrs. Tranch had made enquiries about plastic foot coating, but could not find anything satisfactory for the hard wear that would be required. It was decided that a third polisher be recommended for the centre block.

Members inspected mattresses, bottle wire and Kapoc, and advised Mrs. Karslein to have these examined, and replaced or renovated as required probably during holiday periods.

As Mrs. Tranch will not be at our next meeting, Mrs. Pratt was asked to preside.

Gifts amounted to £21.14.0.

B.I. Hoader.

Hon. Sec.

Confirmed:

R.J. Pratt 10/4/54.

## July meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. July 10,  
those present being Miss Williams, Mrs  
Hesdames Black, Hodder, Karslen, Newton,  
& Pratt (presiding)

Apologies were received from Miss Howell &  
Mrs Hesdames Carr & Marsh.

Watson's report: There are 52 children  
in the Home at present. The four [redacted]  
children and [redacted] have left to  
live with parents.

There has been one case of mumps.  
and [redacted] is doing well after  
having his tonsils and adenoids removed.

The two old washing machines have  
been renovated, and a new Speedway  
washer & spin dryer is giving very good  
service, as is the third polishing  
machine.

Staff position is still rather unsatisfactory. Mrs Hudson, the cook, has had  
to go into Hospital and will not be back.  
Miss Lindsay, Kennedy, who is staying  
in Spain, wishes to work at the  
Home for three months, and is working

in the kitchen.

Miss Risely is being trained in work on  
the Blocks.

The two daily laundry helpers leave  
this week, and Mrs. Karslen is advertising  
for others to take their place.

Preliminary discussions took place  
on the Reunion, and it was tentatively  
proposed to hold it on the first Saturday  
in October. The secretary was asked to  
write to Miss Edna Neville asking if she  
could bring a programme for the Reunion.  
Gifts amounted to £14/-.

B. J. Hodder.

Hon. Sec.

Confirmed: 8 March  
14/7/57

Aug 1st meeting

This was held at the Home on wed. Aug. 14., those present being Desdames Black, Carr, Hodder, Karden, Marsh [presiding] Newton, Pratt, & Misses Howell & Williams. National's report. There are 51 children in the Home, and general health is good. There is one case of chickenpox & one of earache.

The Aga cookers had been giving a very poor heat, and this was found to be due to a blockage in the chimney. A hole had to be made before this could be cleared, but the cookers are now functioning well.

The large hot water cylinder leaked and there was no hot water for a week; then the hot water pipe under the store room burst, and the Master's living quarters were without hot water.

Staff. Miss Henry has been away ill with sinus trouble for ten days but is hoping to be back soon. Miss Risley has left, and there are two

new girls on the blocks. There is still no cook in spite of extensive advertising.

[REDACTED] has left his work at Mr. Ford's and is back at the Home, where he is a very upsetting influence to the staff and children. Mrs. Marsh undertook to communicate with the Board urgently so that other arrangements might be made for him.

Miss Edna Neville has agreed to give a programme for the Reunion on Oct. 5. Final arrangements are to be made at our next meeting.

Gifts this month amounted to £35-12-6

B. S. Hodder.

Hon. Sec.

Confirmed:

R. J. Pratt  
11/9/54.

September meeting

This was held at the Home on wed. Sept 11 those present being Miss Horrell, & Miss Dame Black, Hodder, Newton, Pratt (in the chair) and Sister Rona.

Apologies were received from Miss Williams and Mrs. Marsh.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Sister Rona reported that there were 51 children in the Home, and all had been away for the whole or part of the holidays. There was very little sickness, about five or six having influenza.

The Kardens had been presented with a gift from the staff.

Plumbers are fixing up the hot water system, which is likely to prove a long job.

Staff: There is still no cook, but Mrs. Curtis is doing very good work by the day. In the boys' block Miss Kerr is working well, and Miss Satherley is helping Miss Sinclair on

the girls' block. Miss Henry resigned from the girls' block because of illness, but is to return to work in the sewing room.

[REDACTED] is boarding in St. Albans and has taken up railway work.

New curtains will be needed in four dormitories by the end of the year, but it was decided to leave these for the new mansion. Mrs. Robertson to choose.

Sister Rona was authorised to buy some jugs, and jerseys and pyjamas for the boys.

Final arrangements were made for the Reunion on Oct 5, which it is hoped the new master and matron will be able to attend.

Gifts this month amounted to £12.14.0.

B. J. Hodder,  
Hon. Sec.

Confirmed:

O. Marsh  
9/10/32

## October meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. Oct. 9, those present being Messmates Carr, Hodder, Marsh [presiding] Newton, Pratt, + Robertson, and Miss Harrell + Sister Rena.

An apology was received from Mrs. Black. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Matron reported that there were 51 children in the Home, of whom 19 were girls. General health is good, only two being ill with minor complaints.

The plumbers are hoping to install the new boiler on Thursday, Friday & this week.

There have been numerous gifts of sausages, also frozen peas and potatoes. These have had to be used up immediately because the cooler does not keep them for very long. The Secretary was asked to write to the Board about the possible purchase of a refrigerator.

There is still no cook, but Mrs. Curtis continues to do good work by the day.

It was suggested that members ask their own ministers to appeal from the pupils for staff, especially a cook.

Miss Henry is now in the sewing room and the laundry is staffed by two day workers.

Some discussion took place about Sister Rena's position as Matron, and it was decided to try and obtain someone to take charge of the boys' block thus letting Sister Rena free to do more administrative work. It was felt that in time a re-organisation of staff would be of benefit to the Matron and other staff members. The question arose of employing suitable male help on the boys' side.

When the Teacher and Matron have settled in to their quarters, there will be a need for some sitting-room furniture. The secretary was asked to suggest that the Board consider with them about this.

The Reunion held on Oct. 5 showed

good number of old boys & girls, and was much enjoyed, though the programme was not as good as in previous years. It was good that Mr. + Mrs. Robertson + Timoty were able to be down in time for the Reunion.

Gifts for the month amounted to £37-0-0.

B. J. Hodder

Hon. Sec.

Confirmed:

O'Farrell  
13/11/47

#### November meeting.

This was held at the Home on Wed. Nov. 3, with Mrs. Marsh presiding. An apology was received from Mrs. Hodder.

Nations report: There are 51 children in the Home, and general health is good, but behaviour poor. One child was taken to Hospital with a suspected broken leg, but recovered on the way; one had a swollen eye, and seven are being given a tonic. [redacted] ran away but returned of his own accord.

Visitors from the Welfare Dept. seemed pleased with conditions, but noted that the boy dormitories were somewhat crowded; they approved the meals given the children.

Mrs. Robertson is keeping a check on weights and measurements, which does not please some of the older ones, but is helpful, particularly where there is a T. B. history in a family.

As is usual, at this time of year, outings are very numerous. The annual cricket challenge Staff v. children was won by the staff for the first time for a long period.

As usual, the children have done well in the Stamp Club, winning two cups and a good number of prizes. These are to be presented on the evening of Nov. 27.

Staff: One of the laundry helpers has been away ill, so some of the older girls have been helping with the ironing for a payment of 2/- per hr.

and working very well. [REDACTED] has been working temporarily on the staff, but now has another job.

Dinner arrangements have been reorganised with good results.

Plumbers and electricians have been busy; the electrical system has come to the stage when it is constantly needing repairs and replacements. The piano has been tuned.

The office suite is to be recovered, Miss Henry having offered to do the work with the Nation's help, and certain material will be bought to match.

The cool room will need fairly extensive repairs, but will then give good service; it was considered that a small deep-freeze unit would probably be of greater service than a refrigerator in saving the food surpluses which occur from time to time.

Holiday homes are being reviewed, and plans made for some of the older children next year. Beth Emerson would like to come on to the staff; the Norden Nation & Sub-Nation all consider that it would be desirable for [REDACTED] end

[REDACTED] to be boarded out next year instead of finishing out their school career at the Home.

B. G. gifts this month amounted to £25-14-6.

B. J. Hodder  
Hon. Sec.

Confirmed:

O. Marsh  
M. J. F. S.

#### February meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. Feb 12 those present being Misses Horrell and Williams, and Messrs Hodder, Marsh [Presiding], Pratt and Robertson. An apology was received from Mrs. Carr.

The minutes of the November meeting were read and confirmed.

Nation's report. There are 17 girls and

34 boys in the Home, of whom four are new. Three more new ones are due to come in. Health is good, and reports from holiday homes have been good on the whole. The [redacted] boys lost their father during the holiday period, and are to remain in the Home. [redacted] is staying on at his own request, provided his behaviour is satisfactory. [redacted] has a job on a farm at Winton. [redacted] is boarding with his brother [redacted] at Papanui. [redacted] is working, and boards with Mrs. Curtis. [redacted] is to start work at hair dressing as soon as she is 15. [redacted] was given a trip in an aeroplane by another girl who had won it in a competition. Staff. Mr. Beard's step-niece, Miss Fraser, is acting as relief. Miss Sinclair has settled down well, and there is a new girl keeping in the kitchen. Both Emerson is

slow at her work but will probably improve. Mrs. Carr & Mrs. Smith are helping in the laundry and cleaning. A junior or senior will be needed in the boys' block so that Sister Rosa can move into the centre block. The old sick bay has been turned into a recreation room for the staff, where they can use sewing and knitting machines.

A class has been started on Monday nights to teach drama, elocution and deportment.

The canteen has been put into use again, and the office furniture recovered with the help of Mrs. Pullar of the Papanui church. New knives have been bought, and new curtains & tablecloths in the dining room, and bedspreads.

Electricians are still at work and the roof is being treated once again.

Only two cows are in milk, so a

Gallon of milk per day is being bought.

Miss Adams & Co. have sent a good deal of cake, and the Presbyterian Home has sent bags of cereals. Gifts totalled £50 in value.

