

The following pages contain an extract from The Methodist Church of New Zealand Reports and Resolutions of the Annual Conference

The extract contains the reports to Conference for the following:

- The Auckland Central Mission – Child Care
- Christchurch Central Mission – Child Care

THE METHODIST CHURCH OF NEW ZEALAND

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For use in 1981

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We have recognised the necessity for the welfare work of the church to be integrated into its total mission, lest it become an end in itself or merely an expression of humanistic concern. Mission as welfare needs to arise out of the life of the worshipping, witnessing congregation of God's people, and needs to be infused with the spirit of pastoral care through which is mediated the faith, hope and love that is in Christ.

The Conference has been confronted again with the challenge of the urban situation, and more especially that of the inner city. We have become increasingly aware of the need to maintain a vital ministry made possible through parish missions, so that the gospel may be addressed to the inner city, to changing urban communities, to ethnic minorities, and to all situations where a "normal" parish ministry may not be able to provide the appropriate response. Nevertheless, we recognise that every parish needs to be a "parish-in-mission" developing appropriate responses to emerging needs.

Our deliberations have made us aware that total mission will involve us not only in providing a range of services and programmes in response to specific needs, but action in preventive programmes, and in prophetic advocacy on behalf of the disadvantaged and disposed. We have recognised that in some situations, the proper response of the church is to identify with the community to bring about social change and community development rather than provide its own services.

In the eighties, with the prospect of increasing unemployment, cultural change and increased leisure, we must seek to address the whole gospel to the whole man. To serve the present age, in the name and spirit of Christ - let this be the commitment of the whole church in every situation, that His kingdom may come!

WILF E. FALKINGHAM, Convener

ANNUAL MEETING, N.Z. METHODIST SOCIAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION, HELD AT BRISBANE, 21 AUGUST.

The Rev. D.B. Gordon presided over an attendance of twenty members.

Estate R.E. JARDIN, PUKEKOHE.

It was resolved that the bequest of approximately \$11,500 for aged care be paid to the Auckland Area Committee of the MSSA.

CHILD CARE, MASTERTON.

The meeting was pleased to learn that a Social Work appointment has been made to enable the Masterton Committee to initiate community work with families and children.

ROBERT GIBSON TRUST GRANT.

It was advised that this grant of \$3,400 for Child Care work applied to the North Island. The Executive is to determine the allocation.

LEVIES. The following levies for 1980/81 were approved: Auckland \$600, Central Districts \$350, Christchurch \$400, Dunedin \$300.

N.Z. M.S.S.A. CONFERENCE, 1981: The question of the proposed conference was discussed. Concern was expressed about the cost of mounting a fully representative Conference.

- RESOLVED a) That the Executive draw up a list of options and have these sent to the various agencies for a response.
b) That after consideration of the responses the Executive be given the power to act.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. The Financial Statements for the General Fund and the Everill Orr Society Workers Training fund were presented by the Treasurer, Mr M.E. Lloyd and adopted. (Reports on page).

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The following were appointed for the ensuing year:

Convener: Rev. W.E. Falkingham
Treasurer: Mr M.E. Lloyd
Auditor: Mr P.B. Diack
Executive: Revs. Gordon, Taylor, Mullan and Falkingham.

REPORTS:

Brief reports were received from Rev. Warren Blundell on the work of Manchester House at Fielding, and from Rev. Norman Goreham on the developments of Social Service work in the Whakatane Parish.

It was felt that these programmes could well be models for other circuits to study. It was agreed that we should arrange for their work to be shared with the Conference.

D. BRUCE GORDON, Chairman
WILF. E. FALKINGHAM, Convener

AUCKLAND METHODIST CENTRAL MISSION

ANNUAL REPORT TO CONFERENCE

AGED CARE:

Our work in this field continues to expand and consolidate. The emphasis however, has been moving towards giving supportive care to people in the community to enable them to live independently, either in their own homes or rented accommodation, or in flats where there is a certain amount of supervision. Our residential care and hospital sections will be used more by people who, for medical and social reasons, need supportive care.

The Mission now has some care and responsibility for over 500 elderly people.

Of these 102 occupy hospital beds, 274 are in residential care and we have accommodation for 112 in flats while there are 40 others who come to our Day Centre at St. Margaret's associated with the Everill Orr Homes.

CHILD CARE

This section of our work is under the supervision of our Director of Child Care, Mr. Keith Hayes. Responsible to him are social workers, two full time and three part time, plus three volunteers working in the preventive field, foster care and helping in residential care. We have four Homes, two of which are family Homes, one for teenage care and one a family centre for social projects.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

The Mission seeks to widen its horizon beyond that of child care and aged care in general concern in the community. During the year, as a token of our concern and goodwill we made a grant of \$5,000 to the Grey Lynn Neighbourhood Law Office, when the Government subsidy was withdrawn. We believe that this may have helped to act as a catalyst in encouraging others to continue to work to keep the Neighbourhood Law Office going. In this section we have cared for "Lone Women" in two houses and at present, in close co-operation with the Social Welfare Department and Justice Department are caring, in another home, for boys at risk.

