

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 WELLINGTON, 1959

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arrived for serious thought to be given to the appointment of a full time chaplain. It is imperative that earnest consideration be given by the District to the financial aspects involved if we are to maintain a Chaplaincy Ministry comparable to sister churches.

#### Deaconess Work

Sister Doreen Bulford is carrying a heavy responsibility administering the Hot Meals Service, Youth Work, and the Girls' Life Brigade, etc., and all the multifarious duties devolving on a City Mission Deaconess.

W. E. FALKINGHAM, Superintendent.

#### RESOLUTIONS

1. That the reports of Auckland, Christchurch, and Dunedin Central Missions and Wesley Church (Wellington Central) Social Services' Trust be received and adopted.

2. **The Methodist Counselling Centre:** The Counselling Centre at the Methodist Central Mission, Auckland, shall be controlled by a Board of Management which shall comprise:

(a) The following Standing Members:

The Principal of Trinity Theological College.

The Tutor in Pastoral Theology at Trinity College.

Two members nominated by the Trinity College Council.

The Superintendent of the Methodist Central Mission, Auckland.

One member nominated by the Board of Management of the Mission.

Two of the Trustees of the Methodist Central Mission, Auckland.

(b) Up to four co-opted members appointed by the Standing Members, such persons not necessarily being members of the Methodist Church of New Zealand.

The Board of Studies of Trinity Theological College shall be responsible for the selection of all key personnel and shall approve any training programme provided at the Centre.

3. That Conference congratulates the Superintendent and Trustees of the Central Methodist Church and Mission that the development of its work now permits preliminary steps to be taken to launch a building scheme for their Community Welfare Building on the Octagon site, Dunedin.

4. That Conference record its appreciation to the Superintendents of Auckland, Christchurch, and Wellington Social Service work.

#### Boards of Management:

That the Boards of Management for Central Missions be as follows:

##### (A) AUCKLAND:

Superintendent Central Mission (Chairman); General Superintendent of Home Missions, Chairman of the District, Revs E. W. Hames, L. R. Gilmore, Dr D. O. Williams, Dr H. Ranston, A. J. Seamer, Wesley Parker, and the Ministers of the Takapuna, Mount Albert, and Remuera Churches; Mesdames M. Spurge, I. Sweetapple, J. Tyler, E. Mills, and Miss E. Booth, Messrs A. E. Hayman, J. Trenwith, L. J. Mor, F. Penn, E. A. Astley, R. T. Garlick, C. K. Wigglesworth, J. S. Caughey, W. Woodward, A. H. Winstone, R. Simpson, N. Mee, F. E. Sutherland, C. W. Firth, N. A. West, and

Keith Clark, together with the Circuit Officials and Trustees of the Mission properties.

## III---Children's Homes

### A.—AUCKLAND

The number of children in the Home during the year has been an average of 40. Two of the boys are at Wesley College and several of the senior girls and boys have been boarded out in private homes.

There have been great staffing difficulties for some time. The Board has now secured the services of Mr and Mrs J. Riley, well-known and highly respected Methodist workers in our Gisborne Church, as Superintendent and Matron. They will be taking up their duties in July.

The Connexional Office has already passed plans for a house to be built on the property where the Superintendent, the Matron and their family will live.

The Home and the Board are proud that one of the ex-boys from the home is coming forward as a candidate for the ministry this year, and another studying medicine in Dunedin. Altogether, reports concerning the welfare of ex-pupils are encouraging.

The Ladies' Committee has done stalwart service during the year, relieving with work in the Home during staff difficulties. And, as usual, splendid work has been done by the sewing groups. Appreciation is expressed also to all those who have assisted with supervision of the grounds and the buildings.

### B.—MASTERTON

We now have thirty-one children under our care and this is really full capacity. There were seven children admitted during the year and also seven departures. Eight are now attending Wairapa College and three are pre-school age.

The resignation of Miss C. Fell who has been a faithful member of the staff for eleven years was received with regret.

The exterior of the main building is at present being painted while necessary renovations have also been attended to.

Our big news is that the long-awaited Recreation Room has been completed, the opening and dedication ceremony taking place on Saturday, June 20. The Room is already proving of great benefit to the children. The contract price was £2830 and we are thankful for Government assistance of the £1 for £1 subsidy.

The following notifications of bequests have been received: Estate W. H. Bennett, £100; Alice McEwen, £10; Mrs D. L. Craig, approx. £2500; Joseph Bilton, £100; Bernard Anderson, £1000; Rev T. W. Featherston, £200.

The Committee thank all who have in any way assisted with the work especially in the provision of Holiday Homes for the children, gifts of clothing, produce, financial support and donations; to our Honorary Physicians, Doctors N. H. and O. F. Prior, and to the Master and Matron and staff for the love and care bestowed on the children. We express our thankfulness to God for what has been achieved in the interests of the children and seek His help and guidance during the coming year.

