

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
1973

Price: Fifty Cents
Procurable at the Connexional Office

housing relief staff and to provide a pilot scheme in 'family rehabilitation'. This resolution was conveyed to the Social Welfare Department.

Resolution of Conference re Co-ordination of Child Care work with Social Services—

The Auckland Central Mission advised that Consultations were continuing.

The Wellington Social Services Trust advised that the present relationship was satisfactory.

The Christchurch representatives advised that a joint Committee of both Boards agreed unanimously to recommend to their respective Boards that the work be co-ordinated under one controlling Board.

Election of Officers

Convener and Official Representative: Rev. W. E. Falkingham.
Treasurer: Mr E. C. Flyger. Immigration Officer: Rev. J. A. Penman.

Thanks to Charitable Trusts

Thanks were expressed to Charitable Trusts and other organizations who have supported Methodist Social Service work: McKenzie Trust; Sutherland Self Help Trust; Todd Trust.

J.C.C.U. on Social Services

Revs. W. E. Falkingham and D. B. Gordon were appointed as representatives.

Re-structuring of N.Z.M.S.S.A.

The Meeting divided into Groups to discuss:

1. What is the function of Annual Meeting? e.g. necessary business, Study, or Training Sessions.
2. Are our Social Service Agencies adequately represented? What amendments are necessary in the light of the change in Church Structure?
3. What should be the function and role of the Standing Committee and Executive and the relationship of the two? Is there need for two committees?

Following discussions on these questions, it was agreed that the M.S.S.A. Executive meet following Church Council on Wednesday, May 16th, to study the material prepared by the groups, and to make recommendations.

The following are the recommendations of the Executive:

1. The Executive to meet three times a year.
2. That travelling costs for attendance at Executive meetings to be met through the N.Z.M.S.S.A. fund and that levies be increased to cover this.
3. That the Annual Meeting be held in 1974 for two days. The Social Service policy of the Church be studied in depth at this Conference.

Care of the Elderly

(See 1972 Mins. of Conf., p. 158, and 1971 Mins., p. 154, res. 8.)

It was agreed that no action be taken in this matter as the various Social Service Boards administering Aged Care are involved in constant research in this field in consultation with the Health Department.

Euthanasia

This question was referred to the N.Z.M.S.S.A. from the Australia/New Zealand Social Service Conference. It was agreed to refer this matter to the Public Questions Committee.

Future Courses for Social Workers

It was agreed that the Convener seek information of future Social Work Training Courses that may be planned. Agreed that we also seek information from Australia regarding Social Work Courses available in that country.

W. SELWYN DAWSON, President.

W. E. FALKINGHAM, Official Representative.

RESOLUTIONS

1. That the Annual Report and Statement of Receipts and Expenditure be received and adopted.
2. That Conference commends the proposal of the N.Z.M.S.S.A. to convene a consultation to examine policy, standards, staffing procedures and training facilities for counselling services of the Church.
3. That members of the consultation be the Revs. A. R. Bowden, W. E. Falkingham, J. Grundy (or substitute) B. E. Jones, J. A. Penman, I. C. E. Ramage, M. L. Dine, Drs J. J. Lewis and D. O. Williams, with power to co-opt.
4. That the Rev. W. E. Falkingham be re-appointed as Official Representative and Convener of the N.Z.M.S.S.A.
5. That Mr E. C. Flyger be re-appointed as Treasurer.
6. That Rev. J. A. Penman be re-appointed Immigration Officer.
7. That the Executive of the Christian Council of Social Services be requested to initiate a Consultation on Counselling Services in N.Z. on an Ecumenical basis with invitations extended to personnel from other disciplines.

QUESTION 42—(b) City Missions?

AUCKLAND AREA METHODIST SOCIAL SERVICE ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT TO CONFERENCE 1973

The year has seen continuing expansion in our Social Service work in our area.

Aged Care

Arohā House, a 50-bed extension to Everil Orr Homes of the Auckland Central Mission, was opened by Mrs Everil Orr in April.

In May, Stage II of Tamahere Home in the Waikato was opened, increasing accommodation from 30 to 61 beds. The extensions were opened free of debt. Authorisation has been given to Kamo Home, Whangarei, to proceed with a 10-bed extension, and to the Franklin Home at Pukekohe for a new 30-bed Home. The total cost of these projects will be approximately \$1,300,000, out of which the Government will provide subsidies of about \$970,000.

Plans are progressing for a 30-bed extension to Wesley Hospital, Auckland, in 1974-1975, and a 45-bed Home on the site of the former Health Camp at Campbells Bay in 1975-1976.

