

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

JUNE, 1958

No. 130



The Superior writes on . . .

HUNDREDS OF APPLICATIONS — — GEELONG PROJECT — THE VALUE OF OVERSEAS VISITS

Dear B.S.L. Friends,

It is nice to hear the encouraging comments of those who visit our Settlement at Carrum Downs. It is nice, too, to know that the majority of the residents are not only happy and content, but are making a very valuable contribution towards the welfare of the community of which they are part. Many are demonstrating that, in spite of advancing years and of the disabilities those years bring, sixty, seventy and even eighty-year-olds can live happy and useful lives. Such, I believe, is the Will of Almighty God for us all. Old age should not be the burdensome and unhappy time that, alas, it is for so many. The season of Autumn is a beautiful time of the year. So should be the Autumn of life.

Although there is much in which to rejoice in and be thankful for what is going on at Carrum Downs, there is another side of the picture, and it is sad, very sad. I do not exaggerate when I say that literally hundreds of applications come each year from those wanting to go to Carrum Downs. The Brotherhood, of course, cannot begin to supply the needs of all who apply to us for accommodation, but we must continue to do what we can. For some time past we have been co-operating with groups of people in various parts of the Commonwealth who are desirous of doing what we are doing at Carrum Downs. I am specially interested in what is being done in this respect in the parish of Croydon where a beautiful estate to be known as St. John's Park, Mooroolbark, is being acquired. Already those responsible are being inundated with applicants. A further indication of the pressing need for suitable accommodation for elderly people.

GEELONG PROJECT

Some of you will remember that some two years ago I wrote to you of our hopes in regard to establishing another Settlement. With this end in view we have explored many avenues but, until quite recently, for many reasons, with no results. Somewhat "out of the blue" early this year there came an invitation from

a group of Clergy and laymen to establish ourselves in or near Geelong. If nothing comes of the proposal, it will most certainly not be because of the want of enthusiasm on the part of those who extended the invitation. Already the Committee has acquired the option over some most suitable land, just off the Melbourne/Geelong Road. Those responsible are confident that the necessary money will be forthcoming for the purchasing of the land. If such is the case there should be nothing to prevent our establishing ourselves in the environs of the progressive city of Geelong. I can already see in my mind's eye many pleasing looking, comfortable cottages set amongst trees (at present there are no trees, but time will rectify that!) in what we propose calling St. Laurence Park. I know we can rely upon your sympathetic interest and will pray that if it is God's Will our hopes will become a reality.

VALUE OF OVERSEAS VISITS

As with all progressive organisations, whether they be religious, commercial, educational or anything else of value, we try to keep abreast of the times and learn the latest trends in the spheres of work we have undertaken. Archdeacon Sambell's recent visit to the United States has been of great value to us all. We want others of our tried staff, those

HOW DO PEOPLE SPEND THEIR LEISURE?

How do people in new housing estates spend their leisure time? How would they like to? What facilities are needed for leisure time activities for parents and children? Who should provide them?

A Social Worker, Mr. Bob Uren, will attempt to find the answers in a study he is carrying out for the Brotherhood.

With a large proportion of our Melbourne population living in new housing areas it is important that Churches, youth organisations and other agencies concerned with family welfare should have some idea of how people spend their spare time and the kinds of activities they are interested in.

The survey will be carried out in one of Melbourne's rapidly developing suburbs. Mr. Uren will select a representative sample of local families and people of all ages and study existing facilities. It is expected that the survey will take seven or eight months.

The Superior's Letter (Cont.)

who intend to make their present work their life's vocation, to have the same advantage. With this end in view, we are sending our Mr. Alex Greig overseas next year.

He has been with us some six years and is doing outstanding work as Director of our Children's and Youth Centre in Fitzroy. I am sure that he will learn much from the experience of others, and will return with wider vision and new ideas. On his return we hope that another member of the Staff will have the same opportunity to benefit himself, the Brotherhood and the community.

With our greetings to our partners in all our hopes and plans,

I am,

Yours very sincerely,

G. Kennedy Tucker
 Secretary B.S.L.

Only letters of a private nature should be addressed to Father Tucker at Carrum Downs. All others should go to 51 Royal Arcade, Melbourne.

**SETTLEMENT HOUSES
 - 170 -**

The opening of the "Better Way" cottage marks the completion of the building programme at the Carrum Downs Settlement.

