

# B.S.L. NOTES

For the Friends of the Brotherhood of S. Laurence

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

FITZROY

DECEMBER, 1957

No. 127



The Superior writes on . . .

## CHRISTMAS

Dear B.S.L. Friends,

I know that you will be interested in our plans for Christmas. The manner in which our work continues to grow seems at times rather bewildering, but of course we cannot be anything else but thankful that as the years pass so we grow.

You know something of the joy that Christmas brings to your children, how much greater must it be to those youngsters who know so little of the happy side of life. Although we think carefully before spending money, I always tell the staff that they can rely upon the generosity of B.S.L. Friends, especially at Christmas time. You can think of many hundreds of people enjoying Christmas in a way they would not otherwise have done were it not for the B.S.L., which of course means B.S.L. and Friends.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and the best of good things in the years to come.

With Greetings to you all from us all,

Yours sincerely,

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

### AUXILIARIES WILL MEET AT MORVEN

Arrangements for the Combined Auxiliary meeting to be held at Mornington on December 4th, are as follows:—

- 11.30 a.m.—Meet at Carrum Downs.
- 12.00 a.m.—Lunch (please bring your own and we will provide you with tea).
- 1.00 p.m.—Leave for Mornington.
- 1.45 p.m.—Combined Auxiliary Meeting when Presidents of groups will give a report on their activities and hand over the money raised by their group, to Father Tucker.



### THESE CHRISTMAS STAMPS WILL AID THE BROTHERHOOD

These attractive, blue Christmas greetings stamps are on sale at all Brotherhood centres and Opportunity Shops for 2/- for a strip of seven stamps. Use them on your Christmas parcels.

Send to 51 Royal Arcade for strips of stamps.



## THIS IS OUR CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME

The gifts, the holidays, the toys, the Christmas dinners—the festivities associated with the worship and rejoicing of Christmas will be unknown to thousands of people unless the Brotherhood or some other welfare organisation can help provide them.

The number of people who turn to the Brotherhood for advice and help with personal, economic and family problems increases steadily each year and these are the people for whom the Brotherhood tries to provide something of the spirit of Christmas.

It is an opportunity for you and others to share your Christmas with those who are less fortunate by contributing to the Brotherhood's Christmas programme.



*Christmas dinner is the highlight of the year at the Coolibah Club. This year the club will be packed to its limit capacity of 160 diners.*

### THE PEOPLE WHO NEED HELP AT CHRISTMAS

Mr. and Mrs. A. have nine children, the eldest 13 years of age. Mr. A. has been out of work for three months and the family has been existing on Unemployment Benefit of £4/15/- a week, and some aid from the Brotherhood. The children are undernourished, some badly so.

The Brotherhood hopes to be able to provide a food hamper for Christmas, some toys for the children and holidays for three of the older children.

. . . . .

Mrs. S. is a widow who lives with her two young sons in a small and grossly sub-standard room in a condemned slum home. The mother works in the afternoons and the boys roamed the streets until they joined the Brotherhood's Children's Club. We hope to be able to send the boys to one of the holiday camps at Mornington. It will be their only chance to get away from their unsuitable environment.

. . . . .

Mrs. W. has been in a Melbourne hospital for several months and her four children have been living in an institution. Mrs. W. will be well enough to leave hospital for a fortnight at Christmas. She is very anxious that she might spend the time with her children but has no home and nowhere to stay.

The Brotherhood hopes to arrange for Mrs. W. and her children to attend a holiday camp.

. . . . .

Mrs. T. is nearly 80. She lives in a small backroom for which she pays 30/- a week from her pension of £4/7/6. Like thousands of other pensioners, she is not able to provide any "extras" in the way of food or clothing to break the monotony of a frugal existence. Mrs. T. will receive a Christmas parcel from the Brotherhood and will share with 160 other elderly people Christmas Dinner at the Coolibah Club.

## WE RELY ON YOU TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE



## 1,000 YOUNGSTERS ARE RELYING ON THE BROTHERHOOD FOR HOLIDAYS OR OUTINGS

From crowded and often sub-standard homes and from homes where it is financially impossible to provide holidays, children will go off to camps in the country and at the

beach or participate in the day outings organised by the Brotherhood.

This year seven camps will be held for 350 children and day outings will be arranged for over 700 children.

The cost of sponsoring a child for a holiday is £2. Will you help us provide this bright spot in the otherwise difficult lives of these children?



*This is the setting many children will exchange for a beach holiday at a B.S.L. Camp.*





## HAMPERS AND GIFTS FOR AGED AND FAMILIES

Last year 596 old people received Christmas parcels through the Brotherhood. Over 400 of these parcels were packed and delivered by the Brotherhood's staff and voluntary helpers. The remainder were provided by donors.

Every effort is made to provide a parcel or hamper suited to the personal needs of the recipient.

Two hundred food hampers were provided for families on unemployment or sickness benefit or widows and deserted wives.

This year the list of pensioners and needy families is longer than last year, but every effort will be made to see that those in need receive some Christmas cheer.

## BUS TRIP TO CARRUM DOWNS

The last bus trip of the year to Carrum Downs will be on Saturday, December 14th. Tickets are available from the City Office, 51 Royal Arcade, as usual.

## THE BROTHERHOOD'S CHRISTMAS AND HOLIDAY CALENDAR

**Friday, 13th December**

Christmas films and Puppet Show for boys and girls 9 to 14.

**Saturday, 14th December**

Chinese dinner and theatre night for Youth Club.

**Friday, 20th December**

Party for children under 9 in the Children's Centre.

**Monday, 23rd December**

Coolibah Club Christmas dinner.

**Tuesday, December 24th**

Final distribution of family hampers and gifts by staff and voluntary helpers.

**Thursday, 26th December**

Opening of camp for girls at Mornington and commencement of boys' holiday tour of Hamilton and Portland and Warrnambool arranged through Apex Clubs.

Opening of Kinglake Camp for 40 boys and girls from Preston.

**Friday, January 3rd**

Eight day camp for girls at Mornington.

**Monday, 13th January**

Eight day camp for junior girls at Mornington.

**Thursday, January 16th**

Opening of Albury boys' camp in conjunction with Apex Clubs.

**Friday, January 24th**

Eight day boys' camp at Mornington.

**Wednesday, 8th January**

First camp at Kinglake.

**Monday, January 13th**

Day outings commence to beach and country for 750 children from inner suburbs and Housing Commission estates.

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 £ :

Mr.  
Name Mrs. ....  
Miss

Address .....

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