It was decided to ask the Board's permission to invite Mrs. Blight and Mrs. Pullar to belong to the Committee.

Mrs. Robertson suggested that when it was time for the dining room to be painted, the choice of colour be left to the staff, so that it will tone in with the new furnishings. If it is possible to have the furnace converted to oil-fuel, it will lighten the work of the staff considerably as well as giving longer life to curtains.

B. J. Hodder.

Hon. Sec.

Confirmed:

17/9/58  
D. Frost

### March meeting

This was held at the Home on Wed. Mar. 12, those present being Nesdames Black, Blight, Hodder, Marsh [presiding], Newton + Robertson and Miss Howell. Mrs. Blight was welcomed. Apologies were received from Mrs. Pratt and Miss Williams.

Nations report: There are 54 children in the Home at present, 19 girls and 35 boys. There are three new ones. Health continues good on the whole. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is having extra rest, which is doing her good. The treat menu for thread worms is being held up, waiting for a report from the Board about extra medical assistance to the home.

The Yachting Club's picnic to Diamond Harbour and the Sunday School picnic to South Brighton were both enjoyed thoroughly by the children.

[REDACTED] is still happy on the farm in Southland; [REDACTED] is living at Mrs. Her. Moore's and is learning tailoring. [REDACTED] is settling down with Mrs. Curtis.

[REDACTED] is head boy at Papamoa High School, and [REDACTED] is still working for a linoleum firm.

Budgerics have been given to the children, and an aviary is to be built with a fish-pond below. Council meetings are being held among the older children, dealing with matters of clothing and conduct. [REDACTED] is to learn millinery.

Staff: Someone is to be interviewed for work on the Boys' Block. The laundry is staffed, and Mrs. Carr has been able to leave. A roster of duties for matron and sub-matron in the Centre Block has been drawn up.

Laundry equipment: The machines are again giving trouble through over-working, and the buying of a light commercial machine was again discussed. This is to be referred to the Board for investigation.

isation.

Six mattresses per month are being bought to replace worn-out ones. The roof is still being treated.

Two gallons of milk daily are being bought, but produce coming in from harvest festivals is reducing the vegetable bill.

Two vanloads of children were taken to see the Queen Mother.

Mrs. Ballimore will be coming to cut the hair of 3 girls per month, and four or five boys.

Sister Ronas' room in the centre block needs some new furnishings to make it suitable, and it was decided to go ahead with buying these, with the Board's permission.

Gifts this month amounted £6/4/106/-

B. J. Hodder.

Hon. Sec.

Confirmed:

H. J. Pratt  
9/4/58

The usual monthly meeting was held on April 9 at the Home, those present being Miss Howell, Mrs. Dandes Black Blight, Carr, Hodder, Pratt & Robertson. Apologies were received from Mrs. Marsh, Mrs. Newton & Miss Williams.

In Mrs. Marsh's absence, Mrs. Pratt was asked to take the chair.

Report: Numbers remain the same. General health is good, with the exception of some cases of boils. Irene is much better. Dr. Burn is to treat all the children for thread worms. During Easter, the children had their own service on Good Friday, with Mr. Harris present. On Saturday a games afternoon was held, and a concert at night. On Tuesday was a sports afternoon, which Mr. Beadles attended.

Of the children attending Easter camp, Tony Hooper made a name for himself in athletics.

The aviary is ready to go up now.

Staff: Miss Rice, aged 19, is doing good work on the Boys' Block.

A cook & laundress may come from the country to work here. The new machine is not yet installed.

The intercommunication system is also on the way, and the roof is finished except under the verandah.

No milk needs to be bought at present.

Stocktaking indoors is finished, & replenishments of cups and soup plates are needed. The year's budget will need to include curtains & bedspreads, 5 dozen towels, 24 pairs of single sheets, 3 rubbish tins & 1 six pint milk saucepan, & six small mattresses.

The gift total was £4.8.0  
Sister Ronal's room, with new carpet, bedspread, & curtains was inspected  
B. J. Hodder Confirmed:

Hon. Sec.

8 March  
14/5/25

putting in new racks in the girls' cloak room, and replacing broken windows.

The typewriter needs repairing, but should not be a very expensive job.

A large dinner-wagon would be a great help to the children who do the washing-up, to save breakages in moving dishes from place to place.

Three cows are in milk at present, but two will be drying off in about two months.

The secretary was asked to recommend to the Board that the Home join the I.G.A. stores cooperative system by the purchase of 50 one pound shares, which should soon be recouped by the savings made in purchasing supplies.

A letter was received from the Health Department offering goods

in bulk at a cheaper rate, such as instruments etc. used regularly in the Home.

Gifts amounted £837-2-0.

B. J. Hodder  
Hon. Sec.

Confirmed:

O yard  
9/7/15

The monthly meeting of the ladies' House Committee was held at the Home on Wednesday July 9, those present being Mmes Black, Blight, Carr, Hodder, Marsh [in the chair] Newton, Prall & Robertson. An apology was received from Miss Howell.

Sympathy with the relatives of Miss Williams, a faithful member of the committee who had died since our last meeting, was expressed by the members.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Mation's report: There are 52 children in the Home at present; 19 girls and 33 boys. The [redacted] children have gone to live with their mother. Health is

Good for the time of year, though there have been some colds & earache.

[REDACTED], a new little girl, is to have her strabismus corrected.

Staff [REDACTED] has left to take a shop position & is boarding with Mrs. J. Richards at Shirley. Ann Rossiter, an old girl of the Home, is working in the kitchen during the winter months. Mrs. Ryan is working very well in the laundry. Miss Rice has left, and replacements have been appointed for her & Bell. Miss Henry has not been very well. The new gardener, Mr. Fraser, has started work.

[REDACTED] has started work at a nursery at Avonside, but is still at the Home until other board is obtained for him.

The potato room bench has been renewed. This is a great improvement but a hot tap would be of great benefit.

Mrs. Robertson is renovating the pantry part of which was rotting from poor ventilation. The side between the kitchen & dining room has had new linoleum cemented on it at a cost of £8, and is much more satisfactory than it was.

Crockery breakage is still a big problem, and Mrs. Robertson has obtained samples of heavy-duty plastic made by an Auckland firm, which is expensive but virtually unbreakable.

Some beautiful laceclad samples of materials have been used to make chaircovers, cushions, and trimmings for curtains, as well as high shirts.

Your cows are now in milk.

The birds are nesting, and

[REDACTED] has been given a pair of white mice & a pair of white rats.

A picture show was brought to the Home, also McGrath's amusement train with rides for children & staff.

As Tuesday, July 15, will be the grand birthday of Miss Horrell's father, the Secretary was asked to send him a letter of congratulation & greeting.

The large dinner wagon has been made and enamelled, and is very useful. The typewriter has never been renovated.

Gifts this month amounted to £52.

B. J. Hodder  
Hon. Sec.

D. Ward  
10/7/55

The monthly meeting of the Ladies' House Committee was held at the Home on Wed. Sept. 10, those present being Miss Horrell, Rosdames Black, Bligh, Hodder, March [presiding] Newton, Pratt and Robertson.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Matron's report: There are 51 children in the Home at present.

[REDACTED] has good board, and is

now working at Ernest Adams Ltd. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has board with a Salvation Army family, and is improving in general demeanour.

The [REDACTED] children should leave for good at Christmas, as their father is married and should be in a position to take them.

[REDACTED] is doing well, and [REDACTED] is settling down better.

[REDACTED] is also doing well, and [REDACTED] has been working at the Home during the holidays.

~~The master & matron~~ have painted the music-room in pastel colours. And it is much improved in appearance.

There are new curtains and bedspreads in the Girls' Block.

The sewing-machine used by Miss Henry is reaching the end of its usefulness for such constant work, and the Secretary was asked to recommend to the Board the purchase of a new "Elna" model at the price of £53.

The old one should sell for up to £10.

Invitations have been sent out for the Reunion on Oct. 4, and entertainment has been arranged by the William Morris group.

Gifts for the last two months amounted £8.18s - 2s 6d.

2 March  
8/10/58

The monthly meeting of the Ladies' House Committee was held at the Home on Wed. Oct. 8, those present being Nedda Hodder, Marsh [presiding] Pratt and Robertson, and Miss Horrell. Apologies were received from Nedda's Black, Blight & Newton.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed.

The Matron reported 53 children in the Home, two [redacted] children being new. Five children have measles.

[redacted] has been very troublesome and will have to have a close watch

kept on her.

The Reunion on Oct. 4 went off well with a good representation of ex-boys and girls. It was resolved to discontinue the newspaper notice next year. As the address list is now fairly comprehensive. It was also felt that 1 hour's entertainment would be sufficient, thus giving old boys & girls more time to chat together.

The hard work put in by matron, matron & staff was much appreciated. The Morris group of entertainers gave a very varied programme, with something suitable for each age group.

The new cook, Mrs. Throp, has arrived. Miss Rositer has had to have leave to look after her father who is ill.

The Secretary was asked to write to the Board about the poor state of linoleum in the girls' & boys' blocks & the kitchen. And also about plastering required upstairs in the

middle block.

Miss Henry has been trying out a new semi-industrial model Pfaff Sewing Machine at £70 which will be suitable for the work done at the Home. It is more robust than the Elna.

Gifts this month amounted to £55-0-0.

B.J. Hodder

Hon. Sec.

Confirmed:

9 yards

10/2/79

The monthly meeting was held at the Home on wed. Feb. 11. Those present being Miss Horrell & Desdames Carr, Hodder, Marsh [presiding] Newton, Pratt & Robertson. Apologies were received from Desdames Black & Blight.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read & confirmed.

Native's report: There are 58 children in the Home, 23 girls & 25 boys.

