

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

APRIL, 1957

No. 123



PROPERTY FOR SALVAGE DEPT.

The depot in Westgarth Street, Fitzroy which the Brotherhood recently purchased was financed from the Brotherhood's Security Fund. This fund has been built up over the years from bequests left specifically to ensure the continuity of the Brotherhood's work.

The Fund which cannot be used for general or running expenses, has been used to purchase the depot and extend salvage activities in an endeavour to meet the ever-mounting cost of staffing and maintaining our expanding social service activities.

As Father Tucker relates in his letter this will be an extension of what has been done for many years.

The Fitzroy property will be used for the reception, sorting and distribution of used clothes, furniture and other articles which people no longer have use for.

The depot will be staffed largely by voluntary helpers and it is hoped that later it will provide part-time employment for elderly and handicapped people who require unskilled work for short periods as part of a rehabilitation programme.

The Superior writes on . . .

FITZROY SHOP – OUR SALVAGE DIVISION HOW YOU CAN HELP

Dear B. S. L. Friends,

Most of you have heard of our second-hand clothes shop in Fitzroy. Many of you will not know how it started and what it has done over the years. In 1937 when we began operations, there were many vacant shops in the district. We began by renting one of these for one day a month. The venture proved so successful that we conceived the idea of transferring to a shop which we owned and which was part of our head-quarters.

The question arose — would it be wise to give up the 30/- a week the occupier of the premises was paying us by way of rent? We took the plunge! I do not think it would be an exaggeration to say that since then that little shop has brought us in at least £45,000 and that amount does not include the thousands of pounds worth of clothing that has been given away through the shop to the needy of the district.

The somewhat remarkable success of this venture is largely due to two factors. The first is the unselfish and unremitting service of the women who sort the clothes and sell them, and all this in far from pleasing surroundings. It is their interest in the work and their desire to help those in such need that has kept them for years at their somewhat unsavoury and unspectacular task.

The second factor in the success of the venture started some 20 years ago is due to all you good people, and to many of the general public who have sent us their unwanted garments and other saleable goods.

I appreciate this opportunity of expressing on behalf of the Brotherhood our gratitude to all who play their part in enabling us to maintain and expand our work from the proceeds of that very dingy and cramped little shop at 71 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy.

THE FUTURE

Now as to the future. We have recently acquired a property in Westgarth Street, Fitzroy, which we propose opening as a Salvage Depot, from where we will dispose of clothes, furniture and anything else of any value that might be sent to us.

The success of this, as has been the case of all our ventures of faith, will depend to a large extent on you our Friends. I know we can count on your co-operation in this our latest venture. We want you, not only to pass on to us any waste material you might have, but we want you to see, as far as possible, that your friends know of the Depot.

"God helps those who help themselves." It is also true that the public helps an organisation that helps itself. This we have always tried to do. Of course we could not carry on for a week were it not for the financial help that comes from you and from a general public, but it is also true to say that we could not carry on and expand but for the work of such people as those of the Fitzroy and City shops and of others who actually make money for us.

YOUNG PEOPLE

One of the things that pleases me in regard to this new enterprise I speak of, is that we will be able to avail ourselves of the services of young people who will

SUPERIOR'S LETTER — continued

be able to help at the Depot in the evenings and on Saturdays. This will be as good for them as it will be for us: My last thought in regard to this matter—It is very disturbing to think of the many thousands of pounds worth of material of all kinds that is burnt or carted to the rubbish tip just for the want of thought and organisation. In these days of high costs and when so much needs to be done in the cause of social righteousness, it is no less than a sin not to take every legitimate opportunity to obtain the wherewithall to do the things that must be done for the glory of God and the welfare of the Nation.

I am very grateful to those who, as a result of my last letter, have sent substantial cheques for the very necessary improvements we propose to carry out at Fitzroy. I fear I do not let you rest! I always seem to be seeking your co-operation. I know you would not have it otherwise for there are yet so many new fields to conquer and the conquering can only be done through your our Friends.

Yours very sincerely,

G. Kennedy Tucker
Secretary B.S.L.

6/- GIVES YOU AN
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION
TO...

NOW!

The Brotherhood's monthly journal on social questions.

Recent articles have included:—

- The "McLean" Report on Aborigines.
- "The Housing Situation."
- "Odd Men Out In the Welfare State."
- "The Aged Can Surprise Us."
- "The Mass Effect of TV."
- "Immigration Is a National Asset."

Subscriptions or renewals to
51 Royal Arcade, C.I.

NEW CLUB OPENED

BY BROTHERHOOD

Latest extension of the Brotherhood's social service activities is the opening of a Club in a Housing Commission Estate. The Club is under the direction of Mr. Hamilton Smith, a social worker.