Child Care

As part of its policy of decentralisation, the Auckland Children's Homes Board is seeking to purchase suitable sections for Family Homes, and the Family Home at Manurewa is now operating. Wesleydale will have a maximum of 20 children. One wing has been handed

over to the Social Welfare Unit operated jointly by the Central Mission and the Children's Homes Board. It is planned to provide here transit housing for up to four families and a supervisor.

Counselling and Case Work

Auckland. This work has been greatly expanded in Auckland through the co-operation of the Central Mission and Children's Homes Board, and two Social Workers are employed.

Waikato Inter-Church Social Service Committee has a Social Worker in Hamilton and another in Tokoroa. This Committee represents the Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches, with Methodist financial support coming from the Hamilton Trust.

Lifeline and Inter-Church Counselling, Auckland reported 4,721 telephone calls and 1309 counselling interviews during 1972. Rev. Gordon Hambly, a Baptist Minister, has been appointed part-time Director.

James Liston Hostel, Auckland, for indigent men, has now been operating for a year, and after initial problems, is providing a fine home for between 40 and 60 men a night.

In the Midst of the City

The Central Mission has co-operated with Pitt Street, St. Matthews Anglican and St. James Presbyterian in the establishment of an inner city ministry with the Rev. Bruce Hucker as Co-ordinator.

The Central Mission Church facilities are being used seven days a week, especially since the opening of a Coffee Bar staffed by voluntary helpers.

The Management Board is planning now for the erection of a Social Service Building on the site of the old Church. Other Churches and organisations have been invited to co-operate.

D. B. GORDON, Convener,
Auckland Area M.S.S.A.

RESOLUTIONS

1. That the Report be received and adopted.
2. That the Auckland Central Mission Board of Management for 1974 be as printed on page 6 herein.
3. Anglican Methodist Social Services (Auckland).
- (a) That Conference consent to the Auckland Central Mission (Methodist) and the Auckland City Missions (Anglican) conducting part of their social work as a joint operation under the name "Anglican Methodist Social Services (Auckland)".
- (b) That Conference approve of the Agreement made between the above parties and approve of it as a constitution under which the new joint body be incorporated under the Charitable Trusts Act.
4. That the Auckland Children's Homes Board for 1974 be as printed on page 6 herein.

WESLEY CHURCH SOCIAL SERVICES TRUST BOARD (WELLINGTON)

REPORT TO CONFERENCE, 1973

The contract has been let for the 30-bed Geriatric Hospital at Wesleyhaven in Rata Street, Naenae. Downer and Company Limited are the successful contractors with a tender price of \$367,071. The

price includes a 6-bedroom addition to the staff house to provide accommodation for nursing staff.

The building period is 52 weeks. With the provision of furnishings and equipment together with new road access to the complex, the final price is expected to be \$450,000. The Government subsidy is \$360,000. The appeal to cover the balance of the cost is meeting with an encouraging response.

The T. G. Macarthy Trust made a Jubilee Grant of \$25,000 and in addition 583 donations have been received to total \$23,166.31.

The future of Epworth House is under consideration. The provision of hostel accommodation for young women coming to the city is recognised as a very transitory need prior to flattening. It is doubtful if the Trust can sustain the lowering bed occupancy rate at present being experienced.

The Inner City Ministry is playing an increasing role in Wellington community service and the Trust is able to bring resources to support the work. An ecumenical stance through the I.C.M. would appear to be the most creative means of meeting the needs of the city.

Two Goodwill Shops are now operating and we are indebted to a large number of voluntary workers without whom we would be unable to maintain our work. This is true in terms of the Fair, Goodwill Industry and Pastoral Care. We express our gratitude to them.

The Trust Board is: Revs. J. A. Penman, W. F. Ford, Messrs A. Alcorn, G. G. Armstrong, R. D. Evison, E. C. Flyger, H. F. Gardiner, L. E. M. Grace, J. J. Gray, J. B. McKinney, C. F. Needham, A. L. Olsson, M. C. Pearce, A. D. Priestley, S. N. Roberts, L. Tupu, G. F. Whitlock, Miss D. Anstiss, Mrs M. Turkington, Mrs M. Suckling.

J. A. PENMAN, Chairman.

E. C. FLYGER, Secretary-Treasurer.

RESOLUTION

1. That the report be received and adopted.

MANAWATU METHODIST SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE

REPORT TO CONFERENCE, 1973

The Centre has been operating for ten years and is now involved with many families, scores of helpers, child care, social education, community social work and a wider church programme.

Counselling

The staff are seeing more families in family interviews and many persons are being helped through short-term and long-term counselling.

Social Work Services

Generic social work reaches out to give practical help, and facilitates growth for those who need help with their total life situation. Schools, employment, accommodation, marital crises involving parents and children, and socialisation for those who find community life difficult.