[REDACTED] has gone to live with relatives in

Invercargill, + [REDACTED] has gone to Wesley College, Paerata. The children have mostly been well since their holiday away, except the [REDACTED] who have not been fitted from their holiday with relatives. There are good reports of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and Fairbroad [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] is board- ing at the same place as [REDACTED]. The secretary was asked to write & thank [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] for the help they had given Sister Rona at the Home during the holiday period. Board is required at [REDACTED]

The children now have as pets birds, dogs, fish, tadpoles, a white Rat, + a cat with 4 kittens.

Staff: Miss Sanderson has come to work in the laundry. Miss Waters for the kitchen, + Miss Robertson is to work in the Girls' Block. Mr. Laser is doing very good work.

Interior painting and papering has been done while the children were away, and new linocut aid in the kitchen. The typewriter has been fixed, and some sheets and towels bought.

Chairs in the dining room & reception room are still in a precarious state, and the committee decided to recommend to the Board the purchase of two dozen nesting chairs for a shilling as being less likely to be affected by the heat than wooden chairs.

The question of pocket-money for the children was brought up, and it was felt that an issue of 3' to 1/6 weekly according to age would be worth the outlay by teaching the children the value of money before they go out into the world. One or two older ones already receive 5/- weekly

for work done.

A handsome donation given to the Home for a treat for the children was spent on a picnic trip to Oxford and Ashley Gorge.

Gifts amounted to £10-6-0.

B. J. Hodder.

Confirmed:

Hon. sec.

R. J. Pratt

11/3/59.

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Home on Wed. morn. 11, those present being Resdames Black, Hodder, Pratt (in the chair) Robertson & Miss Horree.

Apologies were received from Resdames Blight, Marsh & Newton.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Nations report: There are still 58 children in the Home, but three may be leaving soon. The [redacted] children should be going to live with their father next month.

No board has yet been found for [redacted]

[redacted] was written from Wesley College but it is too soon yet to know

how he is settling in. Health has been erratic, with colds & influenza. Miss Henry has been off a good deal for health reasons.

[REDACTED] who was in hospital for observation after a fall from her bicycle seems in good health and went with her school class for a day trip to Wellington. [REDACTED] has had his hydrocele fixed up.

Miss Lamrock purposes going back to Australia soon.

Six dozen heavy cups have been bought. The line in the girls block has not been done yet. We consider that it should be stuck down - although this adds to the cost, it also adds considerably to the durability.

In spite of spraying, flies and wasps are still very troublesome in the kitchen & dining room; it was decided to ask the Board to fit fly screens to windows and doors before next summer.

A large storage room outside has been covered with polythene and can now be used as a glasshouse. This was inspected by the Committee.

Produce from harvest festivals has been forthcoming in good quantity, and the staff have been extra busy with preserving. Soap and preserves are particularly wanted.

Mr. + Mrs. Robertson and some of the children helped with harvest festival services at Walkaway and Fisherton, and brought the produce back with them. April 19 will be jam Sunday at Fisherton.

Rights amounted to £9-3-0 this month.

P. J. Hodder  
Hon. Sec.

Confirmed: 8 March  
5/4/59

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Home on wed. April 8. those present being Miss Horrell, and Messrs Black, Blight, Hodder, Marsh, Newton Pratt & Robertson. (president)

An apology was received from Mrs. Carr who has been ill in hospital & the secretary was asked to write her a letter.

Nation's report: There are 57 children in the Home, and general health is good except for some colds. The [redacted] children are expected to go to live with their father quite soon, and [redacted] may go. [redacted] has satisfactory board and appears to be settling down well.

[redacted] is to have her eye attended to, & there are two tonic cases. Behaviour has been better among the older ones, and several have made decisions at Bible Class, camp or at church.

Mr. Cook went to hear Dr. Graham with good results.

The pocket-money scheme is working out quite well so far.

[redacted] is engaged & will be married on the 18th; she will live in Auckland.

Twelve pairs of sheets need to be bought, and more pillowcases.

A warm suit for every boy has been made from materials sent in. New bedspreads & curtains are required for staff rooms.

More vegetable dishes are also required.

The linoleum in the girls' corridor is not yet laid — the Committee inspected the stairs & thought them dangerous, and recommended that the stairs & staff room should be done with the corridor in the same linoleum.

A metal container for rubbish bins such as is in use at Wesley

hedge would be very useful.

Forth harvest festivals' produce have been sent in, with 30 cases of tomatoes, 28 cases of golden delicious, & some russets. At the harvest festivals, the children took part in a play, and Mr. & Mrs. Robertson took the service.

The new Papanui Rotary Club are to draw pictures at the Home every three weeks.

Estimates have been received for stocking cleairs, & that of Heate's was recommended to the Board - 47/- each with 15% discount for over three dozen if paid promptly.

Gifts this month amounted to £12-4-0. For the year, gifts totalled £306-15-6, compared with 231-5-5 in the previous year.

B. J. Hodder

Hon. Sec.

Confirmed: 8 March

13/5/59

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Home on Wed. May 13, those present being Nesdames Black, Blight, Hodder, Marsh [presiding] Pratt, Robertson & Miss Horrell. Apologies were received from Nesdames Carr & Newton.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Nation's report: There are 54 children in the Home, of whom 37 are away for the holidays. [redacted] children have gone to live with their father. [redacted] is to have his tonsils out. [redacted] is home from Wesley College for the holidays.

Miss Osborne, a school music mistress, is at the Home as a voluntary guest, taking charge of holiday activities for those children not away.

Health is excellent for the time of year, there are some colds & one case of worms.

Staff: The Home is fully staffed, and members are fitting in happily to.

gather. Miss Robertson has moved to the Boys' Block to help Miss Kerr, and Mrs. Keeley is with Miss Sinclair on the Girls' Block.

Necessary linen has been bought, and a good parcel of very useful clothing has been sent in from Camaru. Of the total gifts sent in for the year, clothing was valued at £238.12s.

Some green modised metal baking dishes have been bought & are proving very satisfactory, as are some new plastic butter dishes.

Mrs. Robertson has procured a heater for the glass house at over £2 which will add a great deal to its usefulness.

The new linoleum in the Girls' Block was inspected, and looks very good. The stairs in the Boys' Block also need doing in the same way.

Further quotations have come in for stacking chairs, from Hastings factory, at 33s.6d each, & from a Cello factory at 35/- each, if over 50 are bought.

Gifts amounted to £48.5.0 in value this month.

B. S. Hodder Confirmed:  
Hon. Sec. D. H. Horrell - *H. G. Roberts*  
9.6.59

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Home on Wednesday, June 9, those present being Desdames Black, Hodder, Newton & Robertson & Miss Horrell, with apologies from Desdames Bligh, Marsh & Pratt. In Mrs. Marsh's absence, Miss Horrell was asked to take the chair. Marion's report. There are 54 children in the Home, of whom 31 are boys, & 16 children are on a waiting list for admission. General health is not quite so good, with colds on the girls' block and some cases of influenza. [redacted]

[REDACTED] is very fit after having histonoids out, and [REDACTED] eye is almost normal after operation. General behaviour is pretty good. Investigations are being made into the possibilities of [REDACTED] going to Rangitāia Hostel.

- \* [REDACTED] is working for Mr. Dale after school to pay for his bicycle. [REDACTED] been altering the store room until he obtains another job - the lavatory adjacent is to be sealed off for health reasons.

All the children left at home during the holidays were invited to Mrs. Marsh's home for dinner and spent a very happy day.

- \* The outside walls are leaking owing to decalcification on the weather side. This should be treated when drier weather comes.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the present Home building, and it was felt that

some suitable celebration should be held to commemorate the occasion.

Deputation work by the children as well as Radio & Television bring the Home into touch with the churches in a very acceptable way, and the more use which can be made of this approach, the better is the response from churches likely to be.

Holiday arrangements for staff are to be strengthened throughout the year. News had been received that our former matron Miss Barclay was in hospital suffering from a stroke, & the secretary was asked to write to her.

Gift amounted £612.3.0.  
B. J. Hodder.

Confirmed:

8 York  
5/7/59

The monthly meeting was held at the Home on wed. July 8. those present being Desdames Black, Bligh, Hodder Marsh (presiding) Newton, Pratt and Robertson. An apology was received from Miss Horrell.

Mation's report. There are 66 children in the Home. 5 boys, and 6 girls having been admitted recently. Some of them are in poor condition and need remedial treatment. There have been three cases of influenza, one turning to pneumonia, and three cases of tonsillitis, one of whom, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is convalescing at Geraldine with her aunt.

Medical supplies are now being purchased in bulk, cutting down chemists' bills appreciably.

[REDACTED] has not been behaving very well, but has recently taken up a new job.

The Rotary Club has given £10 towards expenses.

The Home is fully staffed, and all are working well together.

Twelve new pairs of sheets have been bought to cope with increased numbers and new bedspreads are to be made for the third dormitory.

Crockery is to be replaced with heavy quality ware. and a new 6 gallon no. aluminium porridge pot has been bought for £10.

The children's choir, with Mrs. Mation, are to go to Blenheim for the last Sunday in the holidays, and arrangements are to be made for visits to adjacent churches.

A letter of acknowledgement was received from Miss Banday's sister.

The date for the Reunion was fixed for Oct. 3, with the children's choir giving some items, and some dancing later in the evening for the visitors and older children.

Nov. 9. [REDACTED] is the 25th anniversary of the present building. and it was

\* decided to recommend to the Board that a Garden Party with a large Bring & Buy Stall be held, invitation to be sent <sup>Chuches other</sup> out to friends throughout the South Island.

Rev. Mr. Duder of Thames has asked for someone who would like to take up farm work; the Nation consider this may be a good opening for [REDACTED] who is very competent with farm machinery & livestock work.

Gifts amounted to £11-0-0  
B. S. Hodder, Confirmed:  
Hon. Sec.

