

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

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The Methodist Church  
of New Zealand

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MINUTES  
OF THE  
ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE

Held at PALMERSTON NORTH, 1957

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3. That Conference express appreciation of the work of the Deaconess Board and staff.

4. That thanks be expressed to Mrs C. H. Colechin and Mrs P. A. LeBrun for long and valued services on the Deaconess Board.

5. That thanks be expressed to the ex-Vice-President for presenting to many young women the claims of the Deaconess Order.

6. That the Board be as printed on page 11 herein.

**QUESTION LIV.—What are the Resolutions of Conference respecting Children's Homes?**

## Children's Homes

### Auckland:

"Wesleydale" is a comfortable, modern home, with 63 girls and boys in residence with ages ranging from 3 to 18 years. Their health has been good and their school reports satisfactory. The senior boy plans to enter medical school and another is preparing to study Law. The children attend the Mt Roskill Church and combine in the various youth activities. A large storeroom for clothing, several cupboards and shelves, a vegetable storeroom and a bicycle stand have been added. The gardens are kept in good order.

19 sections at Epsom and 22 sections at Mt Albert have been leased under Glasgow lease at a total rental of £2415. The Trustees raised a mortgage of £7000 to develop the Mt Albert property, and this amount will be repaid out of rentals over the next 10 years or so.

The Board depends upon the Christmas Appeal for financial support of its work and asks that Circuits compiling their Budgets consider the claims of the Board in the giving of the people.

### Masterton:

With 4 admissions and 3 departures the number in the Home is 27. The permanent staff remains the same. There have been some changes on the Committee during the year. After 35 years of continual use the property has reached the stage when some major repairs are necessary including the entire replacement of the roof and extensive plumbing repairs. Plans are being prepared for the replacement of the recreation shed, originally removed from Featherstone Camp after the 1st World War. The contribution from the Circuits this year reached a record figure of over £1100 and reflects the success of the Stewardship Campaign in many circuits. With rising maintenance costs the additional finance is most acceptable.

### South Island:

There are 52 children in residence. The health of the children has been excellent. Holiday homes were secured for the children during the Christmas period, and for the first time during the May holidays, and it is hoped that this will be continued in the future.

The Master and Matron, Mr and Mrs G. Howells, tendered their resignation, on account of Mrs Howell's health. They served the Children and the Church for 7½ years and the Board fittingly acknowledged their work. Mr and Mrs N. R. Karston from Motueka have been appointed Master and Matron.

Heavy expenditure has been required in the upkeep of the buildings and the provision of better facilities within the Home.

The Combined Street Day Appeal realised £1150 as our share, and the Government Capitation Subsidy has greatly benefited the Home during the past six months. The Board has agreed to being included in the Conference scheme of budgeting.

### RESOLUTIONS

1. That the Reports and Financial Statements be received and adopted.

2. That the Boards of Management be as printed on page 12 herein.

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

## A—Methodist Times Committee

### ANNUAL REPORT 1957

The Committee reports a satisfactory year with progress in several ways.

#### Circulation.

There is no doubt that the most effective way of increasing the circulation of our paper is by personal effort within each congregation. Again this year we adopted the method of supplying circuit agents with a number of copies for free distribution. Over 2500 copies of a special institutional issue were sent out in April. Whereas 404 new subscribers were enrolled during the year ending April 30, we have had 178 new names for the commencement of our new year as at May 1, and are hopeful that the number of such enrolments will steadily continue.

We are still a long way from realising our aim—our Church paper in every Methodist home. Since 1937 our Church membership has risen by about 9 per cent. Our "Times" enrolment has increased in that period of twenty years by over 100 per cent. Further reference is made in another paragraph to this question of increasing our circulation.

#### Format.

It will be readily agreed that our subscription rate of 12s 6d is very reasonable for a fortnightly paper of 28 pages. By maintaining the subscription at as low a rate as possible, however, we put a limit on our financial resources. Within that limit, in co-operation with our printers, the best efforts are made to produce the paper in as attractive and readable form as possible. This year colour has been used on the cover pages and various typographical alterations effected.

#### Editorial.

While the outward appearance of a journal is important, it is by its contents that it must be judged. The Rev W. T. Blight B.A., B.D. is now in his eleventh year as Editor and during those years has served the Church in a remarkable way. The content and range of material provided issue after issue continue to be most informative, useful and inspiring. He expects to superannuate in February of next year and thus freed from circuit duties will be able to devote much more time to the paper than at present. The Committee feels that the Church is fortunate in having the benefit of his continued services in this way, and heartily recommends him for re-appointment for a further term of three years.

#### Finance.

On the year's operations we show a loss of £49 11s 1d. For a period our printers had to use newsprint instead of white