

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

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MINUTES OF  
Emergency Executive  
Committee

*(in place of Annual Conference 1944)*

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OPENED IN  
PITT STREET, CHURCH,  
AUCKLAND

*On Wednesday, 26th April, 1944.*

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CHRISTCHURCH  
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1944



Reports of work amongst the Maoris have been sent in by the Sisters on the Field and show that, amid many difficulties and discouragements, they are working faithfully to uplift and guide both old and young in the Maori settlements and in the suburbs of some of our towns.

The Ladies' House Committee supervises the work on the domestic side. Twenty Training Students are boarders and with our Trainees make a large family, under the capable care of Miss Purdie. Sister Madeleine Holland has been of great assistance in this work. Miss Purdie has deepened the interest of the members of our Women's Missionary Union, and several additional donations have been received.

We regret to report the passing of Mr. M. Kershaw, who has rendered much valuable assistance to the Committee. Our sympathy is also expressed to Mrs. Provost, Secretary of the Ladies' House Committee, in the sudden death of her husband.

The Annual Statement of finance and the nominations for the Committee for 1944 will be made to Conference.

The Committee has considered the relationship to the Order of Deaconesses of one who marries and submits the following for the approval of Synods and Conference:—

Any Deaconess or Probationer who decides to marry shall give at least three months' notice of her intention to the Deaconess Committee and also to the circuit, committee or Board by which she is employed. Upon her marriage her membership of the Order of Deaconesses shall cease save in exceptional cases declared to be such by a two-thirds vote of the Deaconess Committee. In such exceptional cases the Committee shall determine the conditions that shall govern continued membership of the Order. A Deaconess or Probationer retiring under this regulation shall receive from the Retiring Fund the amount to which she may be entitled under the rules of such Fund.

#### Re Resolution of Otago-Southland Synod.

The Committee is glad to hear that there are definite positions available for nurses and nurse-deaconesses, but cannot advertise these openings unless further information is to hand as to places and salaries offering. One Deaconess who is a fully trained nurse has resigned from the order because she knew of no acceptable position in our Church for a full-time nurse. Unless the Committee is informed of positions for Deaconesses in our Circuits, it cannot urge young women to train and then give them no position. Assurance of employment is given to Deaconesses approved by the Mission Boards. Moreover, the Committee does not have authority to visit Circuits to seek out trainees for our work. A number of enquiries from young women have been answered during the year and they have been referred to their Ministers for information.

The following Committee is recommended for this year:—The Chairman of the District, the Connexional Secretary, Revs. E. Drake, A. N. Scotter, R. Dudley, D. O. Williams, E. E. Sage, N. P. Larsen, H. Whitfield, C. O. Hailwood, Mesdames G. Bowron, H. E. Lamb, A. A. Sandford R. Dudley, S. H. Provost, A. Allen, S. Orchard, Sister Mabel Morley, Messrs. C. A. Newman (Life Member), H. Chapman, J. E. Purchase, E. H. Andrews, W. C. Francis, A. A. Harrow, with Mrs. W. R. Featherston for M.W.M.U.

J. H. ALLEN, Chairman.  
D. O. WILLIAMS, Treasurer.  
A. N. SCOTTER, Secretary.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the Supplementary Report be received and adopted.
3. That the Financial Statements be adopted.
4. That the matter of the relationship to the order of Deaconesses of one who marries be deferred until next normal Conference.
5. That the following recommendations be referred to the Deaconess Committee for consideration:—

“(a) We express our regret that while one young woman is being trained for work in the Solomon Islands and three for Home and Maori Missions, none is being prepared specifically for City Mission Work. We urge upon our young women the claims of our cities in which there is so much scope.

“(b) That the Deaconess Institution Committee be urged to prepare a suitable statement of the opportunity of service in the Deaconess Order, and that this statement be presented at every young women's Bible Class camp by an approved person with a view to seeking candidates for the Order.

“(c) Synod requests that Conference give favourable consideration to the following: ‘The N.Z. Methodist Deaconesses' Association, comprising all Methodist deaconesses in active work, unanimously applies for representation at the annual Conference of the Methodist Church of N.Z., in line with that afforded the N.Z. Methodist Local Preachers' Association and the Methodist H.M. Association.’”