Child Care

A working relationship with the Masterton Methodist Children's Home demands social work with families, foster home placements,

RESOLUTIONS

1. That the Report be adopted.
2. That the Board of Management for 1974 be nominated to the President after the amalgamation of Circuits (Christchurch Central Mission and Christchurch Durham Streets) takes place.

DUNEDIN CENTRAL MISSION

REPORT TO CONFERENCE, 1973

Dunedin Central Mission reports a generally quiet year. The escalation of costs has provided a forbidding climate for social service work, but we have effectively consolidated our programme.

The staffing situation is not as bad as it has been at some times. Miss E. M. Nielsen took up appointment as Matron at Eventide, and is commending herself to all; another registered nurse has arrived from England with her family and lives near to the Home.

The new Boiler House has been commissioned at Eventide, as has the Sprinkler System at Wesley Manor. However, major maintenance problems face us on each of these properties.

Development continues on a small scale at Kawarau Falls Holiday Camp, which is commended to the Connexion for private holiday-makers as well as Church Groups.

The second Day Nursery at Brockville languished for lack of support and three months' operation netted a substantial loss. Hopefully, our projected additional Goodwill Store will be a more encouraging venture as our Social Service Account is now under acute pressure to finance our half of the Anglican-Methodist Family Care Centre. This small unit of social welfare has established an outstanding reputation in the city.

New rentals have been negotiated for the Octagon Theatre, and some changes have been made in tenancies in the new Building which is now fully let. The old parsonage in Delta Street has been replaced with a very comfortable home at Concord.

The Board of Management functions effectively, and all our work enjoys the support of a fine and loyal staff and a sympathetic public.

D. S. MULLAN, General Superintendent.
F. W. WILSON, Administrative Officer.

RESOLUTIONS

1. That the Report be received and adopted.
2. That the Board of Management for 1974 be as printed on page 6 herein.

QUESTION 42—(c) Children's Homes?

MASTERTON METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME

REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1973

Mr and Mrs Allan Jolly completed 11 years service as Manager and Matron at the end of 1972 and we record our appreciation of the notable contribution they made to the life of Homeleigh and to the children coming under their care. Their places were taken by Mr and Mrs Ken Harris, recent arrivals from Wales, who have taken up their duties with enthusiasm.

The long-awaited programme of renovations to the boys' dormitories is nearing completion. Due to the internal disruption, the

number of children in residence has been kept down to about 20 until the work is complete. Subsidy has been approved on this project, on the installation of a dishwasher and the upgrading of the hot water service. It has been decided to purchase a stationwagon for conveyance of the children.

There has been a reduction in the number of children in foster homes under control of Homeleigh and through placements arranged by the social workers at Palmerston North and Wellington.

The Department of Social Welfare has recommended that we take steps to strengthen our staffing ratio at senior level and to provide for relief staff. To this end we are exploring the possibility of erecting a house on our land adjacent to Homeleigh as a base and we expect subsidy to be made available. It appears that this project may not only strengthen our staffing position but also offer possibilities for greater flexibility in our work. On a longer term basis is has been suggested that we consider another house unit as a pilot project on "family rehabilitation".

The residential sections fronting Herbert Street have been sold and consideration is being given to offering the remainder of the rear land for sale for residential subdivision, after reserving a few sections for the type of future development mentioned above.

We acknowledge with thanks the gifts received from Church and community groups and the financial support of Methodist people represented by giving through the Church Budget, and by direct donations. In particular we record appreciation of the following grants and legacies: Robert Gibson Methodist Trust \$2000, Methodist Fire Insurance Fund \$667, J. R. McKenzie Trust \$2000, Masterton Trust Lands Trust \$250, Masterton Lions Club \$55, Estate I. McSaveney \$2000, Estate E. J. Aplin \$1000, Estate J. J. Irwin \$200, Estate E. Irwin \$200, Estate E. A. Churchill \$131 (additional).

D. H. SPRINGER, Chairman.

J. F. CODY, Secretary.

RESOLUTIONS

1. That the Report be received and adopted.
2. That the Board be as printed on page 6 herein.

CHILD CARE — SOUTH ISLAND METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME

REPORT TO CONFERENCE, 1973

Statistics

The demand for care for children remains at a steady level. Statistics for 1973 are:

Admissions	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	112
Demissions	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	106
Number of Children in Care:						
Papanui Home	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	48
Barrington Street Family Unit	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Foster Homes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14

The Social Worker is in touch with 36 families, with a total of 104 children.

