

# B.S.L. NOTES

For the Friends of the Brotherhood of S. Laurence

*The Brotherhood helps all in need and endeavours  
to arouse thought and action on social questions.*

Fitzroy

December, 1955

No. 115.



## JUBILEE EVENTS IN DECEMBER

**Sunday, 4th December.**

Festal Evensong at St. John's, Latrobe Street, City. 7.30 p.m. Preacher: The Superior, the Rev. G. Kennedy Tucker.

**Thursday, 8th December.**

The Brotherhood's Birthday. Garden Party at the Headquarters, 67 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, at 2.30 p.m. Friends are asked to return collecting boxes and "talents" for the Jubilee Appeal at this function.

**Saturday, 10th December.**

Opening of St. Stephen's House at Carrum Downs at 3.15 p.m. by the Rev. W. Weston. A bus will run to the Settlement.

**Sunday, 11th December.**

Eucharist at 8 a.m. at Carrum Downs. Thanksgiving Service at St. James, Dandenong, at 11 a.m. The preacher will be the Rev. W. Weston, Rector of St. Stephen's, Adamstown, N.S.W. where the Brotherhood was founded.

The Superior writes on . . .

## AN HONOUR - CHRISTMAS GIVING - DECEMBER FUNCTIONS -

Dear B.S.L. Friends,

All of you who know the Rev. G. T. Sambell, and all who know of the valuable work he is doing for the Brotherhood in particular and for the Diocese as a whole, will join with me in wishing him every blessing as he becomes Archdeacon of Essendon. That one of our number should be thus honored is an honor for us all. Archdeacon Sambell came to us at a time of special difficulty, and much of the success which has been ours of recent years is due to his unflinching loyalty and steadfastness of purpose. He and I work together in a loosely defined, but very real partnership which for me at any rate is a very happy experience. My earnest wish is that Archdeacon Sambell may continue to help guide the destiny of the Brotherhood long after I have laid aside the reins of leadership.

It is good to know that efforts are being made to inculcate into the minds of people the true meaning of Christmas. Too much emphasis is apt to be put on the material side of the Festival—of eating and drinking and having a "good time." Such can have its rightful place, but the Gift made to mankind on the first Christmas day must be foremost in our minds, or else the Festival is robbed of its true significance and we ourselves are robbed of the real happiness which should be ours at this time of the year. Bearing in mind the first Christmas Gift, the instinct of Christian people down the ages has been one of giving. We like to give to our friends and dear ones, we like to make them happy. They, too, like to give to us and make us happy. This is good, but our giving should go beyond our immediate circle, for after all our giving is often a matter of exchange. I give a tie and my friend gives me a handkerchief. I often think that it would be better for us adults to refrain from giving to each other and use our money for the purpose of giving to those who are unable to give to us; such a course is real giving and adds not only to the joy of Christmas but the joy of life itself.

### THINK OF OTHERS

May I make a suggestion to those of you who have children of

an understanding age. At this time they will be drawing up a list of those to whom they want to give presents. There will be Mum and Dad, Auntie Flo and others. Encourage them, good people, to put on their list of givings some person or some organisation from which they can expect no material return. I know they will respond to such a suggestion, and will love doing so. In this way you can help to restore the festival of Christmas to its rightful place and so make the world a happier place to live in. Most of the trials of the world are due to the fact that we fail to realise that happiness, peace of mind, satisfaction and everything else worthwhile come from giving rather than receiving.

Every year our list of Christmas "givings" grows longer. This of course is as it should be, for if we cease to grow we begin to die. You doubtless know that our "Givings" are really what we give on your behalf. I have long since learnt to know that we can rely upon you to help us not only to give to our "ever-growing family" at Christmas time but to help us sustain that family through the year.

### CELEBRATIONS

I do hope that many of you will try to be with us at one of our special Jubilee Services. The first

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## ON YOUR BEHALF WE HAVE PLANNED THIS CHRISTMAS AND HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

The Brotherhood believes that a share in the joys of Christmas should not be denied the children, the aged and the families who through misfortune or loneliness face a bleak and cheerless Christmas.