6. That the Committee be as named in the Report.

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

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

##### THIRTIETH ANNUAL REPORT, 1943.

We present this 30th Annual Report with deep gratitude to God for His unflinching blessing upon the work of our Homes throughout another year. In spite of difficulties and anxieties there is a constant sense of Divine Guidance for which we are profoundly grateful.

**Admissions and Withdrawals.** During the year ended September 30th, 28 children were admitted, and 30 were withdrawn. At Wesley we have 31 boys under our care and 4 boarders, while at Epsom there are 22 girls, 6 small boys, and 5 boarders, a total of 68.

**Girls' Hostel.** At its July meeting the Board decided to establish a Hostel to meet the needs of the senior girls in our charge. This will enable us to accept more small children at the Epsom Home. A suitable building is now being sought.

**Staffing.** Upon the establishment of a Girls' Hostel, several changes in staffing will take place at the Epsom Home. The present Matron, Mrs. R. M. Butterworth, will take charge of the Hostel, and a Master and Matron will be appointed at Epsom. It is with deep regret that the Board has accepted the resignation of Miss Anderson, Assistant Matron, who, after 18 years of devoted service in the Epsom Home retires into private life. The Board has expressed its admira-



tion of this record of fidelity and success. At Wesley Home, Mr. and Mrs. B. Cooke have requested the Board to release them at the end of December from the position of Master and Matron, a position which they have held with great acceptance for the past two years.

**The Board's Officers.** At the end of June the Rev. A. Everill Orr retired from the position of Secretary to the Board, owing to increasing duties in connection with the Central Mission. Mr. Orr was sincerely thanked for his services during the past three years. The Clerical Treasurer, Rev. F. E. Leadley, was then appointed to the dual position of Secretary-Treasurer, and conducts the Board's business at the City Office, Probert Chambers, Queen St., Auckland, C.1.

**New Home, Mt. Roskill.** There is some encouragement to hope that the easing of the building situation will enable the Board to proceed with the erection of the new Home in the near future. Already the necessary excavation and levelling have been completed, and plans are being finalised. A building permit has been applied for. The Board has appointed a strong committee to have charge of building operations.

**Street Appeal.** The Auckland Orphanages United Council is rendering increasingly valuable assistance to the 15 Denominational Orphanages and Children's Homes in the Province. The annual Street Appeal in September, 1942, divided upon a per capita basis, yielded £434 to our funds, an increase on the previous year of £78.

**Finances.** We are pleased to report an increase in Maintenance Fees, and that Christmas Offerings and Annual Donations from Circuits and Home Mission Stations continue to grow. The income from Bequests (£1240) is a little less than last year; and we take this opportunity of urging sympathetic friends to remember the work of our Homes when making wills.

During the year we were able to acquire a Chevrolet Motor Van, which has largely solved the problem of the carriage of supplies.

At the end of September the "Epworth" property was sold privately for £2100. The deposit of £100 only comes into the year's accounts.

Excess Revenue of £2096, and income from legacies of £1240, enable us to transfer the sum of £3336 to Capital, for the New Building Fund.

**Appreciation and Thanks.** The sincere appreciation and thanks of the Board are offered to the Honorary Medical Officers, to Mr. G. Fritchley, S.S. Superintendent, to Mr. K. W. White, Chemist, to Messrs. C. Martyn and Sons, Opticians, to Mr. L. S. Dearing, Butcher, to Messrs. R. Cranston and Sons, for lawn mower repairs, to Mr. W. Bridge, Mrs. Freeman and Messrs. Platt, for fruit, to the Salvation Army for vegetables; to several Ladies' Guilds, for supplies; to the Ladies' Committees of both Homes, to the Auckland Travel Club, for making garments, to the many business houses whose contributions in cash or goods have been secured through the City Collector, Mr. J. H. Whitburn, and to all other friends whose services so willingly rendered throughout the year have helped to give variety and pleasure to the children.

**General.** The year has brought many problems, the greatest of which is the problem of adolescence. Increasing temptations to moral laxity among young people emphasise the importance of the work

we are undertaking. It is service to the community—often hard work, sometimes disappointing. The difficulties do not decrease as the years go by, but the work goes on. Children's lives are being safeguarded. And that is our supreme task.

