

The following pages are an extract from The Methodist Church of New Zealand Minutes of the Annual Conference .

The extract contains the reports to Conference for the following three Methodist Children's homes:

- The Auckland Children's Home and Orphanage, Mt Albert and Epsom
- Masterton Methodist Children's Home
- South Island Orphanage and Children's Home

THE METHODIST CHURCH  
of New Zealand  

---

**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
**Annual Conference**

OPENED IN

**THE PITT STREET CHURCH,**

**AUCKLAND**

*On Thursday, 20th February, 1941*

CHRISTCHURCH

Printed by Willis & Aiken Limited, 125 Worcester Street.

1941

## RESOLUTIONS.

1. That the report be received and adopted.

2. **Representation of Deaconesses on the Committee.**  
As the appointment of Corresponding Members of this Committee raises questions not provided for in its constitution Conference refer the suggestion to the Committee for 1941 to consider and report to Synods and Conference.

3. **Sister Marara Kawiti.**  
That Miss Marara Kawiti be received on probation for three years and that she take a special course of examinations to be set by the Secretary of the Deaconess Committee and the General Superintendent of Home Missions. (This was carried by more than a two-thirds vote.)

4. That in view of the fact that our laws make no provision for the recognition, engagement, induction, naming, and uniforming of Deaconess workers outside the rules and regulations governing the Deaconess Order as set forth in the Law Book pages 131-136 and 172-175, Regulation 3 on page 134 of the Law Book be amended by the addition of the following:—

During the interval between Conferences no person shall be engaged as a paid deaconess worker except after approval by a two-thirds vote of the Deaconess Committee. Any such engagement shall have effect only until the next ensuing Conference and it shall be governed by the rules and regulations relating to the Order of Deaconesses. The person so engaged may become a candidate for admission on the conditions set forth in the said rules and regulations.

5. That the appointment of a Lady Superintendent be postponed pending consideration of the report to next Conference.

6. That representative Committees of Ministers, Laymen, and representatives of the M.W.M.U. and Y.W.B.C. Movement, in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin, investigate the whole matter of Deaconess Training, fields for Deaconess service, Deaconess Institution, and all relevant matters. That the Committees in Auckland, Christchurch and Dunedin report not later than July 31st, 1941, to the Wellington Committee, which shall collate material, recommendations, etc., and prepare proposals for next Synods and Conferences. That the Chairmen of the Districts concerned, in conjunction with the Presidents of the M.W.M.U., and Y.W.B.C. Union in each of the above centres (except in Wellington, the President of the Y.W.B.C. Movement) set up the Committees; and that on the Christchurch Committee, the Deaconess Committee be well represented. That the Committees appointed consider also the question of admitting women into the Ministry.

**QUESTION XLVIII.—What are the Resolutions of Conference respecting Connexional Orphanages?**

**A.—THE AUCKLAND CHILDREN'S HOME AND ORPHANAGE,  
MT. ALBERT AND EPSOM.**

### Report for 1940.

The past twelve months has been one of varied interest and importance, as was anticipated when the average age of the children in residence last year was higher than ever before in the history of

the Homes, we have sent out to varied situations a greater number than ever before in one year. Some admissions have been received, but not sufficient to balance the losses. The average for the year ending September 30th, 1940, has been just seventy, the number in residence at September 30th, 1940, was only 64.

The policy of the Social Security Benefits, enabling grandparents, uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, and near relatives to secure pensions for absolute orphans (those without either father or mother), has led to the withdrawal of a few children. Widowers and widows whose children have been with us, in some cases, for several years, have been withdrawn on their respective parent's remarriage.

### Changes in Staff.

We regret that Rev. A. Hopper, through ill-health, was compelled to resign his office early in the year, and the Board placed on record its appreciation of his services as Secretary. Rev. A. E. Orr has held the office tentatively for the last six months. At the close of 1939 Miss Pethybridge, assistant matron at Wesley Home for many years, with a most commendable record, for family reasons resigned. The Matrons at both Homes continue to give able and devoted service. Miss Anderson, assistant Matron at Epsom, is at present on leave, the result of an accident. She is greatly missed as the record of years of service has endeared her to all.

**Health.** This has been good on the whole, a recent serious outbreak of mumps preventing many children from attending school for a few weeks. One lad has been in hospital with an illness contracted before coming to the Home, but is now back with us.