[REDACTED]  
14 Sept  
1894

The monthly meeting was held at the Home on Wed. Aug. 12, those present being Messrs Black, Blight, Carr, Pratt (in the chair) Robertson and Miss Horrell. Apologies were received from Messrs Hodder & Marsh.

Minutes of the previous meeting

were read and confirmed with one small addition.

Nation's report: There are 65 children in the Home. [REDACTED] has gone to a model farm used by the experimental research people out from Thames. He seems to be settling in well.

[REDACTED] turned 15 and quite a problem, has been sent to work in a children's wear shop in Papamoa. At the moment she is living in the centre block pending suitable board being found for her.

The behaviour has been good. Boys & girls each arranged week's menus; girls did excellently and few changes had to be made in theirs; boys were not quite so good.

[REDACTED] 'report' from Paerata was not quite so good as it could have been. Should he be allowed to return for a second year, in view of the expense, as he has already found the adjustments of race etc. of which he

was rarely in need?

Six members of the choir with their choir-madre and Mr. & Mrs. Robertson go to Blenheim for the last weekend of the holidays. All details have been fully arranged.

Most of the children are to be away for the holidays. Mr. & Mrs. Robertson are taking 10 days off their holidays, so that there will be senior staff coverage at the Home all the year round. This will make it possible to keep mal-adjusted or problem children at the home even in the holidays.

An offer, directly due to stewardship, received from a lady to take one 'the world' child in the Home on days out, remember birthday, and put 2/- in a Post Office account on each trip out, gave great satisfaction. More such offers would be appreciated.

Two dozen teatowels at 1/- each

had been bought. As the Presbyterian pattern of Children's Home work is changing, they have offered, and the offer has been accepted - soup and dinner plates and some bread & butter plates, which would have cost about £50, for £23-15-0.

Reunion Oct 3. Picnics have been arranged. Also anti-c., and the home band will play for extras. The choir will sing and colour slides will be shown.

Silver Jubilee This has been given for Nov. 14. Subject to agreement by the Board.

The truck medical supply system is working well.

The glasshouse is full of seedlings. Sixty cakes of soap were received from Durian St. Guild. And twenty dinner plates from Kaiapoi. A gramophone and records are giving great pleasure. Four cartons of cheese from Field and Roads are valued at £2.

Clothing from Mrs. Walker Riddin  
→ pyjama tops or housecoats - from  
which 12 pairs of pyjamas had  
been made valued at £2.0.0.

18 Sacks of potatoes " £0.16.0  
Sight total £14.16.0

Confirmed:

O marsh  
9/9/29

The usual monthly meeting was held  
at the home on Wed. Sept. 9, those  
present being Dames Blight, Hodder  
Marsh, Newton, Pratt & Robertson.

Apologies were received from Dames  
Black & Carr. The minutes of previous  
<sup>this year</sup> meeting were read & confirmed.

Half-year report: There are 64 children  
in the Home, and general health is  
good. There was one case of measles  
among children away on holiday.  
Four problem children were not sent  
away for the holidays. No board has  
yet been found for [redacted]

The new china ware has been deliv-

ered, and material bought for the boys' bedspreads. The dining room linoleum  
has gone through in places; it was  
inspected by the committee, and will  
need to be replaced before long. The  
linoleum in the boys' sitting room has  
had to be taken up as it was in a  
dangerous condition.

The choir's trip to Blenheim was  
very successful. On Thursday, Sept. 3,  
the children sang at the Guild  
meeting. The Guild is "adopting"  
[redacted] in the same  
way as the lady mentioned in the  
last minutes. On Friday the children  
went to Pictou, where they were  
taken out for launch trips, and  
sang at the Wesley House, returning  
to Blenheim at night. On Friday  
Saturday they went again to Pictou  
& enjoyed the beach. On Sunday they  
took part in three services with Mr. &  
Mrs. Robertson, and slides of the Home  
activities were shown after the

Evening service at Blenheim. On Monday they travelled home, still in good spirits.

Gifts for the month included a small load of lost property sent in by Midland Peters, some socks and a jersey from Kaiapoi Woollens, and four dozen Ballins' Cordial glasses from Rydss & Kirk. Total monetary value was 13/-.

Nothing further was done at the Board meeting about the Jubilee in November, so it will probably have to be postponed to a later date.

B. J. Hodder. confirmed:

Hon. Sec.

14/10/54

D. J. Fenn.

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Home on Wed. Oct. 14, those present being Desdames Black, Bligh, Hodder Pratt (in the chair) Robertson, and Miss Horrell.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Nation's report: There are 63 children in the Home, and general health is good. The small ones have had some injections against polio and diphtheria. There is a suggestion that fluoride tablets should be bought in bulk supply to protect the younger children against dental decay. [redacted]

[redacted] have been put out of their jobs, but are now in work again. [redacted] has also been in trouble, but is once more settled. Most of the children who have no close relatives are to be adopted by different Guilds. [redacted] is to go to his father

at Christmas, and Mrs. Robinson wishes to have [redacted] to live with her.

The dining-room linoleum is getting worse. More girls have been moved into the fourth dormitory, which could do with another chest or tallboy to provide more drawer space. Some mats have been sent in by Guilds.

As the grounds have been excessively dry and vegetables likely to be spoilt by drought, a 200 ft. piping has been laid to the garden, connected with the water tower. Two cows are in milk, and an extra 10 qts. is being bought. Other livestock is in good condition.

Flies are already becoming troublesome, so the Secretary was asked to remind the Board of the need for fly-screens, and also for bins for rubbish disposal.

It was decided to pencil in the first Saturday in March for the Garden Party, the Secretary to write to the President of Guild Federation.

The Reunion was very successful, dancing being a popular innovation. It was catered for £29 odd, a very substantial decrease on last year's estimate.

Gifts amounted to £4-11-0, including jam and some useful bell-ends of material for blouses etc.

B. J. Hodder Confirmed: 8 March  
Hon Sec. " 1/4/59

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Home on Wed. Nov. 11, those present being Miss Horrell, and Desdames Black Carr, Hodder, Harrold (presiding) Newton and Robertson. Apologies were received from Desdames Blight and Pratt. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Mairion's Report: There are 33 children in the Home, and general health is very good. Holiday arrangements are well on the way. All the girls being placed and some of the boys. [redacted] needs a job for the holidays, and [redacted]  
[redacted] needs board urgently.

The staff has been very busy making dresses and trimming hats for the girls for the Sunday School anniversary; the children's appearance is a great credit to them. [redacted]  
father is now married, and [redacted] is to leave the Home. [redacted] will be going to board with Mrs. Reintens.

The choir is to go to Greendale on Sunday Nov. 15, staying for dinner and afternoon tea. Nov. 22 is to be Hostess Sunday for the Papamui church.

Teatowels, bedspreads and blinds will have to be bought in the near future.

Only 6 quarts of milk daily need to

be bought at present.

It was felt that Sister Rena should have five weeks holiday like the other staff members, instead of only four as at present. A senior staff member is to remain in the Home during the Christmas holidays to deal with any duties which may arise. A Trinity College student is to work at the Home for his board.

Some discussion took place about the Jubilee Garden Party. A letter from Mrs. N. Dalley states that she has included the Garden Party in a letter to all Guilds in the District and appealed for an early reply. Mrs. Harris is looking out the date of the Central Mission Garden Party and if necessary, ours can be held in April. Churches under Stewardship may feel disinclined to help with goods for a stall, but all should be interested in coming to see the Home.

[redacted] is showing behaviour

patterns which are most undesirable in our type of Home, and she should be removed to private board where she could receive individual care and attention.

The question of staff salaries was brought up, and it was agreed that the Home Staff should receive an increase under the new wage Order.

S. J. Hodder. Confirmed: 10/2/60

Hon. Sec.

J. Marsh

The monthly meeting was held at the Home on Tues. Feb. 10, those present being Redman, Black, Blight, Carr, Hodder, Ward (presiding), Pratt & Roberts on. Apologies were received from Miss Horrell & Mrs. Newton.

Matron's Report: There are 60 children in the Home as well as 4 under 18 yrs still under our care. Health is excellent with the exception of stings from bees, wasps. [REDACTED] is in hospital recovering from an appendix operation. Most holiday reports were good, with a

few notable exceptions, one of whom was [REDACTED], who needs to be found a suitable home by the Child Welfare Dept., according to the doctor.

The van has developed steering trouble, and is to be repaired next week.

The choir's visit to Scandale was very successful and enjoyable, and the behaviour good.

Children of the 4th dormitory did cart-train work in the holidays, and were allowed \$ each to spend, the rest to go into a bank account.

There is a full staff at present, including [REDACTED] <sup>applicants</sup> one to replace Miss Simkin who is to be married in June. She would like to be married from the Home if possible.

The new Tilbury cleaner is excellent. x New fly windows have yet been put in, although flies, and wasps have been very troublesome. New tea towels have been procured, and grey bedspreads

for the second dormitory. A representative of Chemical Industries has tried out a new polish on the kitchen line which has lasted very well so far. He would like the Home to try out a bath cleaner as well.

Two cows are in milk, with eight quarts of milk being brought daily. The new pullets are beginning to lay and [redacted] is to be put in charge of the hens as she proved good with them on the farm where she spent her holidays. When [redacted] has recovered, she will be in charge of the other pets.

Gifts since our last meeting total £14 in cash value, but besides this there were useful and expensive Christmas gifts sent in for the children, as well as party food and favours of various kinds.

- \* It is hoped to discuss the Garden Party at the Board meeting next week.

B. J. Holder

Hon. Sec.

Confirmed: P. F. Pratt

9/3/60

The usual morning meeting was held at the home on Wed. March 9, those present being Messdames Black, Blight, Holder, Newton, Pratt, & Robertson, Miss Horrell.

In the absence of Mrs. Marsh, Mrs. Pratt presided, and Mrs. Newton opened the meeting with prayer.