**Board of Management for 1944:** Mrs. W. R. Emerson and Mr. Wm. Astley (life members); Revs. E. T. Olds (Chairman), F. E. Leadley (Secretary-Treasurer), E. W. Hames, M.A., H. E. Bellhouse, W. Walker, B. Metson, W. Parker, A. E. Orr; Mesdames A. H. White, T. Clark, A. Peak, A. L. Caughey, C. H. Burton, C. K. Wigglesworth; Misses A. Mason, E. Mason, E. Waddingham, I. Buttle, C. E. Wagstaff, C. Veale, B. M. Brooke; Messrs. J. E. Astley, T. Clark, F. Penn, A. Williams (on leave), F. L. Rudd (on leave), J. S. Caughey (on leave), A. L. Caughey (on leave), J. H. Whitburn, J. Hargraves, J. Tyler, R. T. Garlick (on leave), G. W. Turley, D. E. Parton, W. H. Faulkner, C. K. Wigglesworth, C. E. Goode, and the Chairman and Secretary of the South Auckland District.

E. T. OLDS, Chairman.

F. E. LEADLEY, Secretary-Treasurer.

30th September, 1943.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

1. That the Report and Financial Statements be adopted.
2. That thanks be tendered to the Secretary-Treasurer, Rev. F. E. Leadley.
3. **John Currie Bequest.** That in connection with the bequest of the late John Currie for a cottage home for destitute orphan children, such home to be under the joint management of the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches, and in view of the impracticability of carrying out the exact wishes of the testator, the Board of Management of the Auckland Methodist Orphanage is hereby fully empowered to take such action as may be necessary for the legacy to be equally divided between the two Churches named for their existing orphanage work in the Auckland District.
4. That the Board of Management be as named in the Report.

#### B.—MASTERTON CHILDREN'S HOME.

Report of the Management Committee for the Year ended  
30th September, 1943.

##### Children.

At the beginning of the year we had 25 children in residence—admissions numbered 14 and removals 12. (Six to the wider activities of adolescent life and six returned to parents.) Leaving 27 children in the Home at 30th September, 1943.

The health of the children and their progress at school has been very satisfactory.

##### Staff.

Early in the year the Committee received and accepted with regret the resignations of Miss M. I. Allan (our Matron for 17 years), and Miss O. Henderson (our cook for many years). Both these ladies had served the Home with faithfulness, zeal and ability and take with them their appreciation and thanks of the Committee for service given over a long period of years.



In January Mr. and Mrs. H. Bateup took up their duties as Master and Matron and have Miss M. Potter associated with them as Assistant. All have rapidly become acquainted with their duties and the requirements of the Home, and possess the entire confidence of the Committee and the affection of the children.

#### Committee.

We have to report the departure from Masterton, and consequent loss to the Committee, of Rev. and Mrs. H. S. Kings. For some months Mr. Francis Parker carried out the duties of Chaplain, and in April Rev. and Mrs. G. H. Goodman joined the Committee along with Misses R. Elliott and L. Cocker and Messrs. T. H. Crosbie and D. A. Barns. Mr. J. H. Conly is on leave of absence while serving with the forces.

#### Thanks.

The Committee extends thanks to the many kind friends and supporters of the Home in the circuits and Sunday Schools through whose interest the record sum of £528/12/2 has been received by way of collections and donations, to the many who have made other gifts of books, fruit, hobby materials, etc., and to the good folk who have received the children into their homes during holiday periods. The assistance and co-operation of the Wellington Board—so cordially given—has been most appreciated by the Masterton Committee.

#### Committee for 1944:

Officers: Chairman, Mr. F. E. Wells; Deputy Chairman, Mr. G. F. Whitlock; Physician, Dr. N. H. Prior; Secretary-Manager, Mr. W. R. Nicol; Assistant Secretary, Mr. W. H. J. Watson.

Other Members of Committee: Mesdames J. Cocker, F. C. Daniell, J. Elliott and G. H. Goodman; Misses Burton, L. Cocker and R. Elliott; Rev. G. H. Goodman; Messrs. D. A. Barns, J. H. Conly, T. H. Crosbie, A. H. Daniell, and W. H. Judd.

For the Committee,

F. E. WELLS, Chairman.

W. R. NICOL, Secretary-Manager.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the Committee be as named in the Report.
3. That thanks be expressed to the Manager and Matron, Mr. and Mrs. H. Bateup.