**New Home.** This the building committee has decided must remain at present in abeyance. Plans are being completed in accord with suggested improvements, and as soon as more settled conditions eventuate, the scheme will be pushed to conclusion. In the meantime, the Board is anxious that our generous friends will contribute to our Capital Fund, and in giving instructions for drafting their wills will remember the Homes.

**The Street Appeal.** This was this year more comprehensive, embracing several homes formerly, by geographical and other reasons, outside its scope, so while a most successful sum was realised, the per capita amount, yet to be decided, will not be as great as the gross income of £5000 at first suggested as possible.

**Thanks.** The thanks of the Board are due to the members of the various Committees, especially the Ladies' Committee, who carried out the splendid function at the home of Mrs. A. L. Caughey. Thanks are also tendered to the Hon. Physicians, Drs. H. Pettit and Cyril J. A. Griffin, for valuable service, and to Mr. K. W. White, Chemist, for supplies of medicine, etc., generously given.

**Financial.** The Report of the Clerical Treasurer gives evidence of careful and successful administration of the Board's Funds; the loss of the Lay Treasurer, Mr. A. L. Caughey, who is a captain on active service, is at present largely made up by the commandeering of the capable services of Mr. William Astley, a former Lay Treasurer.

**Board of Management.** The following are nominated as the Board for 1941:—Mrs. W. R. Emerson and Mr. William Astley (Life Members); Revs. F. Copeland, C. H. Laws, B.A., D.D., T. A. Joughin,

W. A. Sinclair, Rev. George Frost, H. Ranston, F. E. Leadley (Clerical Treasurer), H. A. Sharp, W. Walker, A. E. Orr (Secretary), and B. M. Chrystall, B.A.; Mesdames T. A. Joughin, A. J. White, A. Peak, T. Clark, A. L. Caughey, J. H. Blackwell, and C. H. Burton; Misses A. Mason, E. Mason, E. Waddingham, Ida Buttle, C. Wagstaffe, B. F. Brooke, and C. Veale; Messrs. J. E. Astley, T. Clark, A. Trenwith, F. Penn, W. Ambury, A. Williams, F. L. Rudd, R. W. Gillon, J. S. Caughey, J. H. Whitburn, J. Hargraves, D. E. Parton, J. Tyler, R. T. Garlick, and G. W. Turley; and the Chairman and Secretary of the South Auckland District.

FRED COPELAND, Chairman.  
GEO. FROST, Manager and Treasurer.  
A. EVERIL ORR, Acting Secretary.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

1. That the report and financial statement be received and adopted.
2. Conference expresses its appreciation of the long and valued service rendered by Rev. A. Hopper during his period as Secretary of the Board.
3. That thanks be accorded to the Board of Management and the staff of the Homes and the Ladies' Committee; to Drs. Harold Pettit and Cyril Griffin, Hon. Physicians, and Mr. K. W. White, Chemist; to the Treasurers (Rev. Geo. Frost and Mr. A. L. Caughey); and to the Secretary (Rev. A. Hopper).
4. That we recommend to our people, through the Conference, the advisability of taking into consideration the insertion of an Endowment legacy to the Orphanage when giving instructions for drafting their will.
5. That the fund for the erection of a new Orphanage in Auckland be placed among the objects that donors to the Centennial Thanksgiving Fund can allocate their gifts, in part at least.

#### B.—MASTERTON METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME.

##### Report for Year Ended 30th September, 1940.

We wish to again report on the activities of our Home for the past year. Thanks to the many blessings of a Gracious Master, the Home has been run smoothly and happily throughout the year, the health of all the children being particularly good.

The year commenced with 29 children under our care. During the course of the year one boy attained the age when it was necessary for him to leave the Home. Good lodgings were found for him and he was set up preparatory to his taking a place in the world, and we are proud to say that the boy is doing very well.

Another lad who came to the stage of leaving school has taken up the trade of joinery and is doing very well.

One boy left the Home to go to relatives, and one girl has been adopted. Admissions for the year were four boys and two girls, making now a total of 35 children in the Home.

We are pleased to again report that the children are making satisfactory progress in their schooling as their reports have disclosed.