An apology was received from Messdames Carr & Ward.  
Minutes reported.

There are still 12 children in the Home, and four others still under our care. One of these, [redacted]

[redacted] has been in trouble with the police, and it has been recommended that he be found work on a farm.

[redacted] has had his tonsils removed.

The children have had a picnic to Bally Gorge, and another on the Harbour which was very good. The Papannu Circuit picnic is to be on Saturday at Ringgiorne.

The little polisher was not in good order owing to a short circuit.

but it was hoped that it could be rectified. The few windows have been fitted and are a great improvement.

The committee inspected the dining room linoleum which is becoming very worn in places.

Reserve stocks of cups are dwindling and some more sweets are needed.

The hens are laying more eggs. And the pets are all well. One cow is due in soon; twelve quarts of milk are being bought, as well as dried skim + full cream milk powder.

There have been eggs and produce sent in from egg-days + harvest festivals, all of which are very welcome and made good use of.

Forty pounds of jelly have been made from assorted fruit available and a large amount of pickles.

Some more crocks for beans

would be welcome as well as jams + preserved fruit.

There was some discussion about the projected Garden Party, one idea being to have it on the same day as the Reunion, perhaps the first Saturday in October. We need more members on our Committee as soon as possible, preferably from districts which have no representatives at present.

Gifts for the month were valued at £8. 17. 6, including a large supply of buttons, some lengths of tweed, and some jam.

B. J. Hodder, Continued:

Hon. Sec.

R. J. Pratt

13/4/60.

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Home on Wed. Ap. 13, those present being Miss Howell, + Reddauness Black, Blight, Carr, Hodder, Newton, Pratt (in the chair) and Robertson.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read + confirmed.

Mavis's report:

There are 6 & children in the home, the two [redacted] having gone to live with their mother + father who are re-united. The four [redacted] children have been admitted, two boys + two girls. [redacted]

[redacted] is back at the Home after leaving his job with the Forestry Department. General health is good, with the exception of various minor injuries, and one broken collarbone.

An outing to the Buff Papanui pictures is to be given by the Buffalo Lodge on April 23.

Six boys + six girls are going to Easter Camps, and the rest will be having a special Easter service at the home.

Sister Rona is taking a week of her holiday now, the rest to be taken later on. A young worker in the laundry is to go, as her work is

unsatisfactory.

Blinds are being repaired and new sheets have been purchased. Five dozen new pillow cases are to be bought, and 6 plastic mattress covers. Extra cups for replacements are also to be bought.

One cow is in milk, and one is nearly due. Soyleans and pumpkins have done well. In all, 38 Harvest Festival proceeds have been received, + about 160 lbs. of crabapple jelly + 300 lbs. of pickles made.

A party of 14 ladies from Lincoln Rd. held their meeting at the Home.

Goods particularly needed include preserved fruit, corn flour, cocoa, rolled oats, soap, toothpaste, combs + handkerchiefs.

A letter was received from Mrs. Marsh tendering her resignation from the House Committee. The Secretary was asked to write to her, suggesting that she might be willing to take

leave of absence for a time. It was re-solved to ask Mrs. H. C. Matthews to become a member of the Committee. Gifts of foodstuffs amounted to £11-11-0, as well as a gift of walnuts from Ashburton.

B. J. Hooper Confirmed: P. G. A.  
Hon. Sec. 11/3/60

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Home on Wed. May 11, those present being Presidents Black, Blight, Carr (in the chair), Sanfath, Hooper, Matthews, Newton, Pratt & Robertson, Miss Horrie.

Mrs. Carr extended a welcome to Mrs. Sanfath and Mrs. Matthews, newcomers to the Committee.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Nation's report: The pillowcases and mattress covers have been bought, and are of good quality.

There are 62 children in the Home, and general health is excellent.

The Careys have been settling down quite well with their father & mother. All except ten children, who have been kept at home for various reasons, have been away for term holidays.

[REDACTED] has left his job again and has been staying at the Home. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has become more settled again. Staff: There is still no permanent laundress here and other staff have been doing the work. Mrs. Grimwood is on holiday, and Mrs. Curtis is very ill in Hospital, but Miss Katers has been coping very well with the cooking. The Secretary was asked to write a letter of cheer to Mrs. Curtis. Equipment is in working order. Miss Shirley Briggs has become engaged, and Miss Hoare is proving excellent on the girls' block.

[REDACTED] has been learning millinery during her holidays, and may take it up permanently when she leaves school.

A parcel of good winter clothing, some with costume jewellery attached, has been received. Total to the value of £1-4-0 has also come in.

The other cow has now calved and [redacted] will milk both during his holidays.

The Health Department has not visited the Home for 12 months, but will make an unannounced visit later.

Rearrangements are being made in the centre block to accommodate the new Master & Matron, Mr. & Mrs. Scott.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Mrs. Carr expressed our thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Robertson for their care of the children. We then adjourned to the dining room, where Board members joined us in an informal farewell gathering and presided over by Rev. W.T. Blight who gave an official farewell speech from the Board. Mrs. Carr presented

Mrs. Robertson with a white flower container from the House Committee, and the Robertsons replied suitably. The staff then joined us in a party afternoon tea.

B.G. Hodder Confirmed:

Hon. Sec.

W. Blight to arr  
8/6/60

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Home on Wed. June 8. Those present being Miss Horrell & Desdames Black, Blight & Carr (in the chair) Garforth, Hodder, Matthew, Newton and Scott. An apology was received from Mrs. Pratt.

Mrs. Carr extended a warm welcome to Mrs. Scott as this was her first House Committee meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Matron's report: There are 64 children in the Home, two new ones having been admitted. [redacted] nearly 3, and [redacted] 8. General health is good with the exception of

some colds. The staff are getting along happily; Mrs. Robinson is to work in the laundry, but someone is still needed in the kitchen to help Miss Waters, who has taken charge since Mrs. Curtis left.

Miss Sinclair's wedding was a great occasion for the boys and girls, who helped with preparations for the reception.

[REDACTED] has been on a visit from his farming position in the Thames district. Gifts of clothing have been sent in.

The purchase of an 18<sup>quart</sup> saucepan and 6 dozen new cups was authorised.

Renovations and improvements have been going on in the flat; these were inspected by the Committee, as was the staff sitting room, and the secretary was asked to write to the Board about improvements to the room.

Blinds had been purchased at a cost of £20, some being repaired.

A gift for Miss Sinclair - a set of jugs - was bought from the Board's House Committee.

Mrs. Carr reported that there had been inquiries from the Guild Fellowship as to possible ways in which ladies' Guilds could be of service to the Home. Nesdunes, Hodder, Matthews & Scott were asked to draught a letter which could be circulated to guilds giving the different ways in which help could be given.

It was moved and carried unanimously that Mrs. Carr be our chairwoman.

Gifts were received to the value of £28 - 0 - 0.

B. J. Hodder  
Hon. Sec.

Confirmed:  
H. L. Brown

13/7/60

The monthly meeting of the Ladies' House Committee was held at the Home on Wed. July 13, those present being Mrs. Davies, Black, Blight, Carr [in the chair] Garforth, Hodder, Matthews, Newton, Scott & Miss Horrell. An apology was received from Mrs. Pratt.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary reported that a letter drafted by Mrs. Matthews, Mrs. Scott & herself had been sent to the Guild Fellowship, enclosing a list of goods which would be of use to the Home. It was decided to send a similar list to Nelson & South Canterbury Guild Fellowships.

Matron's report:

There are still 64 children at the Home and general health is good.

[redacted] aged 3½ yrs. had a fall and hurt her leg, but is almost better; [redacted]

[redacted] had two epileptic fits about a month ago, but is taking tablets from

the Doctor with good results.

There is a full staff once more, with Mrs. Williams keeping Miss Heaters in the Kitchen. Miss Hove has not been well and Miss Brigg has had a poisoned hand, but this has healed nicely.

Six dozen cups have arrived, and two new ladies. Two dozen are in use and four dozen in reserve.

Two dozen new dessert spoons are needed; their purchase was passed by the Committee.

The President of Conference inspected the grounds & buildings, and his opinion was that a large sum of money should be spent to put the buildings in good order & bring them up to date.

The Welfare Department also made an inspection, and one visitor, a Doctor, is to return to make further investigations.

Preliminary arrangements were made for the Reunion, to be held on Sat.

Oct 1.

Tea will be followed by 1/2 an hour of magic, followed by items from the children, and a dance.

Quite a number of ex-Home children visit on Sunday afternoons for a chat & afternoon tea.

Gifts amounted to £4.0.0, as well as good clothing, tap books, puzzles and sheet music.

B. J. Hodder Confirmed: F. J. Matthews  
Hon. Sec.

10.8.60.

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Home on 16th Aug. 10, those present being Resdames Garfatt, Hodder, Matthews, Newton, Prent, Scott & Miss Horelli.

Apologies were received from Resdames Black, Blight & Carr.

In Mrs. Carr's absence, Mrs. Matthews was asked to take the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

A letter was received from the Secretary of the North Canterbury Guild

Chairship in answer to ours of last month.

#### Nation's report:

We now have 63 children in the Home [redacted] having left to live with his mother, in Overcargie. [redacted]

[redacted] aged 10, is staying with us until the Welfare Dept. have visited & commented on her home conditions.

Children are in good health generally but [redacted] has had to have a finger amputated at the first joint after having it jammed in a door.

Graham Spark, aged 15 has left to work on the poultry farm of Mr & Mrs. Corbett of Ashburton, a very worthwhile position if he perseveres.

The dessert spoons have arrived one dozen being in use, one dozen in reserve.

The Board has authorised the re-furnishing of the Staff Sitting room.

The chairman of the building committee has visited the Home & taken notes estimates & requirements for repairs &

painting needs to go before the next Board meeting. Mr. Scott is prepared to do the smaller painting jobs such as bathrooms & toilets, and to redecorate the flat.