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

##### REPORT FOR CONFERENCE, 1944.

For the joy of another year of service for the little ones we give thanks to the children's Saviour. Naturally, the War is still producing problems—in the necessary provision for extra children, in increased costs, and in the difficulty of securing an adequate staff for our work. At present, there are 76 children in the Home and there are two others under our care. Of the old boys serving with the Forces, several have visited the Home, and have been gladly wel-

comed. One on furlough has married since his return, and one or two have been hospital cases. In all our work we have had the ready assistance of the Child Welfare Department.

The Matron, Miss Barclay, continues her untiring and able service, watching over the physical, mental, and spiritual welfare of each member of her flock with great understanding and faith. During the year the Board appointed Miss Lyth, of Dunedin, as sub-matron, and she has proved herself most efficient and enthusiastic in her work. Through recent months staff difficulties have been less than for some time. In addition to loyal service, there is remarkable concord among the members, so that work otherwise so arduous becomes comparatively pleasant and easy. On the whole, the health of the children has been good, some cases of measles and scarlet fever causing some anxiety. At present, all the children are in the best of health.

We express our gratitude to the Ladies' Committee, and to Mrs. Pratt, as President, for untiring and excellent service. We thank those ladies, also, who have rendered help in sewing. To Dr. A. J. Orchard and Mr. Sevicke Jones we are deeply indebted for honorary professional services—now extending over many years. The Board has sustained a great loss in the death of its Treasurer and Property Steward, Mr. Mark Kershaw. His ability, his courtesy, and indefatigable service so ably rendered will not soon be forgotten. (A suitable resolution will be submitted to Synod.)

The Rev. C. R. Taylor succeeded the Rev. J. Richards as Chaplain. Already he finds much encouragement in his work. He coached the children for the Scripture and Band of Hope examinations, with excellent results. The senior boys and girls who made decision at the last B.C. Camps have been formed into a Christian Endeavour Society in the Home itself. The work is full of promise, and spiritual experience and understanding are being developed. Voluntary attendance at the evening Church service has increased. Mr. C. R. Sheat continues his oversight of the grounds and farm, and Mr. D. Hawke as gardener, renders faithful service.

We are indebted to the Christchurch City Council for granting a Street Day for the Combined Orphanages' Appeal. Though the day was wretchedly wet the results passed all records. The Broadcasting Authorities are thanked for the Radio Concert. The young people of our Churches rendered fine service in connection with both sides of the appeal. Our share of the proceeds amounts to over £635, a very welcome addition to our funds, which are always taxed to the utmost. In this connection the Board wishes to stress the fact that some quite well-to-do Circuits so inadequately help the funds of the South Island Orphanage, either by collections, donations or otherwise. We would appeal for a more generous response to a real need.

We look back with gratitude and we look forward with hope and faith. He Who has been our Helper is our Helper still. We go forward in His strength.

The following Committee is nominated for next year:—Mrs. Bowron and Sister Mabel Morley (life members), Revs. M. A. Rugby Pratt, W. Grigg, A. N. Scotter, C. R. Taylor, J. H. Allen, E. E. Sage, Raymond Dudley, D. O. Williams, and N. P. Larsen; Messrs. F. A. Sheat, W. S. Worner, H. Holland, H. de R. Flesher, J. E. Purchase, W. H. Marshall, H. J. S. Harrington, and W. G. Wright; Mesdames Pratt, W. Cock, M. Opie, F. C. Thornton, J. Allen, C. W. Barrell, with Miss Horrell: General Secretary: To be appointed.

J. H. ALLEN, Chairman.  
E. DRAKE, Secretary.



### RESOLUTIONS.

1. That the Report be received and Financial Statement adopted.
2. That thanks be expressed to Rev. E. Drake.
3. Conference records its unqualified appreciation of the sterling Christian character of the late Mr. Mark Kershaw, and of his devoted service to many causes of the Methodist Church, and especially to the work of the South Island Methodist Children's Home.
4. That the Committee be as named in the Report.

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

#### A.—“METHODIST TIMES” AND LITERATURE COMMITTEE.

##### REPORT FOR 1943.

It is gratifying to report that despite the high costs of production and the continued necessity to conserve supplies of newsprint, the “Methodist Times” has maintained a satisfactory standard. The Rev. H. E. Bellhouse, as editor, holds the confidence of the Connexion, and he is well supported by his associate, the Rev. G. R. Harris. The best tribute of appreciation of editorial work is the steadily sustained increase in the number of subscribers.

