

B.S.L. NOTES

For the Friends of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence

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

FITZROY

OCTOBER, 1958

No. 132

The Superior writes on . . . RECORD PROGRESS IN 1958 EARLY START AT ST. LAURENCE PARK

Dear B.S.L. Friends,

It would seem that 1958 is going to be the most progressive year in the history of the Brotherhood. As I gaze at the three storied building now going up on part of our Fitzroy property I recall the early days when two of us lived in a very ancient and very dilapidated slum cottage. In those days our income was £2 a week and our assets an ancient and somewhat dilapidated motor car.

Now this very fine building to cost £40,000, adjoining our well-equipped Old People's Club and Children's Centre is under construction. I cannot tell you how thankful I feel to know that in a few months time all our Fitzroy activities will be housed under one roof, complete and up-to-date. It will mean not only that our staff will have comfortable and efficient facilities in which to carry on their many important tasks but adequate provision will be available for the men, women and children who seek our aid.

Up to recently we feared, because of financial difficulties, that we would not be in a position to complete the building which was so much needed. It seemed that the building of the third storey which is to provide for the needs of elder boys and girls would have to be postponed to a later date. But remembering how our Friends have always stood by us and in all our enterprises and remembering too, the generosity of the general public, our financial advisors have advised us to carry out the building programme in its entirety.

ST. LAURENCE PARK, LARA

There is another reason why this is going to be an important year. After much preliminary work and enquiry all is now clear for us to make definite plans for our new settlement at Lara. As there is a valuable crop on the property, actual building operations cannot be undertaken until the end of the year. The enthusiasm, not only of the St. Laurence Park Council (the body

of Clergy and laymen who are responsible for the project) but also of all sections of the community, fills me with hope as to the success of this our latest venture.

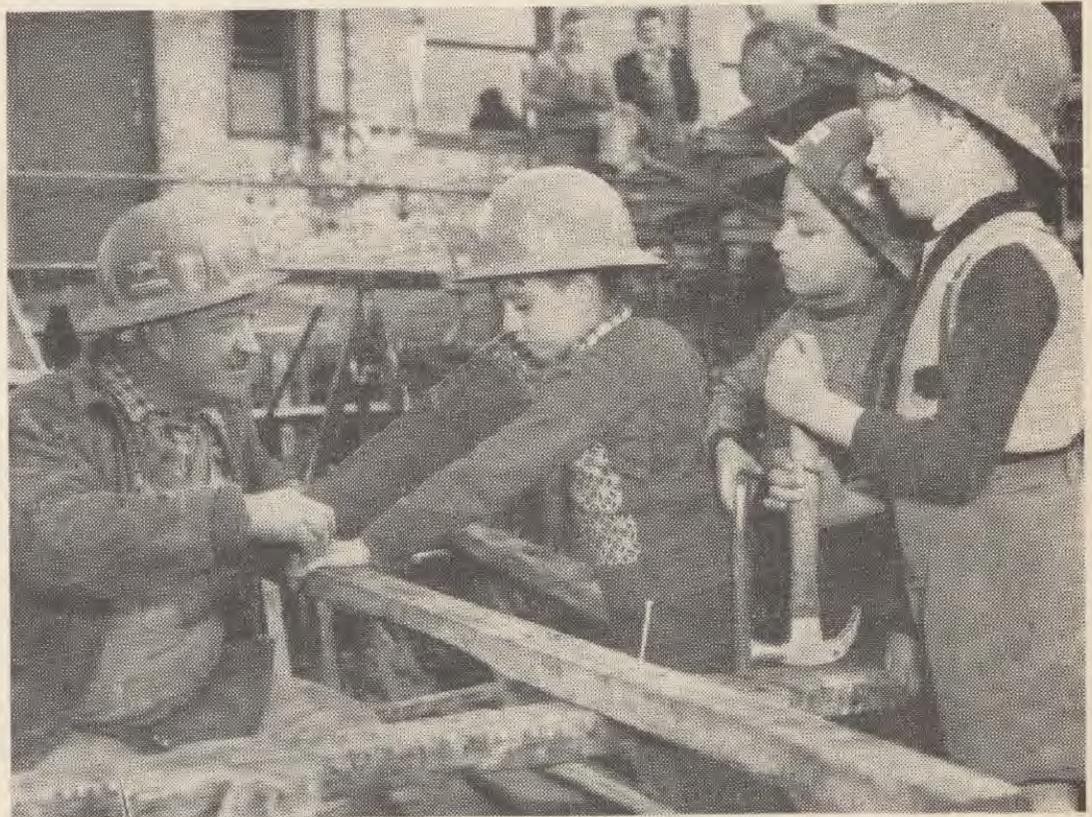
The nearness of the Park to the Geelong Grammar School is in itself a great advantage. Dr. Darling, who is a member of our Council, has promised the full support of the school. Already masters and boys

CARRUM DOWNS FAIR ON SAT. 1st. NOV.