An ironing board for each block would ease the burden on the staff.

Staff is still intact with the exception of the part-time kitchen helper who is leaving at the school holidays.

A number of the staff will be going away for part of the holidays.

Miss Henry, our sewing lady, has been in hospital for an operation, but is to rest for at least another week.

Mrs. Garside offered one ironing board to the scheme, and Mrs. Scott was authorised to buy another.

Mrs. Matthews and members of the staff were appointed a shopping Committee for refurnishing the kitchen room, including wall-to-wall carpet, a new settee & two arm-chairs, a new table, and curtains

which will be sewn by the staff.

In just 12 days is combined orphanage Appeal street collection day. The Board is providing money to pay for the eatables, and helpers are wanted to help serve the lunch.

Mrs. John Davidson of Bapudur is to be asked to become a member of this committee.

Further discussion took place on the Reunion. It was decided to have the tea at 5.30 pm, our Committee members to be there at 3.30 pm. & also on Friday night to keep set tables, etc.

Mrs. Scott would very much like a loan or gift of a 20-21" hair block. Total this month amounted to £9-3-0 or well as useful tap and equipment, and six sacks of wheat valued at £12-0-0.

R. S. Baker  
Hon. Sec.

Confirmed: P. Garside  
14/9/60.

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Home on Wed. Sept. 14, those present being Mrs. Dames Bligh, Carr (in the chair) Garforth, Hodder, Matthews, Newton, Pratt, Scott, Miss Howell.

An apology was received from Mrs. Black who was absent through illness, and the Secretary was asked to write to her.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A letter was received from Mrs. Davidson regretting that she is unable to join the Committee.

Mrs. Carr conveyed the thanks of the Combined Orphanages Appeal Committee for our help on the collecting day. Mrs. Newton & Mrs. Pratt helped with meals on that day, and were not impressed with the different treatment accorded the collector from that given the men counting the money, who were given a set lunch. It was suggested also that the Migrants provide the meat

and luncheon provisions next year.

#### Nation's Report

Numbers have been down to 53, but are up to 63 again.

[REDACTED] is very restless on Mr. Cobett's poultry farm.

Dennis Waring is boarding with Mr. & Mrs. Hoekstra at Riccarton, but continuing his schooling at Papamoa High School.

[REDACTED] is boarding with Mr. & Mrs. Giles, Ohakuri, & hopes to take up a farming career with an agricultural course at Rangiora High School.

[REDACTED] is to remain in the home for the present.

[REDACTED] aged 11, 10, & 7 have been admitted to the Home as their mother has entered the Sanatorium for treatment.

General health is good, and all children have been away for the holidays.

The kitchen has been freshly painted,

and we have a new kitchen helper, Mrs. Beller of Pines Beach. Mrs. Robinson, our laundry helper, has measles. Miss Henry has finished her convalescence with a holiday at Richmond, Nelson, and is now back at the Home.

We have had a visit from Rasham Fireside Fellowship, who brought a box of gift clothing and did an evening's mending.

The staff sitting room was inspected and looks very well with new carpet, couch, and formica expandable chairs.

Reunion: Arrangements have been made for the entertainment, with Mr. Foster as R.C. and Mr. Smith as guest of honour. Former staff members are to be invited to the evening function, as space is now very limited for the tea. A photographer will be in attendance.

Gifts amount to £9-3-6, as well as three lots of eggs & some used clothing

P. S. - Toader Home

Confirmed: F. J. Matthews  
10-60.

The monthly meeting was held at the Home on Wed. Oct. 12, those present being Miss Howell & Mrs. Dames Black, Bligh, Hodder, Matthews, Newton, Pratt, & Scott. Apologies were received from Mrs. Carr & Garfath. In Mrs. Carr's absence, Mrs. Matthews was asked to take the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Nation's report: There are 65 children in the Home, [redacted] having been removed by her mother without our permission. [redacted]

[redacted] have come back to the Home, as their stepmother has left them. The [redacted] boys are settling down, & have been to visit their mother.

There have been several cases of stomach flu & [redacted] has had mumps. Several children have had swollen glands.

Staff: Miss Hope has had flu & bad migraine, but all other staff are well.

Mrs. De Bruigten of the Laundry staff is leaving on Friday for a visit to Holland, but Mrs. Cameron is coming in her place.

The children have invited the West Cli-Cli School's production of "Yeomen of the Guard", & six children went to Ashburton for Egg Sunday.

Arrangements for the Reunion went according to plan except for the photographer whose camera developed a fault. The H.C. did not prove as capable as was expected.

We have a heifer calf, two baby guinea pigs, and both cats have kittens.

Eggs sent in total 288 dozen, we have sold 28 fowls & replaced them with 36 new ones.

Further discussion took place on the Reunion, and thanks were expressed to the staff for the excellent organisation of the tea. It is felt that numbers are becoming

too great to permit of the previous arrangements being followed, and various ideas were put forward, such as having a buffet tea or supper, or having the Reunion in the school holidays. Mrs. Scott is to take it over with Mr. Scott & the rest of the staff.

Children entered sand saucers & sweets in the Papamii Church Flower Show, and made a very creditable showing.

The painting of the dining room is now finished & looks very well.

As Mrs. Carr will be away at Conference on Sun next meeting day, and that would be her last meeting with us, it was decided to say farewell to her upon some other occasion before she leaves. Mrs. Matthews was asked to be Chairwoman of the Committee.

Gifts this month include 45 worth of eggs, a box of tops, a

donation of £1 towards Christmas cheer for the children, handkerchiefs + aprons, and a sewing machine valued at £5 which will be very useful for mending on the blocks. Other gifts which would be welcome just now are boys' + girls' under wear and tooth-brushes + tooth paste.

B. J. Hodder

Confirmed:

Hon Sec.

J. J. Matthews

9/11/60.

The monthly meeting of the House Committee was held at the Children's Home on Wed. 9-11-60, at 2pm.

Those present were: Mesdames Scott, Nelson, Newton, Black and Gorfaths Mrs Matthews presided.

Apologetis. These were sustained from Mesdames Hodder - due to sickness - Pratt - due to sickness - Blight & Goss - attending Church conference, and Miss Donell.

It was agreed that Mrs Matthews should take

flowers to Mrs. Hodder with the love of the ladies and good wishes for a quick recovery.

The minutes were read & confirmed. It was agreed that on 8<sup>th</sup> December the House Committee should farewell Mrs Goss. An afternoon at Mrs Gorfath's to be held and a small gift given. The ladies to contribute 2/6s each and Mesdames Black & Newton to secure gift. Mrs Scott & Sister Rosa were invited to attend, and Miss Henry be asked to arrange a shoulder spray.

Mrs Scott said there were 63 children in [redacted] the Home & that [redacted]

returned to their home in Wellington.

Miss Rose's health was much improved.

Children's health good apart from [redacted] german measles - [redacted] - mumps. [redacted]

[redacted] a dislocated finger. [redacted]

[redacted] have been to the eye specialist and are having treatment.

[redacted] has started work at the Bell Radio & Television Co.

working at a chemist after school & will be permanent at end of School Year. [redacted]

has a position in New Year with Booth & Co  
and [redacted] will go to work  
also.

The book. Miss Waters is leaving on  
Thursday and the position has been advertised  
extensively.

Advertisers. The children took part, with credit, in  
the Waimori parents-teachers evening. They  
visited Burnham for a fireworks display, also  
they had a display of fireworks at the Home.  
The Hororata - Te Puna Junior Red Cross  
invited and entertained with a very good  
concert programme and gave each child a  
gift. A year's subscription to Popular  
Mechanics Magazine was much appreciated  
by 4<sup>th</sup> Cosmic Boy's. Miss Dorothy  
Murphy brought her Dancing School to  
entertain. Four boys attended Scout  
camp at Labour Weekend. The other children  
went to Pines Beach for Labour Day.  
The Magicians' Society also entertained the  
Home.

Mrs Battle & Mr. & Mrs. Walliams, possibly  
Mrs Rush are applying for their children for

Christmas. Mrs. Williams is to take [redacted]  
to board and board will be required for  
the others leaving at Christmas time.

[redacted] has left Mr. Smith's at  
Waikaro & is now working at Darfield.  
These were received from "Good  
Companions," Durham St. - 100 handker-  
chiefs; Mrs Humphrey, Hornby, toys &  
clothes; Elmwood Bowling Club &  
Brayndwys Institute, cakes & sandwiches;  
Mr Sheat, sugar bag seed potatoes  
"Bennett" " " " and a half.  
It was agreed we give the Matron  
authority to purchase 6 dozen cups,  
5 dozen teaspoons and butter dishes.

Further holiday homes were re-  
quired for boys - some for short  
periods.

A lovely afternoon tea dispensed  
by Mrs Scott concluded the business.

J J Matthews  
8/2/61.

A social afternoon was held on  
December 8<sup>th</sup> at the home of Mrs.

Mrs. Garfath to say farewell to Mrs. East. Flowers arranged by Miss Henry were given, and a lovely brooch & handkerchief from the members of the House Committee. Mrs. Garfath provided a lovely Christmas Afternoon Tea and competitions and talk made for a very happy gathering.

The ladies agreed that authority for spraying the kitchen etc against flies should be given and left arrangements to Mrs. Scott to have some attended to during the holidays. It was also agreed that Christmas gifts should be made to all members of the staff and that these should vary in value according to seniority of position and also whether temporary or permanent staff. Mrs. Matthews was asked to contact Rev. Cockayne & to purchase a gift of china for the lady members of the staff and book

tokens for the men.

J.J. Matthews  
8/2/61.

The monthly meeting of the Ladies' House Committee was held at the Home on Wed. Feb. 8, those present being Nedumes Blight, Garfath, Hodder, Matthews (presiding) Newton, Pratt, Scott.