The Club is housed in a hut which has been attractively renovated to provide a large club room for games, group activities and films and two smaller rooms for meetings.

The immediate response to the opening of the Club was overwhelming. Over 200 children of all ages wanted to participate. The programme has now been arranged to provide for four separate clubs to operate on different nights and a varied programme of activities has been organised for boys and girls.

The Club demonstrated how eager children in some of Melbourne's outer areas are to join in club and group activities.

The Club and group activities are part of the Family Service Project which is being carried out with the co-operation and help of the Victorian Housing Commission.

BROTHERHOOD OF ST. LAURENCE

SALVAGE DIVISION

- will collect any household or other articles you have no further use for.
 - will dispose of articles to needy people or sell them to maintain the Brotherhood's social service work.
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Children's Centre News . . .

COMMITTEE AND LEADERS MEET AT FITZROY

The people who help finance the Children's Centre and the young voluntary leaders who help staff the Centre met together at dinner at Fitzroy recently.

A wide variety of professions, skills and interests was represented at the combined meeting and the "get together" was of great value in the overall planning of the Children's Centre work which each day involves some 80 local children.

SITTING ROOM

The Youth Club sitting room which was opened last September is in constant use and is meeting the needs of a large group of "teen-age" young people. Visitors remark on the way the attractively furnished room has been cared for by Youth Club members.

One of the senior boys from Fitzroy is now helping at the new Club which has been opened by the Brotherhood in an outer Housing Commission estate. He has learned to operate the movie projector and provide musical entertainment at the new Club.

CAMP LEADERS REUNION

Girls who helped staff the holiday camps at "Morven" during January held a reunion recently at the Essendon home of Miss Dorothy Cerrutty.

The leaders compared notes on the camps they had helped to staff and assessed the value of the camps to the youngsters who enjoyed holidays.

Some of the voluntary Camp Leaders are now back at school for their Matriculation year. Others are at the Teachers' Training College and the University. One is starting a Nursing career and others are back at work in commercial organisations.

The aim of the reunion is to encourage and retain interest in the Children's Centre and the Camps throughout the year. Already some of the holiday leaders are helping in the Children's Centre.

POSTSCRIPT

3 KZ

Sundays at 10 p.m.

NEW SHOP TO OPEN AT MALVERN

Father Tucker will officially open the Brotherhood's new Opportunity Shop in Malvern on Tuesday, 9th April at 3 p.m. Brotherhood Friends are warmly invited to the official opening.

The new shop is situated in the Victory Supermart, Wattle-tree Rd., Malvern, a few doors from Glenferrie Road.

The shop will be under the enthusiastic management of Mrs. Winifred Rogers who is well known to B.S.L. Friends through her twelve years' association with the Royal Arcade Office and Shop.

The shop will sell cakes, jams, knitted goods, good second-hand clothing and a wide range of gifts and ornaments. It will also serve as a depot where clothing and unwanted household articles can be left.

The Hughesdale - Murrumbena branch has offered to help with staffing and stocking the shop and it is hoped that other Malvern Friends will offer to assist. If you can help in any way please contact Mrs. Rogers at the shop. It is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturday mornings. Church groups at Thorpdale and Yarragon have already offered to help stock the shop.

We hope to see you at the opening this Friday.

How you can Help

Many B.S.L. Friends have for years sent used clothing to the Brotherhood. Now the B.S.L. will gratefully accept ANYTHING you do not require. A van will call and as far as possible we will tell you the day.

**TELEPHONE
JA 3183**

and a Van will Call

Goods addressed C/o. Flinders Street Railway Station are carried "free of charge" by the Railways and our Van will collect them from there.

What you don't want

The Brotherhood will call for

- ★ Used Clothing ★ Furniture ★ Tables ★ Wardrobes
- ★ Chairs ★ Chest of Drawers ★ Carpets ★ Mattresses
- ★ Blankets ★ Cupboards ★ Sideboards ★ Firescreens
- ★ Ice Chests ★ Jewellery ★ Sheets and Pillows ★ Curtains
- ★ Crockery ★ Vases ★ Ornaments ★ Pictures
- ★ Silverware ★ Newspapers and Magazines ★ Books
- ★ Milk Bottle Tops ★ Silverpaper ★ Car Batteries
- ★ Scrap Metal ★ Tyres and Tubes ★ Bottles and Rags
- ★ Wirelasses ★ Irons, Radiators and Electrical Equipment
- ★ Gas Stoves — and anything else you don't want.

TWO NEW B.S.L. GROUPS FORMED

The response to the need for more B. S. L. Groups in suburbs was immediate and already in March two new groups were formed with the help of our Organiser, Miss Nell Rawlins.