The annual Village Fair will be held at Carrum Downs on Saturday, November 1st.

Residents have worked hard for months and are hoping for a record attendance. There will be a wide range of stalls and afternoon tea will be served.

Special buses will run from Princes Bridge and tickets are available from 51 Royal Arcade for 6/6. Book early to make sure you get a seat!



Boys from the Children's Centre "assist" the builders on construction of the new Fitzroy building.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM ANNUAL REPORT

"The Brotherhood Story", 1957-58 describes a year of progress in the history of the Brotherhood. In nearly all departments there has been a greater demand for the services of our social workers, youth leaders and others.

Copies of the annual report and financial statement are available on request from 67 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, or 51 Royal Arcade. Here are some highlights from the report.

Social Service Bureau

The work of the Bureau is becoming more well known in the community and the areas from which people come are spreading to the outer suburbs and new housing estates. More than half the cases seen came from areas other than Fitzroy. A third Social Worker was appointed and a close liaison has been established with the Children's Centre. There was an increase in the number of people referred from Clergy.

Figures show 2,002 interviews during the year and 382 home visits.

Coolibah Club

Average membership was 160 during the year which was slightly below the 1957 figure due to a high death rate. Home visits increased and the Club carried on the usual range of social activities and services. Nearly 10,000 meals were served with Club members and other

old people who brought their problems to the welfare worker. Christmas dinner was served for 136 and Christmas parcels were distributed to 430 elderly people. A supply of firewood was maintained to 70 pensioners.

Record Attendance at Centre

The average daily attendance at the Children's Centre was 92. Club activities included play, drawing, painting, cooking, sewing, carpentry, ballet, leatherwork, musical appreciation and radio mechanics. Twenty-five voluntary leaders assisted with Club leadership and programmes. Home visiting to Club members was extended and Mr. Alex Greig was involved in a considerable amount of Court work.

At the Children's Health Clinic, 1,108 treatments were carried out, mostly for children attending the Club. Eye examinations were arranged for 220 children and children

were referred to hospitals and clinics where necessary.

Family Service Project

Approximately 350 adults and children are included in the families with whom Social Workers in the Project are working. An assessment during the year showed that most families had made progress in budgeting home care, rent, child care, school attendance and use of community facilities.

In some cases there had been no progress and in the past 14 months eight families had been evicted for rent arrears.

There has been considerable progress in the Children's Clubs and Mothers' Clubs. A Community Association has been formally constituted and parents are accepting more responsibility for local activities.

Social Workers made 3,792 home visits and there were 159 office interviews. Financial aid and grocery orders totalled £1,345.

Resident Participation at Carrum Downs

Resident participation organised through the Residents' Committee increased, and residents helped in the Store, Hospital, Enquiry Bureau, Kitchens, Gardens, Library and Cafeteria. Four new cottages were opened, three being financed by the Voluntary Helper's Shop and one from the "Better Way" fund. Georges' Staff Auxiliary pioneered a scheme of endowing cottages.

The Superior's Letter—continued.

have shown their practical interest by surveying the land and drawing necessary plans. A now somewhat uninteresting creek traverses part of the property. The school has undertaken to turn this into a place of beauty. I visualise the whole project as being something in the nature of a partnership between the Brotherhood and the Geelong Grammar School. Such, I think, would be to the advantage of both bodies concerned.

LOCAL SUPPORT

I have been much encouraged by the offers of help I have received from many Geelong organisations. These include The Junior Chamber of Commerce, two branches of Apex Clubs, Trades Hall, Rotary and the Y.M.C.A. Already a B.S.L. Group has been formed at Mt. Gow, in the parish of Inverleigh. These good people have undertaken to provide part of the furnishings of a building to be used for the entertainment of visitors.

With the exception of two cottages which the Brotherhood (Melbourne) is to build, all monies are

to be the responsibility of the St. Laurence Park Council. One of the cottages referred to is to be built from "The Better Way Fund". The other is to be used partly for my use and partly for a place where visitors can be entertained and meetings held.

For at least three years we do not contemplate erecting a "Collins Court" for those no longer able to care for themselves. All things being equal, the first priority for admission will be given to people of Geelong and district. All will be required to take some part in carrying out and furthering the interest of the little community of which they will be part.

One of the chief reasons why there are so many ailing old people is that they have not been given the opportunity, on retirement from ordinary calling, of sharing in any worthwhile and satisfying occupation. After 11 years of practical experience, I have come to the conclusion, that if elderly people, still mentally alert and reasonably physically fit, enter into the life such as that contemplated for St. Laurence

Park, they will go on their way usefully and happily until the end of life's chapter. We maintain that retirement from ordinary occupation should be the beginning of a new lease of life and not, as alas it so often is, the beginning of increasing infirmity and unhappiness.