Apologies were received from Miss Horrell & Miss Black.

The minutes of the previous meeting and social afternoon were read & confirmed.

The kitchen had been sprayed against flies, and this should be efficacious for twelve months.

Mrs. Matthews had chosen Christmas gifts for the staff, china for the women and book tokens for the men. Mrs. Scott expressed appreciation on their behalf.

Mations report: There are 32 boys & 23 girls in the Home, and 1 boy boarded out. Three [redacted] children.

[redacted] were admitted in November, &

three [REDACTED] children aged 3, 2 + 1 yrs. were in the Home for 5 weeks before Christmas while their mother was in hospital.

[REDACTED] have left the home, each to live with her mother, and the four [REDACTED] children to live with their parents.

All children have had full holidays except [REDACTED] who was new home for being naughty.

General health is good, but Stewart McAllpine has had mumps + four other children boils.

Old boys & girls: [REDACTED] are happily settled in board + positions. [REDACTED] has changed his board; [REDACTED] has started work at Scott's + changed his board.

[REDACTED] are all back in town having left their country jobs. [REDACTED] is working happily at Dukka, + [REDACTED] is boarding out + is in form 5A at School.

School: This year there are 14 boys + 14 girls at High

School. 3 girls + 13 boys at Hulon St. + 14 girls + 15 boys at Waimairi, + 3 pre-schoolers, one of whom starts school this month.

Staff: Miss Drew is working as a live-in kitchen assistant, as Miss Eagle felt she was too young for the job. Miss Drew has had experience at St. Andrews College Hostel, + also works well with Mrs. Gellen, who is in charge of the cooking.

Miss Robinson, the junior staff in the Boys' Block, left at Christmas and in spite of extensive advertising her place has not yet been filled. Miss Briggs, reliever, has been doing this duty, but is leaving to be married in April, so the situation is quite serious.

Towards the end of the year, the children were given a lot of entertainments by different groups, as well as considerable quantities of gifts of toys, clothing + food, and cash for Christmas cheer.

Three dozen plastic mugs and some strong cups have been bought, also

teaspoons and plastic dishes to hold peanut butter. A quantity of odd coloured saucers sent in are in use as butter dishes.

- x The Committee authorised the purchase of a heat-controlled iron for use on the Girls' Block; curtains & pelmet for the Girls' Block sitting-room; two large round sponge sandwich trays; and a floor rug for Miss Read's room; new curtains and counterpanes needed for dormitory boys could be bought now & made up later on.

- x An inspection was made of the boys' den & sitting room, which has no floor covering and no comfortable furniture. The girls' sitting room has some rugs, but is not particularly comfortable. It was suggested that during the year more modern furniture might be obtained for the office and reception room, and the older couches be transferred to the block sitting rooms. The music-room also, which is used

for smaller entertainments as well as music lessons, has no floor covering and is rather bleak.

A long list of gifts was read out by Mrs. Scott, sent from widely scattered parts of the South Island, as well as two Christmas cakes, one from the Sanitarium and one from Papamoa Junior Chamber of Commerce. The value of staple foodstuffs sent in was £20, apart from luxury and Christmas foods.

It is hoped to obtain some new members for the Committee this year.

Mrs. Matthews pronounced the Benediction and a sumptuous afternoon tea was served by Mrs. Scott.

Confirmed:  
B. J. Hodder  
Hon. Sec.

F. J. Matthews.  
8/3/61.

The monthly meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Mar. 8, those present being Decades Black, Blight, Gaxforth, Hodder, Matthews (in the chair), Relhuish, Newton, Pratt, Scott and Miss Horrell.

Mrs. Matthews welcomed Mrs. Relhuish as a new member, and hoped she would be happy with us.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Matron's report: Children now number 60, all being in good health. New admissions are [REDACTED] 4 + 3 yrs., [REDACTED] S. + 3 yrs.

All children have settled down well at school except [REDACTED]

Old boys + girls: [REDACTED] is in a farm position at Freendale; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is settled at Blenheim and is working at Lino - Lejuy; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is back at the Home in the meantime.

The Home has had a visit from the

Harlem Globetrotters, much to the children's delight. The Sunday School picnic was much enjoyed by children & staff.

The Staff position is still the same.

The iron for the Girls' Block has been bought; also sponge tins, curtains for the Girls' Sitting room, and a floor rug for Miss Reid's room.

The Secretary was asked to write to Mrs. Richards of Shirley, to thank her for the work done by her and the Shirley Ladies' Bible Class in preparing a wedding reception for Beth Emerson.

Generous gifts of clothing and foodstuffs this month amounted to £82-15-0, as well as proceeds from several Starved Festivals.

It is hoped that Mrs. Corbett of Bognor, and Mrs. Bell of St. Albans will become members of the Committee.

At the last Board meeting authorised the Committee to go on with a furnishing programme to the

extent of £500 for the present, none planning took place, and it was decided first to obtain linoleum and some floor rugs for the senior boys' sitting-room, and for the staff sitting-rooms on both the blocks. When this has been done, the office furniture will be moved to the blocks, as well as the couches from the reception room. These will then be replaced with three fireside chairs and two desk chairs in the office, and more easy chairs in the reception room. In addition, two new mattresses are to be bought for the staff. A buying committee was appointed consisting of Mrs. Matthews, Newton, Garforth & Scott.

A afternoon tea was served and the Benediction was pronounced.

B. J. Horder,

Hon. Sec.

J. J. Matthews  
12/4/61.

the present. new  
place, and it was  
so obtain violence  
in regard to the  
new room, and for  
some reason better  
this has been done.  
This will be moved  
as well as the  
reception room.  
Unplaced with  
two and two  
the office, and more  
the reception - now  
or rearrangements  
for the staff. A  
he was appointed  
Matthews, Newell,  
was served and  
was pronounced.

Matthews  
12/4/61.

METHODIST CHURCH OF NEW ZEALAND

South Island Orphanage and Childrens Home

The Quarterly Meeting of the Board will be held at the Board Room, Methodist Connexional Office on WEDNESDAY 16th AUGUST, at 2 p.m.

A full attendance of Members is Requested.

H. A. Cochrane, SECRETARY

ENCL: Copy of the Report of the Commission to be submitted to Synods and Conference.

Please note the following in the report:

3c: This is in the body of the Report. Please note the words, "Eventually replace our present system" This is in line with the Board's Recommendation at the Special Meeting.

Rec. 4b: The point is upheld in the Commission's Recommendations.

Rec. 4d: Note the Recommendation is for the continuance of the Commission "in consultation with the M.S.S.4"

Rec. 4e: This was the Recommendation of the Auckland Board and clarifies the procedure in child care.

Please bring the Report with you to the Board Meeting next Wednesday.

H. A. Cochrane, SECRETARY.

3  
X  
Sectant

METHODIST CHURCH OF NEW ZEALAND  
COMMISSION ON CHILDREN'S HOMES  
REPORT TO SYNODS AND CONFERENCE, 1961

**1. COMMISSION'S APPROACH AND PROCEDURE**

Conference Resolution No. 3 page 168, Minutes of Conference 1959

"That Conference appoint a special Commission to consider:

(a) The whole basis and functioning of the Church's Orphanage work, with special reference to trends in New Zealand and overseas in the matter of accommodation, control and discipline of the children and their integration into the life of church and community.

(b) To investigate whether Children's Homes would be more efficiently administered as units of Social Service work under the direction of Central Missions."

a. Since the Commission was appointed by the Conference of 1959, it has studied the subject in accordance with its terms of reference, and in consultation with competent authorities in the field of child care. It has received, assembled, and considered information and material from various sources as follows:

- (i) authorities administering Methodist Children's Homes in New Zealand;
- (ii) authorities under the auspices of other Churches in New Zealand administering Children's Homes and other services for dependent children;
- (iii) The School of Social Science, Victoria University of Wellington;
- (iv) authorities under the auspices of the Methodist Church in the United States of America, United Kingdom, and Australia, concerned with the administering of Homes and other services for dependent children;
- (v) persons with active interest and experience in the care of dependent children under the auspices of the Church and under other services.

b. An Interim Report by the Commission was prepared and presented to the Conference of 1960. It was received and has been incorporated in the Minutes (pages 179-180).

c. Further consultations have this year been held with the Boards and other authorities; information received has been considered and taken into account in preparing this report.

d. The Commission has now reached the conclusions and recommendations contained in this report which it submits to the Synods and Conference of 1961.

**2. SUMMARY INFORMATION ON PRESENT SERVICES**

a. Brief history of services

The 1912 Conference passed this resolution: "In the judgment of the Conference the time has arrived when the Methodist Church of New Zealand should engage in some philanthropic work; and resolves that a Committee be appointed to sit during the year, to collect information and formulate proposals to be submitted to the Synods of 1912 and Conference of 1913; and that special consideration be given to the establishing of an orphanage."

AUCKLAND

The first of our N.Z. Methodist homes was opened 20th December, 1913 at Mt. Albert. The Rev. J. Blight as Overseer and Mrs Blight as Matron were in charge.

An additional Home "Epworth House" was established at Mt. Albert in 1924. In 1924 the Epsom Home was opened. 127 children were being cared for in 1926 - the three homes being full. A fine set of buildings at Mt. Roskill "Wesleydale" was opened in 1955. The 63 children (21 girls, 42 boys) in the Mt. Albert and Epsom homes were transferred to the new Home.

2

Records - The Manager of every children's home is required to keep at least annually to the Superintendent of Child Welfare. This part of the application for its admission. The Manager must furnish a schedule of statements, names of parents, name and relationship to child of the person admitted, name of each child showing age, sex, date and reason for records in connection with each child shown by age, sex, date and reason for admission, names of parents, name and relationship to child of the person admitted.