"Goodwill Industries" were established in August. Here we plan to employ school leavers who are unable to obtain employment and seek to help them in acquiring skills and work habits. The first venture in this field has been the acquiring of a property at Manurewa where a workshop has been set up under Mr. Geoff Longshaw, one of our parents at our family care home there. Under his expert guidance five young people, under the T.E.P. scheme, will be trained in skills in renovating furniture.

"IN THE MIDST OF THE CITY"

Our multi-cultural congregation continues its witness opposite the Town Hall and recently developed Aotea Square.

The Open Circle has become an important place of meeting for many people and the coffee bar gives good service, particularly to Social Welfare beneficiaries who receive discount on all their purchases.

During the course of the year the Mission purchased back from the Home Mission Investment Board the offices in the main office block, formerly occupied by the Development Division, the Maori Division and the Overseas Division. This is now occupied by our Accounts Division and our Child Care Secretary.

ANGLICAN METHODIST SOCIAL SERVICES

We were glad to welcome as our new Director, the Rev. Jim Greenaway, former Vicar of Rotorua, who took up office in February, 1980.

We shared with him and his little daughters in the sorrow of the death of his wife not long after he took up his appointment and assure him of our continuing prayerful support. In his report Mr. Greenaway says:

"Established as a joint venture with a 50/50 financial partnership the A.M.S.S. was born in 1974 to undertake some of the social work of the Auckland City Mission (Anglican) and the Auckland Methodist Central Mission. The work of A.M.S.S. has been concentrated in Metropolitan Auckland and has developed from social case work towards becoming the community development or community ministry group it is today.

I took up the position of Director in February this year in the belief that A.M.S.S. is an integral part of the churches ministry in the community sectors of God's mission. As a ministry arm of the church I believe A.M.S.S. can best serve those groups and communities alienated by or from the church or beyond the geographical or socio-economic range of parish ministry.

Community development is concerned to take seriously the integrity of individuals and their communities, their values, their culture and their aspirations. However the Gospel calls this Christian agency to work primarily at the level of injustice and economic disadvantage in this society. To this end A.M.S.S. has built up a team of skilled workers who are enabling community groups to articulate their needs and develop the resources to meet those needs. - in community health, community houses, holiday programmes, housing legal aid, immigration, planning and social development, employment schemes and skill training.

The A.M.S.S. community work and Pacific Centre budget is funded equally from the parent bodies, whilst the Detached Youth and contract programmes are funded from Government and community sources.

I hope A.M.S.S. can extend its partnership and consultancy role with parishes throughout the Auckland Diocese and Auckland, Northland and Waikato Methodist Districts by way of extending the use of parish resources for community development. Together I hope we can work at specific social issues common to our communities and work for change in those structures which inhibit or restrict the growth of fully human communities."

CHRISTCHURCH METHODIST CENTRAL MISSION INCORPORATED

ANNUAL REPORT TO CONFERENCE, 1980

SOUTH HAVEN. South Haven, a home for six physically handicapped young men and women, is one of the mission's newer out-reaches in social welfare. The temporary premises at St. Mark's parsonage in Barrington Street have become inadequate, and the mission has been encouraged by the Department of Social Welfare to build a new residence specially designed for the purpose.

Plans have been drawn for a new eight-bed home on the Papanui property of the Mission, and are now with the Department awaiting approval in principle. The new home would have Government subsidy of 80% and the mission would have to raise \$30,000.

PRISONERS' REHABILITATION CENTRE. The Salisbury Street Foundation a project for the rehabilitation of ex-prisoners, is expected to double its present support membership of 16 by the end of the year. The mission has been supplying building materials, assisting with administration, and work development projects. Prison inmates who have heard of the foundation through the grapevine, are showing considerable interest, and support is being given by Departments of Labour and Justice. Self-sufficiency is the primary goal of the Foundation which is located in the former Cambridge Terrace Parsonage.

CHILD CARE. One of the Methodist Church's oldest welfare services, the tending of children, was recently incorporated with the mission. Institutional care has been replaced by five family units at Harewood, a cottage home at Somerfield and there are various foster homes available. About 190 children were cared for during the year and the number would have been greater if the mission had not cared for 75 other children who are receiving supervision from social workers while living with their parents.

Supreme effort is made to restore children's self esteem by encouraging them to achieve in areas where they can succeed, and to give remedial help where necessary. An 'alternative' family is sometimes introduced to give a child a feeling that he or she is loved and valued for themselves.

Social workers counsel and support parents with child and management problems and personal difficulties. Weekly group meetings are held for parents to share their problems.

DAY CARE CENTRE. This centre has been set up in the Harewood complex. Priority is given to children from families where the mother is under stress or sick, or where a child is at risk. It has 36 children on its roll.