Total accommodation available and form in which it is provided are shown by the following table:

	No. of persons
Single Cottages	73
Double Cottages	68
Collins Court Apartments	29
Total	170

In addition, the Hospital can accommodate six patients. Other buildings include the large Community Centre, with its Hall, Settlement Store, Library and Sitting Room, the Chapel, Workshop, Boiler House, Enquiry Bureau, Plant Shop, St. Stephen's House for visitors and numerous other store sheds and buildings.

The Settlement is now as large as many country towns and maintenance is always a worry. Groups of volunteers, particularly young people, are always welcomed to help with painting, gardening, window-cleaning and repair jobs.

NEW BUILDING AT FITZROY STARTS IN JUNE

A contract has been signed with the builders Clements Langford for the extensions to the Brotherhood's headquarters in Fitzroy. It is expected that the work will commence in the first week of June and will take approximately five months to complete.

The ground floor of the new building will consist of a Chapel and new Social Service Bureau to replace the overcrowded and sub-standard offices which are the present Bureau. On the first floor of the new building there will be offices for the Accountant and Organiser who are now in rented offices in East Melbourne, and offices for the Social Workers of the Family Service Project who are now in crowded quarters in the building provided by the Junior Chamber of Commerce for the Coolibah Club.

When the new building is completed this will become a Handcraft Room and Workshop for members of the Coolibah Club, which was the purpose for which it was originally provided.

The new building will cost nearly £20,000, most of which was raised by the 1956/57 Silver Jubilee Building Appeal.

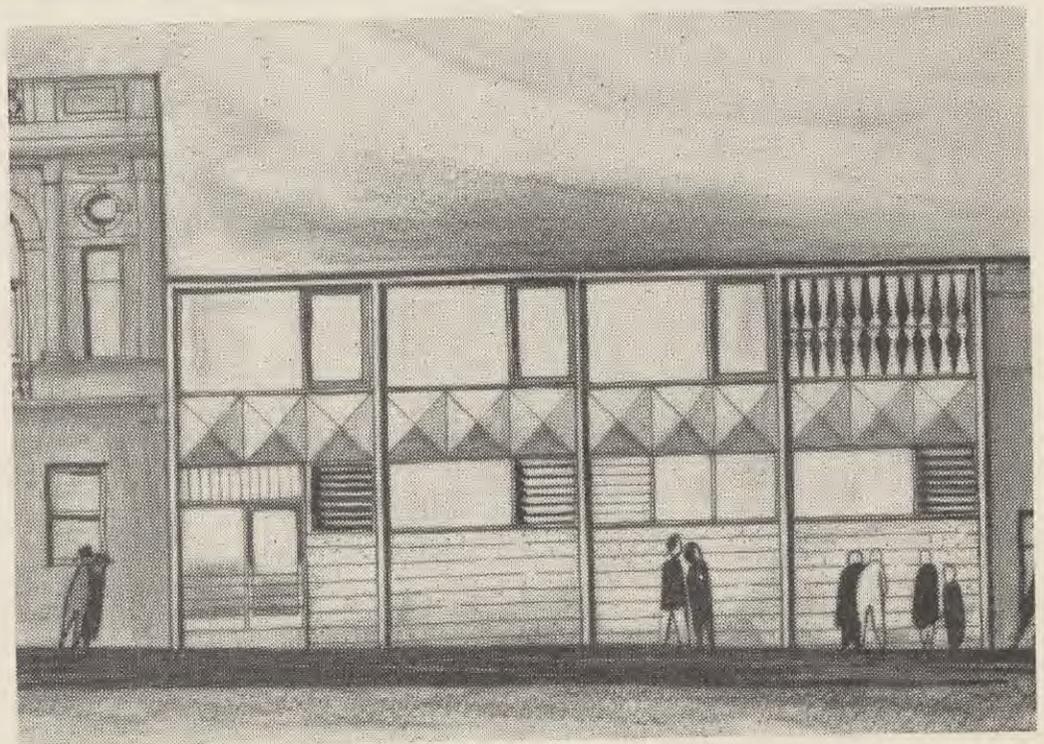
The extensions will bring the Accountant and Organiser into the Headquarters where they belong, and save money now spent on office rental. It will provide more efficient working conditions for the Social Service Bureau and the clients who attend it, provide the Occupational Therapy Block for the Coolibah Club and add a small Chapel which has been long needed.