A small but enthusiastic group of Camberwell ladies attended a meeting at the Camberwell Town Hall called by the Mayoress and decided to form a B.S.L. Group.

At a meeting held at the home of Mrs. Simpson in Ormond another Group was formed. Twenty ladies have already offered to join the Group or help in any way.

Anyone who is interested in forming a local Group in other suburbs is asked to contact Miss Rawlins at JA 3057.

CHELTHENHAM GROUP IS BUSY AGAIN

The annual meeting was held in February and Mrs. A. Jackson, 8 Charman Road, Mentone, N.11, was elected as president in place of Mrs. Rose who resigned owing to illness. Mrs. Geer, 30 Latrobe Street, Mentone, secretary and Mrs. R. G. Brown, Como Parade, Mentone, treasurer, were re-elected.

Once again we would like the Group to be congratulated on their work for the Carrum Downs Settlement. Last year they donated £100 to help with the furnishing of the dining room and again this year a further £100 has been donated.

Last Saturday a street stall at Cheltenham netted £18/11/6 and another street stall will be held at Mentone on April 5th. We hope all who can will patronise this stall at Mentone.

The next meeting of the Group will be in the City Hall, Mentone on 1st April.

There will be a demonstration on "Art Decorating" by British Paints (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. This demonstration should be of value to housewives in decorating their homes tastefully.

FATHER TUCKER TO SPEAK AT LUNCHEON

A Luncheon, with Father Tucker as Guest Speaker, will be held at the home of Mrs. Curtis, 5 Fellows Street, Hughesdale on 3rd May.

Mrs. Curtis is Secretary of the Hughesdale-Murrumbeena Group. Friends would be welcome. The luncheon will be 5/- and you are asked to bring and buy a gift to the value of 2/6. Mrs. Curtis would like to know by April 29th who would care to attend. Phone UM 3128.

Hughesdale-Murrumbeena Group have agreed to help staff the new Malvern Opportunity Shop at the Victory Super Market, Wattletree Road, Malvern. They will act as voluntary helpers, serving at the shop during the week and helping to keep stocks at a high level.

The next meeting of the Group will be on April 30th at Mrs. Curtis's, 5 Fellows Street, Hughesdale. All members are asked to attend.

The Annual Meeting of the Glen Iris Group will be held on Wednesday, May 8th at 2.30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Smart, 181 Glen Iris Road, Glen Iris. Mrs. Burnett, wife of the Pentridge Gaol Chaplain, the Rev. John Burnett, will be the Guest Speaker.

WE WELCOME THESE NEW B.S.L. FRIENDS

Mrs. O'Silva, Carrum Downs.
Mrs. Allan, Burwood.
Mrs. Kuhn, Pascoe Vale South.
Mrs. Auchterlonie, Melbourne.
C. E. Barnes, Box Hill.
Mrs. Purcell, Ivanhoe.
Mr. Knapp, Auckland.
Mrs. Wells, East Kew.
Mr. Grant, Big Pat's Creek.
Miss Woolley, Kew.
Mrs. Wittner, Melbourne.
Miss Byron, North Carlton.
Mrs. Blunt, North Fitzroy.
Mr. Coster, Northcote.
Mrs. Wallace, Nunawading.
Mr. Bond, Surrey Hills.

Bus trips to Carrum Downs will be organised on—
Saturday, April 13th.
Saturday, May 11th.
Saturday, June 8th.
51 Royal Arcade.
Bus tickets are available from

'Master Plan' for Fitzroy

The architectural firm of Mockridge, Stahle and Mitchell has been asked to draw up a 'master plan' for the Brotherhood's Headquarters at Fitzroy. The main extensions will be the provision of additional office space and extended facilities for the rapidly growing Children's Centre. It is expected that the cost of carrying out the 'master plan' will exceed the amount of money held in the Building Fund but work will be commenced on the first stage as soon as plans are prepared and approved.

RESIDENTS HELP "FOOD FOR PEACE"

Carrum Downs residents have donated £90 to the "Food for Peace" campaign from the small weekly offertory at their Wednesday evening services at the Chapel.

The "Food for Peace" Campaign, of which Father Tucker is the President, supplies food and medical equipment to a Doctor and staff working among refugees in Nepal.

The efforts of the Carrum Downs residents is a practical expression of the words—

'I am only one, but I am one;
I cannot do everything, but I can do something;
What I can do I ought to do and with God's help I will do'.

DONATION SLIP

THE SUPERIOR,
BROTHERHOOD OF ST. LAURENCE
51 ROYAL ARCADE,
MELBOURNE, C.I. Central 2721

Please find my donation £ : :

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

ADDRESS.....

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