

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

Held at CHRISTCHURCH, 1958

Price: Two Shillings and Sixpence
PROCURABLE at the CONNEXIONAL OFFICE

III.—Children's Homes

A.—AUCKLAND:

The Home has accommodated 62 children throughout the year. When children have moved out others have quickly taken their place. At the end of the year several boys and girls left to attend University and others are on farms and in offices.

Mrs R. M. Butterworth, the Matron left the Home at the end of the year. She had given long and faithful service and it was with regret that the Board accepted her resignation. Miss M. Jones, a Methodist from the Old Country has been appointed. Miss Jones has trained in Children's work in England and has had four years experience as a Sub-Matron in a New Zealand Children's Home. She comes well equipped for the position and brings to the work a deep love and devotion for children and an earnest desire to train them to take their place in the community. Miss James a Methodist from New Plymouth has come on the Staff and is filling the position as Assistant Matron.

The Board desires to thank the Ladies' Committee under the leadership of Mrs F. Harris—the House Committee under the convensorship of Mrs C. K. Wigglesworth—the Building Committee and especially Mr J. G. Rennie who has given hours of oversight and Mr K. Orams for his work supervising the Grounds. Our grateful thanks to the Chaplain, Rev G. T. Gilbert, Dr Barker, our Medical Advisor and to many others whose gifts and interest are such a help to the large family.

B.—MASTERTON.

There are now 31 children in the Home, five admissions and one departure.

The plans for the new Recreation Room have been approved and it is now only necessary to have Government approval for a subsidy before calling for tenders.

The Committee is again appreciative of the grants received from the Trust Lands Trust, these being £50 special Library grant and £30 for School Stationery.

The Committee also expresses appreciation to the members of the Wellington Senior Fellowship who paid a working visit to the Home.

During the year notification was received of the following bequests—

£900	Estate of Emily Taylor
£100	Estate of Julia Letcher
£100	Estate of Minnie Grace Sinclair
£50	Estate of Alice Moxham

A difficult year has been experienced through epidemics and staff illnesses.

A full staff is now assisting in the running of the Home. The Committee records its appreciation of their services and also expresses its grateful thanks to Mr and Mrs Bateup for their assistance during a period of illness in the Home.

C.—SOUTH ISLAND

The brevity of this Report is in accordance with Conference decision, it does not indicate a lessened interest in the work. During the year we have cared for 65 children and at the present

there are 53 in residence, (34 boys and 19 girls). Several others are boarded out. One is in his second year at University and another is Head Prefect at the Papanui High School. Apart from minor ailments and accidents, the health of the children has been excellent. In this connection, mention must be made of the service given, for a number of years, by Dr S. C. Peddie. The children find a worshipping centre at our Papanui Church, several members of the Staff being Sunday School Teachers.

The most important change of the year was the appointment of Mr and Mrs W. Robertson, of Auckland, as Master and Matron. Mr Robertson is an engineer, while Mrs Robertson has had long nursing experience in Hospitals. Both have taken up their duties with enthusiasm. We wish them a happy and useful term of service. A new gardener, Mr R. G. Fraser of Cromwell has taken the place recently vacated by Mr C. Patient. The film "Room For One More" is being used with good results. The recreational life of the Home is being well catered for.

The Home was well reported on recently by an Officer of the Child Welfare Department.

As the Home caters for needy children throughout the South Island, we earnestly appeal to all our circuits to accept a greater measure of responsibility for it. Circuits working on a budget system are urged to make provision for increasing the amount set apart for the Home from time to time.

D. O. WILLIAMS (President of Conference), Chairman.
A. EVERIL, ORR, Convener, and Official Representative N.Z.M.S.S.A.

RESOLUTIONS

1. That the Reports and Financial Statements be received and adopted.
2. That the Boards of Management be as printed on Page 11 herein.

QUESTION LIII.—What are the Resolutions of the Conference with regard to (a) The Order of Deaconesses? (b) The Training of Deaconesses?

Methodist Deaconess Board

REPORT FOR 1958

Deaconess House:

There are five students in training this year. They have settled in very well and are acquitting themselves to the satisfaction of the Board. One student, Miss Mary Sealey, will be nominated to Conference for Dedication. Her probationary year was completed on the Maori Field, before entering the House.

The Hostel section of the House has been full. Deaconess House is a "home away from home" for many young women. The Board wishes to pay tribute to the Lady Superintendent, Mrs G. E. Gauntlett, for her wise and understanding leadership.

During the year Deaconess House was "home" to Miss Juliet Saloh for three months. This young lady is a student from Indonesia, and it was a privilege to have her with us.

The property Committee under the guidance of Mr A. A. Harrow, has undertaken major maintenance items in the House.