Both the editor and his associate are nominated for re-appointment. The Committee will, after the ensuing Conference, consider the whole matter governing editorial appointments, including the suggested departure from the custom of an annual appointment.

A year ago our printers received a demand for a retraction and an apology, and were threatened with a claim for damages in respect of the publication of an article entitled “This Morality of Ours.” The Committee refused to sanction either a retraction or an apology and guaranteed the printers against financial suffering. The complaining party, however, did not proceed to action.

The Committee places on record its warm appreciation of the co-operation and consideration always given by the printers. It also records its thanks to all who have maintained their interest in the paper, especially to the contributors of regular features and to the circuit agents and reporters.

The financial position is shown in the printed statements. The Committee asks for the usual subsidy of £150 from the Connexional Fire Insurance Fund and, from the Contingent Fund, for a reduced subsidy of £75 plus one-half of the honoraria for the Editors and their contingent expenses in accordance with the standing regulations.

The Committee nominated for the new Connexional year is as follows:—Revs. M. A. Rugby Pratt (ex-officio), E. Drake, R. Dudley, J. H. Allen, J. Dennis, N. P. Larsen, H. W. Payne, and Messrs. H. Holland, C.B.E. (lay treasurer), W. A. Bascand, E. H. Andrews, W. G. Wright, C. C. Sandford, and H. de R. Flesher.

On behalf of the Committee,

J. H. ALLEN, Chairman.

M. A. RUGBY PRATT, Secretary.

### RESOLUTIONS.

1. That the Report, Revenue Account and Balance-Sheet be received, adopted, and printed in the Minutes.
2. That Conference records its appreciation of the valuable editorial service rendered by the Rev. H. E. Bellhouse, and that he be re-appointed.

3. That the Rev. G. R. Harris be heartily thanked for his services as Associate Editor, and that he be re-appointed.

4. That grants be approved of £150 from the Connexional Fire Insurance Fund, and £75 in addition to the standing grant of one-half of the honoraria for the Editors and their contingent expenses.

5. That Paragraph 204, clause (9) on page 55 of the Low Book, dealing with the order of business for the quarterly meeting, be amended to read:—

- (9) (a) How many subscribers are there to the connexional paper in this circuit?
- (b) Have the subscriptions all been paid?
- (c) What steps can we now take to improve the circulation?
- (d) Has a circuit reporter been appointed?

#### B.—PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE.

The Publications Committee has met as required during the year, and has to report as follows:—

1. It has approved the publication of the following:—

- (a) “A Word to Parents,” a pamphlet on Infant Baptism, prepared by Rev. W. T. Blight, B.A., B.D., to be published by the L. & C. Committee.
- (b) “Statement on Membership, for Young Maoris,” being an explanation of the implications of Membership, written by Rev. G. I. Laurenson, to be published privately.

2. It has recommended the L. & C. Committee to investigate the possibility of issuing a series of study booklets, to be known as “The Epworth Booklets,” such to be suitable for Church Fellowships, and Youth Groups.

3. It has noted that progress is being made with the “Exposition of the Statement of Faith” by Rev. E. W. Hames, M.A., and also the “Manual on Membership” by Rev. C. T. Symons, M.A., B.D.

4. Duties of the Committee: The work of this Committee has been under review, and we make recommendations accordingly.

E. T. OLDS, Chairman.

H. C. MATTHEWS, Convener.

### RESOLUTIONS.

1. That the Report be received and adopted.
2. That Conference draw the attention of Circuits and Home Mission Stations to the fact that supplies of “Prophecy, Yesterday and To-day” (Symons); “The Devotional Life” (Penn); and “How to Study the Bible” (Blight), are still available on application to the Epworth Bookroom.

3. (a) That the duties of the Publications Committee be: To grant approval (or otherwise) of the publication of MSS. submitted. So that this may be facilitated, the MSS. of all suggested publications shall be submitted for approval before publication is undertaken.

(b) The Publications Committee shall offer suggestions for future publications, and encourage prospective authors to submit MSS. for approval, publications thus initiated being published by the L. and C. Committee of the H.M. Board.