We know a large number of these people. We know their need is genuine because they are all people whom our social workers have worked with. This year we have longer lists of people whom we would like to provide "something extra" for at Christmas than ever before. As always we are relying on Brotherhood Friends to make our programme possible.

- This letter is typical of many already received asking for assistance at Christmas.

Dear Sir,

Please can you help me at Christmas time? My husband deserted me and I have three children whose ages are 3, 5 and 7. Because of their ages I can't take on regular work. We struggle to live, but I dread the coming of Christmas, as without your help I can't provide anything extra. Will you help for the kiddies' sake?

Yours faithfully,

*Superior's Letter continued.*

will be in St. John's Church, La-trobe Street, at 7.30 p.m. on Sunday, 4th December. Our chief service will, I fear, be at a time and place not convenient to many of you. It is only proper, however, that this service should be at Carrum Downs. It will take the form of celebration of the Holy Communion and will be at 8 a.m. on Sunday, 11th December. It may be that some of you who have cars can be with us on this important occasion, when we shall offer our thanksgiving for many blessings over 25 years as a Brotherhood and pray for God's blessings for the years to come. We shall be glad to give breakfast to those who can attend. We expect to be able to provide overnight "bunk" accom-

modation for 10 young people. Will those interested contact this, or the Carrum Downs, office as soon as possible. I hope that many of our good Dandenong Friends and those nearby will be with us for the service in St. James Church, Langhorne Street, at 11 a.m. on 11th December.

With our Christmas Greetings to you all, and with Every Good Wish for the years to come.

I am, dear B.S.L. Friends,

Yours very sincerely,

*G. Kennedy Tucker*  
 Superior B.S.L.

### NEEDY FAMILIES WILL RECEIVE HAMPERS

Deserted wives with children, widows, families where the sole-source of income is the invalid pension, and large, low-income families who cannot afford Christmas treats, will receive hampers made up of food, toys, and gifts carefully selected to meet the particular needs of the family.

We already have 150 such families on our lists. They are all known to our social workers as being genuinely in need. Whether they will all be able to receive a hamper depends on B.S.L. Friends.

The hampers and parcels will be distributed on the evening of 23rd December by Brotherhood staff and Voluntary helpers.

### THREE PARTIES FOR CHILDREN

Every child looks forward to a party at Christmas and we are planning to provide three parties.

The youngsters in the 5 to 9 age group and those aged between 9 and 14 will have their own separate parties in St. Mary's Hall, Fitzroy Street.

A dinner and theatre party will be organised for working boys and girls in the 14 to 18 age group.

Every child will receive a Christmas gift.

Organising and staffing of the parties will be carried out by the excellent group of young voluntary helpers who assist in all Children's Club activities.

### PLEASE RETURN BOXES AND 'TALENTS'

Friends who took collecting boxes and £1 "talents" at the beginning of the year to aid the Jubilee Appeal are asked to return them at the Garden Party at Fitzroy on 8th December.

The official public appeal period allotted to the Brotherhood by the Hospitals and Charities is from 16th December to 28th January.

During this period we will publicise the appeal to the public.

## COOLIBAH CLUB WILL CATER FOR RECORD NUMBER AT CHRISTMAS DINNER



*Some of the members of the Club who are looking forward to Christmas dinner. The Club will be gaily decorated for the occasion.*

This year 150 members of the Coolibah Club for age pensioners will enjoy the eagerly awaited Christmas Dinner. Included in the number will be many members of the Women's Club, which was opened earlier in the year.

### CHRISTMAS PARTY

The voluntary helpers who run the Fitzroy shop will as usual entertain elderly citizens at a Christmas Party.

### HOME HOSPITALITY

The Brotherhood will arrange for elderly folk to spend Christmas Day or a part of the holidays in private homes with people who have offered to include a pensioner in their family circle.