PIONEERING WORK

I am looking forward with intense interest to my task of pioneering this exciting undertaking and I am looking for men and women of my own age group to share with me the joys and perhaps some disappointments too, in demonstrating to the world that people of 60, 70 or 80 are not too old to carry out an undertaking for their own welfare and happiness and also for the good of the country as a whole.

In thanking God for what He has enabled us to do in spite of, time, want of faith and the weakness of human nature, I would have us all face the future with confidence and hope. Much has been done, much remains to be done.

I already visualise a whole course of B.S.L. Friends assembling at St. Laurence Park early in 1959

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for the official opening. In expressing my gratitude for the progress of the Fitzroy buildings and my hope for the Geelong venture, I am very conscious that under the hand of God, what good we have been able to do is to a very large extent due to those good people we call B.S.L. Friends.

To all greetings and thanks,
I am, on behalf of us all,
Yours very sincerely,

E. Kennedy Tucker
Secretary B.S.L.

P.S.—

- All Soul's Eucharist will be held Tuesday, November 4th, at Carum Downs at 9.30 a.m. We hope as many as possible will be able to come.
- Geelong Grammar School Fair will be held on Saturday, November 8th. All proceeds will go to the St. Laurence Park Settlement, Lara.

FINANCE

Expenditure from the maintenance account was £50,282, excluding the Family Service Project which cost £11,000 of which approximately four-fifths was provided by the Housing Commission. This is the only branch of our activities that receives Government assistance.

The Salvage Division contributed £8,000 to B.S.L. funds. Donations totalled £19,492, mostly made up of a large number of small donations.

THE CHAPEL OF ST. MARK

Would you like to make a Memorial Gift?

St. Mark's Opportunity Shop, Camberwell, has given £1,000 towards the provision of a Chapel in the new building at our headquarters in Fitzroy. This Chapel will become a quiet place, reminding those who serve the Brotherhood at Fitzroy, as well as those whom the Brotherhood serves, of what is the inspiration for its work. There may be friends of the Brotherhood who would like to place a memorial in the Chapel in memory of a loved one.

The following is a list of furnishings required to complete the Chapel, together with prices. If you feel you would like to help in this special way would you contact direct Archdeacon Sambell, either by letter at 67 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, or by telephone at FJ 3378:—

Carved Altar	.....	£100
Credence Table	.....	£20
Cross	.....	£30
Candle Sticks	.....	£55
Prayer Desk	.....	£30
Sanctuary Lamp	.....	£35
Carpet	.....	£75
Window in French	.....
Antique Glass	.....	£110
Chapel Chairs (24 required)	.....	£12 each

We want this Chapel to be a place of beauty and yet simplicity in the heart of the Brotherhood's activities at Fitzroy.

CHRISTMAS CARDS WILL AID B.S.L.

Attractive Christmas Cards will soon be on sale at all Brotherhood Opportunity Shops. The cards have been specially ordered by the Brotherhood and all proceeds from their sale will benefit the Brotherhood.

The cards will appeal to all who look for a quiet, simple design that expresses the true message of Christmas.

The cards cost 1/- each, with envelope. Mail orders can be sent to 51 Royal Arcade, Melbourne, C.I.

"MORVEN"

Holidays were provided for 158 old people and several groups of mothers and children in need of holidays. The Mornington Auxiliary continued to help with hospitality during the past year.

18 AUXILIARIES

The number of B.S.L. Auxiliaries has now grown to eighteen. The auxiliaries are concerned with fund raising, helping to run Opportunity Shops and providing voluntary service.

More stalls — New stalls — a wonderful range of gifts and goods at the Brotherhood's

1958 MARKET FAIR

Lower Melbourne Town Hall

WEDNESDAY, 8th OCTOBER, at 10.30 a.m.

Good, cleaned, second-hand clothing . Hat Bar . New Children's Clothing . Cakes . Produce . Apron and Tea Cosy Competition . Christmas Card Bar . Toys . Sweets . Ornaments and White Elephants . Books . Home Made Jams .

Invite your friends to light luncheon—
hot tea and coffee served with tasty sandwiches, cakes and scones.

Goods for the Fair will be welcomed at 67 Brunswick Street (JA 7055), or 51 Royal Arcade (MF 3011.)

NOTES FROM AUXILIARIES

ARMADALE: Members have been very busy knitting, sewing and preparing goods for the "Fair", on October 8th. There has been a ready sale for baby wear during the year and members intend to go on knitting all the year and build up a stock of baby wear which may be purchased to help the auxiliary.