The following committee is nominated for the ensuing year: Mr A. D. Grigg, chairman; Revs J. B. Dawson, John Grundy; Dr N. H.

Prior, Dr O. F. Prior; Mesdames W. H. Aburn, D. Crichton, A. D. Griggs, J. F. Cody, Messrs F. E. Wells, D. Crichton, C. E. Archer, W. L. Churchill, A. K. Hodder, A. Kay, J. F. Cody (treasurer), W. H. Saunders (secretary).

#### C.—SOUTH ISLAND

##### Staff:

It is pleasing to report that the Staff position during the year has been steady, with few changes. Mr and Mrs W. Robertson, who are now in their second year as Master and Matron are finding work congenial but exacting. Sister Rona continues to exercise a fine influence in the Home as Assistant Matron. There are 10 on the permanent staff and 3 part time helpers.

##### Children:

At present there are 63 children in the Home, the highest number we have had for some years, and two others are boarded out. Two boys are continuing with University Studies. One Maori boy has been sent to Wesley College and one to a farm in the Waikato. In the main, the health of the children has been good.

##### Finance:

Our financial year now ends on March 31st instead of May 30th. This will facilitate the work in the office, without creating any difficulty in the circuits. Promptness in remitting amounts is an excellent thing.

##### Board:

The following are nominated:

The Chairman of the District, Connexional Secretary, Superintendent Ministers of Durham Street, St Albans, Christchurch East, Central Mission and Cambridge Terrace, Woolston, Addington, Papanui, and Riccarton circuit, Revs. A. O. Harris, W. G. Slade, W. T. Blight, C. R. Taylor, Messrs H. J. T. Harrington, H. de R. Flesher, A. A. Harrow, F. A. Sheat, P. B. Birkett, R. Barnett, C. L. Palmer, L. Beardsley, Mesdames M. A. R. Pratt, H. L. Newton, R. A. Marsh, A. Black, B. N. Hodder, and Miss D. Horrill.

#### RESOLUTIONS

1. That the Reports and Financial Statements be received and adopted.
2. That Conference expresses high appreciation of the work of Sister Ivy Jones, J.P., in the Deaconess Order and in the service of the Auckland ("Wesleydale") Children's Home, on the occasion of her retirement from active work.
3. 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.
  - (c) That the following be the members of the Commission: Revs W. F. Ford, E. S. Hoddinott, Cyril Burton, Miss Lorna Hodder; Correspondence Members, a representative of the M.S.S.A., a member from each of the Orphanage Boards, Dr D. O. Williams, Rev W. E. A. Carr, Rev W. F. Ford (Convener).

4. That the Boards of Management be as printed on page 7 herewith.

**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 1959

##### Deaconess House:

Deaconess House has had a satisfactory year, and in December the four students in training will have completed their course and be available for appointment. In the case of Miss Gladys Thomas the Board recommends to Conference that her three years of full time service prior to entering the House, be accepted in lieu of her year of Probation, and that she be Dedicated at this Conference.

All four students have been diligent in all aspects of their training and should prove to be worthy members of the Order.

It is expected that two trainees will be entering the House in 1960, subject to their Entrance Examinations being satisfactory. We are greatly encouraged by the candidature of Sister Pamela Beaumont of the Buin Circuit. A suitable resolution appears at the end of the report.

The Board is concerned that more candidates are not offering for this field of service. The new Brochure was distributed to Bible Class Camps and Winter Schools through the Department of Christian Education, and to many Circuits in the Connexion. The standard of training is being raised from time to time, and we look to the Superintendent Ministers to enlist the interest of likely candidates.

The Hostel section of the House has been full and meets a great need for accommodation in the city. We are indebted to Mrs G. E. Gauntlett for her outstanding service to the Church as Lady Superintendent. We are granting her leave of absence during 1960 to enable her to visit England.

The various committees of the Board have been active in maintaining the condition of the House. The Property Committee under Mr A. A. Harrow has continued its policy of interior decoration, while the outside presents an attractive appearance to the passer-by.

We express our thanks to the Ladies Guilds and other groups for their continued interest in the maintenance of the House. The gifts assist us to maintain a reasonable standard of accommodation.

##### Lectures:

The Lecturers who assist us with their valued services are as follows: New Testament, the Rev. W. T. Blight, B.A., B.D.; Old Testament, the Rev. C. P. Lucas, L.Th.; Church History, Rev. P. M. Guthardt, M.A.; Theology, the Rev. H. G. Brown; Pastoral Psychology, the Rev. C. D. Clark, B.A., Homiletics, the Rev. J. D. Grocott, B.A.

The Rev. W. A. Chambers, M.A., has given a series of lectures on the History of the Maori Mission, Mr Wera Couch on Maori Etiquette, and the Rev. G. I. Laursenson on the work of the Home and Maori Mission Department. The trainees have also attended W.E.A. Lectures on Maori Language. Care is exercised in arranging extra Lectures at the end of each year on subjects that will