### PARCELS

Some 300 age pensioners will receive Christmas parcels made up to meet their individual needs and distributed personally.

## THREE HUNDRED CHILDREN ARE HOPING FOR A HOLIDAY



*Farewell to Fitzroy! These lads are setting out for eight days of fresh air, sunshine and good food at a B.S.L. Camp at Mornington.*

## 800 CHILDREN WILL ENJOY BEACH PICNICS

Four days each week during January outings to bayside beaches will be organised for children from Fitzroy, Camp Pell, Collingwood, Carlton, North Melbourne, Richmond and South Melbourne. A day at the beach in one of these outings is the only opportunity many of these children will have of getting away from the drab surroundings of the inner suburbs.

Three hundred children from Melbourne's inner industrial suburbs are hoping to enjoy a holiday in the country or at the beach. If the Brotherhood can raise the £2 per head it costs to provide each child with eight days' holiday they will not be disappointed. Two hundred boys and girls will attend holiday camps at the B.S.L. Holiday Home at Mornington. Camps will be staffed by volunteer young people from schools and the University.

As you plan your summer holiday you might care to enable a deserving youngster to enjoy a holiday too.

Organisations might like to sponsor a tentful of 10 youngsters.

# OUR CHRISTMAS AND HOLIDAY CALENDAR

- Tuesday, 13th December.**  
Christmas Party for children between ages of 5 and 9.
- Friday, 16th December.**  
Dinner and theatre night for working boys and girls.
- Tuesday, 20th December.**  
Christmas Party for children aged 9 to 14.
- Friday, 16th December.**  
Christmas Party for elderly Fitzroy Citizens, given by Voluntary Shop Helpers.
- Thursday, 22nd December.**  
Coolibah Club Christmas Dinner.
- Friday, 23rd December.**  
Distribution of Christmas hampers and parcels to families, children and pensioners.
- Christmas Day.**  
Services at Carrum Downs and Carols in evening.
- Monday, 26th December.**  
Seven day camp at Ocean Grove for working boys.
- Monday, 26th December.**  
Eight day camp for girls at Mornington.
- Thursday, 5th January.**  
Eight day camp for girls.

- Monday, 16th January.**  
Boys' camp opens at Mornington.
- Thursday, 26th January.**  
Second boys' camp at Mornington.
- Monday, 9th January.**  
Commencement of daily beach picnics from Fitzroy.



Mr. Alex Greig, Leader of the Children's Club, will be responsible for organising the children's parties, holiday camps and day picnics, in which 1,000 children will participate during January.

## "MUM AND DAD" QUEST WILL AID JUBILEE APPEAL

On 14th December the "Mum and Dad" Quest of 1956 will be officially launched to aid the Brotherhood's £50,000 Jubilee Building Appeal. First prize in the Quest will be a contemporary home on the Nepean Highway at Frankston, to be awarded to the Mum and Dad candidates whose sponsoring committee raises the most money for the Appeal before July, 1956.

The attractive home and its fittings have largely been provided through the generosity of a large number of business firms.

Candidates in the Quest may be sponsored by families, offices, factories, trade unions, social clubs or other groups.

Director of the Quest is Mr. Herbert Smith, and the Quest Secretary is Mrs. Edna Taylor. Any enquires regarding the Quest should be made to the Quest Office, 104 Wellington Parade, East Melbourne. Telephone JA 3057.

THE SOLUTION TO YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFT PROBLEMS!

# THANKS BE!

The autobiography of the Rev. G. Kennedy Tucker, B.S.L. On sale at city booksellers and at 51 Royal Arcade, Melbourne.

**12'6**  
postage 6d.

*I should like my Christmas donation to go towards—*

- Christmas parcels for families and pensioners.
- Christmas cheer for old folks.
- Children's party.
- Children's Holiday Camps.

● Please mark your preference.

### Christmas Donation Slip

TO THE SUPERIOR, B.S.L.,  
51 ROYAL ARCADE,  
MELBOURNE, C.I.

Please find my donation for £ :

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."