Staffing

Towards the end of the year Mr and Mrs L. G. Reed moved to Harewood Road to take charge as Master and Matron of the Papanui Home, while they were succeeded at the Barrington Street Family Unit by Mr and Mrs R. Brown.

An application has been made for one of the staff to attend the four-week "Housemothers" training course at Kohitere, Levin, in May. Other staff training in-service courses are being investigated.

Composition of Board

The Board has been re-structured and reduced in size to a total of 15 members. Work is shared by four sub-committees—the Executive, and House, Buildings and Grounds Committees.

After eight years of loyal and efficient service on the Board, the Rev. Owen T. Woodfield resigned as Secretary upon his appointment to an Auckland circuit. His place has been taken by Mr N. P. Alcorn.

Finance

The recent increase in capitation subsidies (\$2 to \$7 per week) is most welcome. The Board is facing some heavy expenditure, particularly at Harewood Road for complete external repainting, installation of a new water supply, renewal of electrical wiring to the separate family units to allow for heating in the bedrooms, and provision of floor coverings in many of the rooms.

Matters Under Consideration

The need for day care centres is being investigated, along with other possible lines of care for needy children: the policy regarding the future use of the land and the establishment of new family units. Negotiations are under way for the use of the Home facilities during the Commonwealth Games period.

Financial Assistance has been given by several Trusts together with a great number of individuals, for which the Board expresses its gratitude. In particular we thank the McKenzie Trust and the Robert Clark Trust for their help, and those who have helped through legacies.

W. A. CHAMBERS, Chairman.
N. P. ALCORN, Secretary.

RESOLUTIONS

1. That the Report and Financial Statement be received and adopted.
2. That Conference express appreciation to the Minister of Social Welfare (Hon. N. H. King) for the increase in capitation subsidy, and to the Council of Christian Social Services for the submissions made on behalf of the Churches.
3. That the Board for 1974 be as printed on page 6 herein.

QUESTION 43—What are the Resolutions of the Conference in regard to—

- (a) The Connexional Office of the Methodist Church of New Zealand?

(A) BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF THE CONNEXIONAL OFFICE

REPORT TO CONFERENCE 1973

The Board of Management of the Connexional Office continues to exercise a degree of oversight of the Connexional Office and to consider a wide variety of issues referred to it by the Conference. The reduced size of the Board is making for more efficient working.

Financial Position

The Annual Financial Statements are being presented to Conference along with this Report. They reveal an excess of income over expenditure of \$800 as against last year's deficit of \$2,277. The improvement has been brought about as a result of increased appropriations from Funds administered and a small increase in the grant from the Connexional Budget. It should be noted, however, that the Board still has a deficit of \$502 in its Appropriation Account and accumulated funds stand at \$6,848—much too small an amount for a Board which must finance the operations of the Connexional Office, provide equipment, furnishings and working capital, as well as a Parsonage for the General Secretary.

As in previous years, the Connexional Budget has supported the Office only to the extent of approximately one-eighth of the running costs for the year. As nearly half of the work load comprises tasks of a strictly Connexional and personal nature, not closely related to specific Fund management, this means that the Funds administered at the Connexional Office continue to bear a disproportionate share of the total cost of maintaining the Finance and Administration Division.

Children's Fund

The final payments for the Children's Fund allowances were made early in August 1973 and a final Statement of the position of the Fund will be prepared during the year 1973/74.

It is felt that there could be some value in maintaining the records of children born to Methodist ministers or adopted by them. The Board intends to do this for the coming year at least; if the collection of the information proves to be too difficult, the practice will be discontinued.

Removal Expenses Fund

During the year 36 removals were financed by the Fund, 21 being North Island changes, four South Island changes and 11 Inter-Island changes. The Inter-Island changes cost \$5,709 at an average of \$537—a substantial proportion of the total cost of \$9,419.

It is difficult to predict quantitatively the effect of the change-over of ownership of Parsonage furniture, but it has come at a time when general costs are increasing heavily and some considerable impact is inevitable. In the light of this, ministers and other full time workers changing appointments are being asked to be as considerate as possible in the amount of furniture that they take with them.

Contingent Fund

The operation of this Fund has continued to take an increasing proportion of the General Treasurer's time. The late arrival of District statements is again delaying the preparation of the Annual Financial Statements and Report. It is hoped to include these in the Supplementary Agenda.

Staffing

The Connexional Office continues to be well served by its staff; in particular we would refer to the contribution of Miss Shirley F. Leatham who completed 25 years continuous service in June this year. Miss Leatham has been conscientious in every aspect of her work and over the years has acquired a detailed knowledge of the Fire Insurance Fund. At a social gathering, the Chairman of the Board and Mr H. de R. Flesher paid tribute to her work and worth and a small presentation was made.