We continue to hear of the well being of several who have left the Home, and are taking their places in the outside world. Notably, one young lady took up the nursing profession and has now completed her training. We wish her the best of success.

Some of the boys who have gone through the Home responded to the call of Empire, and have joined the forces, and whenever possible we make contact with them.

Appreciation and gratitude for the care and attention extended to them is recognised each year by young people who were once in the Home. This is indicated by the visits paid by them to Matron, and some of these young people spend their holidays with us here.

During the year we bade farewell to our Chaplain, Rev. F. J. Parker, and his wife, and we have welcomed to our Committee and Home the Rev. and Mrs. H. S. Kings, who have proved that they came to us with a deal of experience in the work with which we are entrusted.

Fire-fighting Apparatus has been installed on the premises, and although we fervently trust that the emergency for their use will never arise, it gives us a greater sense of safety for the young souls under our protection.

We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of a bequest of £100 from the Estate of the late David Guild, Masterton.

Circuit collections and donations have shown a slight decrease on last year's figures and we look forward to a better result for the coming year.

We wish to acknowledge the friendly relations which exist between the parent body (the Wellington Board) and ourselves, and we express sincere appreciation of all the help and consideration they have shown.

With gratitude we record the unfailing attention to the Home by our Matron, Miss Allan, and her very capable and loyal assistants. It is to them we look to run the Home, and we can only express our thanks for the way in which this has been done.

Appreciation and thanks are also extended to Dr. Prior for his love of the children shown by his watchful care and attention to them, both in sickness and in health.

J. H. HANDYSIDE, Chairman,  
W. R. NICOL, Secretary-Manager.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

1. That the Report be received and adopted.
2. That the Committee for 1941 be: Messrs. A. H. Daniell, F. E. Wells, W. H. Judd, J. H. Handyside, W. R. Nicol, Dr. N. H. Prior, G. F. Whitlock, J. H. Conly, J. A. Wellington, Rev. H. S. Kings, Miss Burton, Mesdames J. Cocker, J. Elliott, F. C. Daniell, and H. S. Kings. Officers:—Chairman, Mr. F. E. Wells; Vice-Chairman, Mr. J. H. Handyside; Secretary-Manager, Mr. W. R. Nicol; Assistant Secretary, Mr. J. A. Wellington; Chaplain, Rev. H. S. Kings; Honorary Physician, Dr. N. H. Prior.

#### C.—SOUTH ISLAND ORPHANAGE AND CHILDREN'S HOME.

We give thanks to God for another year of service in connection with our Orphanage and Children's Home. Truly, in all our efforts He has been with us, and so we have been sustained. The work has proceeded steadily, without anything to mar the even tenor of our way. For this we are grateful. Whilst there have been minor ailments among the children, their health, on the whole, has been good. We deeply regret, however, that one boy, Allen Blackburn, passed away during the year. An accident on the football field revealed and accelerated a deep seated trouble. For some time the boy lay in

hospital, winning the love and admiration of all by his courage, patience and gentleness. The Matron, every member of the staff and the hospital nurses were most assiduous in their attention and help. After days of alternating hope and fear, Allen went to live with the Lord he had learned to love. The Home and all in it, are richer for this experience. We gladly record that the Board is deeply indebted to the members of the staff for their loyalty, their unceasing care of the children and their affectionate efforts on their behalf.

We are glad to say that the decision of the Board to appoint a Matron to take charge of the Home has more than justified itself. Miss Barclay is a wonderful combination of kindness, efficiency, and disciplinary power, and as the children come to understand her there is a wonderful harmony and affection, and love grows apace.

Early in the year one boy and one girl left the Home, but not before they had gained matriculation. They have passed to the care of their relatives. Other children have been placed in suitable situations, and every care is exercised over them. At the date of writing fifty-one children are under our care.

We have to record the passing of three members of the Board, full of years, and ripe for the Master's garner. Mr. E. W. Hall was on the Board from its inception, and was one of the Trustees. Mr. W. T. Burley was a quiet, consistent, and deeply interested member for many years. Mr. W. Dobbs took a keen and sympathetic interest in the work of the Board. His wise counsel was always most valuable. Also, the Rev. A. C. Lawry, who had recently retired from the Board, passed to higher service. In each case, suitable expressions of sympathy were sent to the respective families.