Inspection - The Superintendent of Child Welfare or any of his permanent officers may at any reasonable time enter any children's home to inspect both the home and the condition of the children. The controlling authority is entitled upon written request to receive a copy of the inspecting officer's report.

Plans of proposed new buildings - The Act requires that plans of new buildings or any structural alteration estimated to cost £200 or more must be submitted for the Minister's approval.

2.

### MASTERTON

The Masterton Home was officially opened by the Hon. C.J. Parr, Minister of Education, on 29th October, 1921. From the early minutes it appears that the Home was intended for orphans only but this condition was later rescinded. When the Home was opened there were six children in residence, but in a year the number had increased to 24. Subsequent buildings and alterations include the opening in 1959 of a recreation block.

### SOUTH ISLAND

The South Island Children's Home was established and opened on 25th April 1914, and Sister Mabel Morley was the first Matron. The Home was apparently the result of her personal vision for such a home to be established in the South Island. There were six children in residence at the opening and the numbers grew until there were 63 in the home and nine boys in residence with the Presbyterians at their home which was for boys only. These were nine older boys.

The present home was established in 1934. The largest number was during the war when there were 80 children in residence.

#### b. ADMINISTRATION

There is no reference made in the Law Book to Children's Homes other than the inclusion of a question in the Conference agenda.

i. Boards: Each Home is administered by a Board appointed by Synod and Conference. The Auckland and South Island Boards are large consisting of prominent Church members and an almost equal number of Ministers.

The Boards are independently responsible for the policy and property of their home. They report to Synod and Conference.

Each Board includes in its sub-committees one responsible for handling admissions and safe-guarding children's welfare.

The Church is grateful for the very generous assistance given to the Children's Homes by Board members over the years.

ii. Staff: Each Home is supervised by a Master and Matron and Assistant Matron. The Auckland Home employs 9 additional staff, Masterton 3, and S. Island 8, together with 4 casuals.

In comparison with similar institutions the salaries and other conditions of employment seem inadequate. The Church has nevertheless been very well served by staff members for many years. It is now apparent, however, that social service of this nature calls for well trained and highly qualified people. If these are to be sought the Church should not rely on the sacrificial service of its members but should have a national staffing policy more in line with that of similar organisations.

#### c. Present Homes

(A summary of the type of service provided by the three Homes being prepared by Mr G.C. Burton)

#### d. Legislation Affecting Homes

Part 1 of the Child Welfare Amendment Act 1927 entitled "Children's Homes", requires that the controlling authority of every children's home shall apply to the Minister for the registration of the home. This application has to give all relevant information concerning the premises, equipment, staffing and the number, sex and age of the children to be maintained therein. On receipt of a favourable report from the Superintendent of Child Welfare the home is registered under this part of the Act. Each home must have a Manager, appointed by the controlling authority.

The Master-ton home was officially opened by the Hon. G. J. Part, Minister of Education, on 29th October, 1921. From the early minutes it appears that the Home was intended for orphans only but this condition was later rescinded. When the Home was opened there were six children in residence, but in a year the number had increased to 24. Subsequent buildings and alterations took place the opening in 1959 of a recreation block.

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Plans of proposed new buildings - The Act requires that plans of new buildings or any structural alteration estimated to cost £200 or more must be submitted for the Minister's approval.

Inspection - The Superintendent of Child Welfare or any of his permanent officers may at any reasonable time enter any children's home to inspect both the home and the condition of the children. The controlling authority is entitled upon written request to receive a copy of the inspecting officer's report.

Records - The Manager of every children's home is required to keep records in connection with each child showing age, sex, date and reason for admission, names of parents, name and relationship to child of the person applying for its admission. The Manager must furnish a schedule of statistics at least annually to the Superintendent of Child Welfare. This part of the Act also provides for a Manager to assume control of a child for such a period and on such terms mutually agreed upon by him and the parent or guardian who makes such application.

Subsidies and grants - All children's homes are entitled to receive the Family Benefit of 15/- per week for each child maintained therein. At the end of 1956 the Government agreed to provide a capitation subsidy of a further 10/- per week per child in any registered children's home. In order to qualify for the capitation subsidy two assurances are required:-

- (a) That no child otherwise eligible and suitable for admission for whom care and accommodation are available will be refused admission merely because his parents or guardians are unable to meet the authority's requirements regarding maintenance; and
- (b) That the managing authority will make every effort to collect reasonable payments for the maintenance of each child from the parents or guardians.

Also since the end of 1956 the Government has agreed to provide financial assistance to children's homes by way of capital subsidies for new buildings and for major alterations or extension to buildings as approved by the Superintendent of Child Welfare and on receipt of certain specific undertakings by the controlling authorities.

3. COMMISSION'S CONCLUSIONS ON POLICY AND PRACTICE

As a result of its study and deliberations the Commission has reached the following conclusions:-

(a) That the traditional method of caring for dependent children in single large institutions, as used by the Methodist Church in New Zealand up to the present, was no doubt in accordance with current thinking on the subject when the present institutions were established. Further this has always reflected the desire and will of the Church to meet the urgent needs of such children.

(b) That developments have taken place in thought and practice in this field which can help our Church to provide more effective care for those dependent children.

These have resulted from:

- (i) the great advances in knowledge and understanding in the field in recent years;
- (ii) the marked development of social services for children, especially under the auspices of the State, in New Zealand during the last 25 years;
- (iii) considerable social changes affecting family life in New Zealand.

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Plan  
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- The consultation should consist of:
- a. That Conference authorise and arrange for a consultation (of 2 days in Wellington) for the study of the new Policy and its implementation.
- (1) prepared written material and references;
- (2) consultant and advisory service, especially on the technical aspects of the new methods
- b. That in order to ensure a satisfactory transition to the new policy,
- (c) That methods of care already established and proved by some other authorities, should largely or wholly replace our present system. These methods consist of:
- (i) a competent casework and counselling service for parents and children. The object of this would be to ensure that, if at all possible, the family unit is preserved. And that no child is removed from his home until every other possibility has been explored.
  - (ii) foster homes within the membership of the Church, and a counselling service for foster-parents;
  - (iii) for children with special needs the provision of "Family Homes" caring for say up to six children and located in the ordinary community
- (d) That there should be regular consultation and co-ordination of work with other social services for children, such as Child Welfare and Child Health Clinics, to ensure that -
- (i) the children coming to the attention of the Methodist authorities in the first instance, have their needs and situation understood as accurately as possible before a decision is made;
  - (ii) if the child is to be placed other than in its own home, the placement is made where its particular needs will best be met - which may or may not be with a Methodist authority;
  - (iii) whatever the decision regarding each child, those who will care for him will know of and be helped to avail themselves of the best services available;
  - (iv) experience and resources are shared with kindred services to the fullest extent.
- (e) That as caring for and helping dependent children is a skilled task, the Church should now establish a staffing policy for its case workers including:
- (i) the recruiting of staff who have personal resources adequate for such difficult and demanding work, and who are prepared to undergo the best training available;
  - (ii) Conditions of service which would provide for and encourage continuity of employment;
  - (iii) provision for training of staff. At least for key positions of responsibility, the Diploma of Social Science course at Victoria University (or other similar course overseas) merits consideration. In-service training on a systematic basis should be an integral part of the practice;
  - (iv) As Christian motivation and insight are essential in this work, some special preparation and training, possibly with periodic "refresher" courses, should be provided by the Church. This could probably best be done under the auspices of the National Council of Churches.

#### 4. RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONFERENCE

- a. That Conference adopt the Commission's conclusions on policy and practice as set out in section 3 above.
- b. That Conference requests the Boards of our Children's Homes to implement this policy as soon as practicable.

Mr A.B. Allen, Psychotherapist, Scottish Service Department, Child Welfare Mr John Mortison, School of Social Work, Department, Child Welfare  
Consultants/Advisors - School of Social Service - one of staff;  
Members of the Committee of each home.  
Representatives of M.S.S.A. and Boards - Chairman, Secretaries, Master  
or Superintendent of each home.

service for foster-parents;

(ii) foster homes within the membership of the Church, and a consulting

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(i) a competent casework and consulting service for parents and children.

(c) That methods consist of:  
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c. That in order to ensure a satisfactory transition to the new policy,  
Conference arrange for and offer to Boards assistance in implementing  
the decisions through -

(i) prepared written material and references;  
(ii) consultant and advisory service, especially on the technical  
aspects of the new methods

d. That Conference authorise and arrange for a consultation (of 2 days  
in Wellington) for the study of the new policy and its implementations.  
The consultation should consist of:

Representatives of M.S.S.A. and Boards - Chairmen, Secretaries, Master  
or Superintendent of each Home.  
Members of the Commission  
Consultants/Advisors - School of Social Science - one of staff;  
Mr John Morrison, of Social Service Department, Christchurch Diocese;  
Mr A.B. Allen, Psychologist, Canterbury Education Board; Child Welfare  
Division - one of staff; Connexional Secretary or Legal Adviser.

The Agenda to include:

General introduction  
Reception procedure and casework service  
Foster home practice  
Family homes  
Staffing policy  
Property matters  
Finance.

e. That Conference extend the appointment of the Commission for a further year  
and that it be authorised in consultation with the M.S.S.A. to:

(i) continue contact with the Boards and other authorities to assist as  
necessary;

(ii) receive and collate reports from the Boards and prepare a general  
report to Synods and Conference 1962.

f. Administration - The Commission favours the principle of administration  
set out in 1960 Minutes page 181 No. 4. on the understanding that the Special  
Committee would need to consist of people who will implement and supervise the  
new policy.

expenses!

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Rev. A. C. Harris. 446 Redruth Ave. Spreydon.

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229 Condell Av.

Mrs. Hodder. 51 Murray St. Papamui.

36.818 Mrs. Marsh. 7 Wedenra Yce. Cashmere.

56.235 Mrs. R. J. Pratt. 118 Knowles St. Albans.

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