Eventually it is hoped that an additional floor will be provided to extend the Children's Centre.

**DO YOU SUBSCRIBE TO
 "NOW"**

The Brotherhood's monthly Journal
 on social problems

Subscription - 6/- per year



Sketch of the extensions to Brotherhood Headquarters in Fitzroy.

The architects are Mockridge, Stahle and Mitchell.

News from Children's Centre -

BUSY PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

A visitor to Melbourne's inner suburbs soon knows when it's school holiday time. The streets are occupied by children who have no opportunities for play in homes that have no front or back gardens. Ball games, hopscotch and skylarking are carried on as the traffic passes by.

In the May school holidays the Children's Centre at Fitzroy organised a busy programme of activities for local children. It included afternoon sessions with competitions and games. Television in the evenings, thanks to the generosity of an electrical supplier who lent the Club a TV set for the week, films, a visit to the Toy Exhibition and craft activities for boys and girls in the evenings.

At the Community Centre at East Preston, football and basketball were organised during the day in addition to the usual children's clubs. An additional play leader was employed for the week to supplement the usual staff.

● A family picnic was arranged for parents and children from the Fitzroy Children's Centre during May. Two bus loads of 90 children and adults visited the Toorourong Reservoir.

● The Melbourne Younger Set, who work for the Brotherhood, arranged a drive-in film night for the children from the Club, and 13 cars took children and leaders to the theatre.

● The under-9 children at Fitzroy enjoyed a musical treat when Mr. Harold Badger and members of the A.B.C. Symphony Orchestra visited the Club. Nearly 60 children crowded into the Club sitting room to join in the music-making.

USED STAMPS HELP THE B.S.L.

In the last twelve months used postage stamps have earned the record sum of £356 for Brotherhood funds. The stamps are mostly the ordinary local postage stamps and, of course, overseas stamps which are even more valuable.

Voluntary sorters help sort the stamps but the bulk of the work continues to be carried on by Mr. Parker who classifies and prepares the stamps for sale. Bulk stamps are sold through the trade and the stamps of greater value are sold to collectors through the City Shop at 51 Royal Arcade.

Please save your stamps for the Brotherhood. Every stamp, however ordinary you might think it to be, is of value.

"BETTER WAY" COTTAGE OPENED AT CARRUM DOWNS



Father Tucker opening the first cottage at Carrum Downs financed through the "Better Way" Fund. This cottage and two others were endowed by George's Staff Auxiliary and three plaques were presented to Father Tucker by Mr. Reid, President of the Staff Auxiliary. The "Ralph Wilson House", financed by the Voluntary Helpers' Shop, was also officially named by Mrs. Ralph Wilson.

NOTES FROM AUXILIARIES

NEW SHOP AT ORMOND

ORMOND: Ormond ladies have succeeded in their efforts to obtain a B.S.L. shop in Ormond. The auxiliary now staff the shop every day except Monday, and will be happy to hear of any friends who would care to help by leaving them any unwanted clothes or household goods. The shop is just opposite the exit from the Ormond station.

FITZROY: The annual meeting of this auxiliary will be held at Westgarth St., Fitzroy, on Wednesday, July 19th, at 2 p.m. All members are invited to be present. Workers are needed to help at the Fitzroy shop every third Wednesday. Anybody who would be willing to do this could contact Mrs. Bucknall at BY 1818.

HUGHESDALE-MURRUMBEENA: Several members of this group spent a very enjoyable day at Carrum Downs. All members agree that sorting at the Salvage Department is very rewarding, especially as, through this effort, the takings at the Malvern shop have increased. We are pleased to have Mrs. Jackson back with us. She is one of the most able of our shop helpers. The next meeting of the group will be held on Wednesday, June 18th, at 2 p.m., at the home of Mrs. Curtis, 5 Fellows Street, Hughesdale.

MORNINGTON: The Mornington Auxiliary are sad to have to report that their cottage shop in the main street, which had been so kindly given, rent-free, by the A.N.Z. Bank, has now been sold. However, they are most grateful to Mr. Don Watson who has given them a shop in the market further up in the main street. Although the position is not quite so good, they are still maintaining a steady trade.