Much attention has been given to property matters, and care has been taken to keep the buildings and facilities in good repair. A new concrete milking shed has been erected at a convenient spot. The grounds under the care of Mr. D. Hawke, are a constant vision of beauty, while the kitchen garden has done much towards supplying the Home with vegetables.

As Chaplain, the Rev. J. Richards has given constant attention to the spiritual welfare of the children. They are associated in all Church activities and every effort is made to bring them into vital contact with their Saviour. They are associated with the Life Brigade, Bible Classes and Sunday School. Special instruction has been given in Hygiene and Sex education. An ex-member of the Home is shortly to be received into Senior membership in the Church. So the work goes on.

Through the kindness of the Christchurch City Council and the willing co-operation of many citizens, the street day collection and radio appeal resulted in £301/9/- being handed to us as our share of the result. This splendid help is much appreciated and our thanks are extended to all who helped to make it so successful as revealed in our Balance Sheet. We have also received many large and notable gifts during the year, and we thank the donors, assuring them that all their gifts will be used in the interests of the children. During the year, several Young Women's Bible Classes have sent help in money and garments. To these, and all helpers, we tender our thanks.

In response to the need, the Board decided to offer accommodation for twenty British children and to make all provision for them. This offer has been tentatively accepted by the local Committee.

Again we must express our thanks to Dr. A. J. Orchard and Mr. G. Sevicke Jones for their continued help in meeting respectively the medical and dental needs of the children. The Board is also indebted

to our worthy treasurer and property steward, Mr. M. Kershaw, who renders invaluable service at all times. The Ladies' Committee also deserves its meed of praise for much all-sacrificing and efficient help. Mr. F. A. Sheat has done excellent work as the Convener of the Grounds Committee.

We still have our problems, but God is with us, and so we take courage and go forward.

That the following be the Committee for 1941:—Mesdames G. Bowron and W. H. Seed (Life Members); Revs. W. A. Burley, W. Grigg, E. Drake, A. N. Scotter, M. A. Rugby Pratt, A. O. Harris, J. Richards, F. B. Lawrence, C. R. Taylor, J. H. Allen, E. E. Sage, and Raymond Dudley; Messrs M. Kershaw, F. A. Sheat, W. S. Worner, H. Holland, H. de R. Flesher, J. E. Purchase, S. Harrington, W. H. Marshall, and W. G. Wright; Mesdames R. Pratt, W. Cock, M. Opie, F. C. Thornton, and Sister Mabel Morley; General Secretary, Rev. E. Drake; Treasurer, Mr. M. Kershaw.

W. A. BURLEY, Chairman.  
E. DRAKE, General Secretary.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

1. That the Report be received and adopted.
2. Conference places on record its appreciation of the excellent service rendered the Home by the Rev. E. Drake as General Secretary. His long secretarial experience, his devotion to the children, and his painstaking ability have all been of the greatest value in a transitional period of our work for the children.

QUESTION XLIX.—What are the Resolutions of the Conference respecting Connexional Literature?

“METHODIST TIMES” AND LITERATURE COMMITTEE.

#### REPORT FOR 1940.

It is gratifying to report for the third year in succession an increase in the number of subscribers to our Connexional journal. Loss of subscribers by death, removal, and other causes is inevitable, but such losses have been more than made good by the enrolment of new subscribers. The various circuit agents continue to do good work and to them the committee expresses its grateful thanks.

The printers of the paper do their work with much satisfaction. War conditions make it difficult to get regular supplies of paper. Quantities are rationed and prices rise as do freight charges and war insurance premiums. The interrupted supply of wood pulp from Sweden to England has necessitated the substitution of a newsprint produced in Canada. This has been arranged for on satisfactory financial terms.

The recent Synods have paid well-merited tributes to the splendid service being rendered by the Rev. H. E. Bellhouse as Editor. The Committee has pleasure in nominating him for reappointment. The Rev. J. Dennis, who has served as Associate-Editor, will shortly relinquish this office on account of his transfer to another circuit. To him thanks are due for his willing service. With the cordial approval of the Editor the Committee nominates the incoming superintendent of the Levin circuit as the new associate.

The financial statements for the year ended 31st October show the position of the funds. The Contingent Reserve Account has, after two years, been restored to £500, and there remains a balance