Tea cosies for the competition being held by this auxiliary, may be left at the Glenferrie Road shop or at 81 Kooyong Road, Armadale. Any further particulars may be obtained from Mrs. Thorn, at UY 7169.

BOX HILL: This auxiliary is arranging interesting speakers for each of their meetings. At the next meeting, Mr. G. Groger, Manager for Carrum Downs, will speak. This group held a very successful salvage drive during September. The president, Mrs. McGregor, would be glad to hear of anyone who may be interested in joining this auxiliary which meets every fourth Monday of the month in the church hall of St. Peter's Church. Mrs. McGregor may be reached at WF 1106.

GLEN IRIS: This auxiliary will hold their next function, which will be an Australian Tea, "Bring-a-Gift-Buy-a-Gift", at the home of Mrs. A. H. Smart, of 181 Glen Iris Road, Glen Iris, on Saturday, November 15th, commencing at 2.30 p.m. All welcome.

HUGHESDALE-MURRUM-BEENA: At a recent luncheon held at the home of the organiser, Mrs. Rogers, a gathering was arranged for all Malvern shop helpers for a date later in the year and it will be held at the home of Mrs. Martin, 14 Rangeview Avenue, East Malvern. The group intends to make a special

display at the shop for Christmas, with gifts suitable for Christmas presents.

CAMBERWELL: The final meeting of the year will be held on 6th November. This will be in the form of a Japanese afternoon-tea and the speaker will be our president, Mrs. G. W. T. Hall, who has just returned from Japan and the Far East.

ORMOND: The Ormond shop is now beginning to show signs of the hard work done by this auxiliary who have been stocking and helping Mrs. Smith, our manager, to run the shop. At the next meeting on October 7th, Miss Ann Travair, hostess for T.A.A., will give an illustrated talk on her trips to Central Australia and Queensland. Members of this auxiliary are looking forward to the combined auxiliary meeting on November 26th.

PRESTON: This auxiliary will celebrate their first birthday on October 13th when their annual meeting will be held at the Preston Town Hall at 2 p.m. The ladies from all the auxiliaries in the neighbourhood have been invited. Mr. David Scott will give a talk on the work in the Brotherhood with the emphasis on the work done in the Preston area. Mrs. Gardiner would be glad to welcome any members of the Brotherhood's auxiliaries or anyone who is interested. Would you ring Mrs. Gardiner at JU 5833.

MORNINGTON: The ladies of this auxiliary spend the whole day on the first Wednesday of the month helping at our Holiday Home, "Morven". In the morning they help with cleaning windows, weeding or ironing and hold their meeting in the afternoon. The auxiliary also spend one Tuesday in the month sorting at salvage. The Brotherhood's Mornington shop

has moved into larger premises on the other side of the market. Business is brisk.

BRIGHTON: This auxiliary is wanting aprons for their stall at the Fair on October 8th. If anyone can help, would you please send them to Mrs. K. D. Green, of 226 Were Street, Brighton. (XB 1085).

CHELTENHAM-MENTONE: This auxiliary is holding a street stall in Charman Road, Cheltenham, on 10th October, where home made cakes, etc., will be sold. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Collins, 9 Surf Street, Parkdale, at 2 p.m. Anyone interested is cordially invited to attend. Any further information may be obtained from Mrs. Kelly (Sec.) XY 3939.

ESSENDON: This group is holding a musical evening at Lowther Hall at the end of October. The secretary is Mrs. Shattock, FX 3469.

CUSHION CLUB: This club is having their final meeting for the year in the form of a "Sweet 16" Christmas party and will be held at the home of Mrs. Ian Pittman, 3 Wildlife Parade, North Balwyn.

MELBOURNE YOUNGER SET: On Saturday, October 25th, the Younger Set are running three "Progressive Dinners" (in different suburbs) and will wind up with a dance at the home of Judy Marks, in Dandenong Road. Also for this year's Christmas collection, the Set have secured eight posts, instead of last year's four, and hope to do even better than their magnificent effort of last year.

The second combined auxiliary meeting will be held at Carrum Downs on Wednesday, November 26th. All auxiliary ladies are invited to a buffet luncheon commencing at 12.30 p.m. Arrangements will be made for transport.

DANDENONG: This auxiliary is working very hard for a large salvage drive which will help them in their shop at Dandenong.

FORTUNAS GROUP: This group is holding a T.V. night on Channel 9, on 29th October, when 50 of the members and friends will be present. Members of the group and their husbands and friends will spend an afternoon on a large potato field at Emerald digging for potatoes so as to enable them to send bags to where ever the Brotherhood most needs them. Several ladies have also offered to do vountary typing at home for us and I feel quite sure we will be able to take up their kind offer.

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."