CITY SHOP AUXILIARY: This auxiliary would be grateful to friends who have unwanted toys, baby wear or any household goods they could deposit at the city shop in Royal Arcade.

MIDDLE PARK: These ladies are organising two street stalls; one for May 31st, and the other for June 21st.

GLEN IRIS: At the annual meeting on May 7th, Mrs. H. L. Witt (phone UY 3881) was re-elected as president, Mrs. Smart as vice-president, and Mrs. Davies as secretary. A very successful card evening was held on May 17th, and further activities are planned.

The FORTUNAS GROUP: This is a new Brotherhood group of young married women from North Balwyn who meet every second Wednesday in the month at members' homes. We welcome them and hope they will enjoy working for the Brotherhood.

CAMBERWELL: A very successful Corsican Luncheon was held at the home of Mrs. Hillas in May. The next International Luncheon will be a Yugoslavic one and will be held at the home of Mrs. Blanche, 32 Christowell Crescent, Camberwell, on June 5th, when the speaker will be Professor Strizic of the School of Architecture at the Melbourne University. Anyone wishing to attend this luncheon should ring Miss Rawlins at JA 3057 no later than June 3rd.

ESSENDON: This group is holding a card party and an Opportunity Table in June at the home of Miss Ellis, Leura Street, Moonee Ponds.

BOX HILL: A meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Pomery, 10 Landale Street, Box Hill, when Father Tucker spoke to the group. As the weather was so bad and many friends were unable to attend, a further

meeting will be held at St. Peter's Church Hall, Box Hill, on May 26th, at 2.15 p.m.

PRESTON: This auxiliary is growing with every meeting, and, with the help of the very co-operative Preston Council, has obtained the steam train which was so popular at Moomba time. The train will be at the J. S. Gray Reserve, just at the end of the West Preston tram terminus. The auxiliary hopes that this venture will bring in increased funds.

ARMADALE: This auxiliary is maintaining a steady flow of knitted baby garments for its stall at the Annual Fair. Each second Wednesday it has a "Bring-a-gift, Buy-a-gift" stall. The thanks of the auxiliary goes to Mrs. Smith who sells produce from her garden in between meetings.

BRIGHTON: Members of this auxiliary have been very busy with street stalls and card parties to swell their funds, and are now planning further activities. Six members help to sort out Salvage every Monday.

CHELTENHAM/MENTONE: Members of this auxiliary held their May meeting at the home of Mrs. Cubbin of Parkdale. The Opportunity Table and Street Stall which they organised was most successful. The auxiliary gave its final donation of the promised £300 for the furnishing of the new dining room at Carrum Downs.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Max Taylor, 198 Warrigal Road, Mentone, on June

3rd, at 2 p.m. A cordial invitation is extended to anyone wishing to become a member of this auxiliary.

"MARKET FAIR": The annual Fair will be held in the Lower Melbourne Town Hall on Wednesday, October 8th, and friends are asked to start knitting now — such things as tea-cosies or baby wear, or to make aprons for the apron stall. Articles sent from the country will be carried free of charge by the railways.

JEWEL EXHIBITION: A country tour of the magnificent Coronation Jewels has been organised in Albury, Wangaratta, Benalla and Shepparton, commencing on June 6th at Albury. Mr. Richard Hennessy, one of the Queen's jewellers, to whom the show belongs, will lecture. The exhibition will include beautiful robes actually worn at the Coronation and all the jewels and "Swords of State" are the actual ones used by the Queen in her rehearsals in the Abbey. We hope that our country friends will patronize the exhibition and help to make the tour a success.

**YOUR USED CLOTHING
IS NEEDED BY THE
BROTHERHOOD**

**Phone the Salvage Division
JA 3183
and a van will call.**

DONATION SLIP

**THE SUPERIOR,
BROTHERHOOD OF ST. LAURENCE
51 ROYAL ARCADE,
MELBOURNE, C.I. MF 3011**

Please find my donation £ : :

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

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

**BUS TRIPS TO
CARRUM DOWNS**

Bus trips to Carrum Downs will be arranged on the following days —

Saturday, June 14th.

Saturday, July 19th.

Saturday, August 23rd.

Tickets are available from the City Shop, 51 Royal Arcade, at the cost of 6/6.