

THE BROTHERHOOD NEWS

No. 168 MARCH 1965

Price SIXPENCE

Published by

THE BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT LAURENCE

SOCIAL SERVICE BUREAU
COOLIBAH CLUB
CHILDREN'S & YOUTH CENTRE

67 Brunswick Street,
Fitzroy.
Phone 41 7055

SALVAGE DIVISION:
75 Westgarth Street,
Fitzroy.
Phone 41 3183

CARRUM DOWNS:
B.S.L. Settlement,
Carrum Downs.
Phone Carrum Downs 236 7821203

LARA:
St. Laurence Park,
Lara.
Lara 177

CARINYA:
32 Kangerong Road,
Box Hill.
Phone 89 3902

Registered at the G.P.O., Melbourne, for transmission through the post as a periodical.

FATHER TUCKER
WRITES —

CARINYA NEEDS YOUR HELP NOW

Dear B.S.L. Friends,

I have before me one of the early issues of the B.S.L. Notes. It is a tiny two-page leaflet printed on brownish paper in red type. It was issued in Newcastle where we were in those days, and it went to about 50 Friends. In my letter I told what I wanted from Friends. I suggested that they paid 5/- per annum to help defray printing and postage expenses and I urged that they should give us of their understanding and of their prayers. When we came to Melbourne, we had absolutely no financial assets, and without warning the circumstances were such that we were compelled to undertake a work for which we were not trained, a work of tremendous magnitude. We had no money but we had behind us some hundred Friends (the number had gradually grown) who were praying for us.

It was in the darkest days of the depression, and those whom we were called upon to serve were living in one of the worst slums in Australia. It was all absolutely new to us, but in spite of our poverty and inexperience, some very wonderful things happened, and in consequence the Brotherhood of St. Laurence as a social service organisation came into being.

I know we cannot put back the clock, but yet the 30 years and more that have passed since those days, convinces me of the value of understanding and prayers. Prayer can be very wide in its application, but one form of prayer (perhaps not the highest) is what I call "bearing a cause in mind" — concentrating in thought and desire on that cause.

BEAR IN MIND

This all brings me to what I want you to "bear in mind" — concentrate on. It is Carinya, our Hospital for the frail aged in Box Hill. It was established some two years ago. With the passing of the months the need for extension has become increasingly apparent. I am specially interested in this project because many of the applicants we have to refuse come under my personal notice and the need of the majority is great. I am also anxious about it because, as far as I can see, I will be cared for if I should become physically helpless before I die. What I expect to have, I should do what I can to enable other old people to have.

There is one advantage in becoming old and that is one is able to say in regard to certain matters "I know" instead of merely "I think." As far as I am concerned I can say "I know" that if a certain number of people feel sure a certain thing should be done, and they bear it in mind, and concentrate on it, if that thing is in accordance with the Will of God, it will come about. Some day I may be able to tell, in the light of the history of the Brotherhood, why I am so sure of that fact. So much help and so many people have come to us without any seeking on our part — have come as it were "out of the blue" and the help and the people were just what we needed at the time.

All this convinces me of the truth of that saying — more things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of.

It may be interesting to record how Carinya came into being. We had been concerned about the ever-growing number of frail aged who sought our help, but we could not see what we could do about the matter. On a visit to Sydney, Bishop Sambell saw what was being done there for this particular age group. In a letter to you B.S.L. Friends, I told of our desire to follow the example of Sydney adding that I did not know how it could be done as there was not money available. I wonder how many of you were "bearing this in mind"? At any rate something happened. A man, previously quite unknown to us, undertook to buy a house and to convert it into a small hospital. We were naturally delighted, but when we went into the matter we found that although we had a goodly sum of money in hand (thanks to the generous donor), the building would have to be enlarged and the overhead expenses would be quite beyond our capacity. What

● Continued on Page 2

B.S.L. NOTES

THERE IS A "BETTER WAY"

Since "The Better Way" was founded in 1954, it has financed the construction of four cottages — two at Carrum Downs and two at Lara.

The scheme was started by Father Tucker and based on his conviction that the custom of sending flowers to funerals was wasteful and that it could be replaced by something better. A gift to help make the lives of people on earth happier than they might otherwise be.

From overseas he had heard of the Swedish Flower Fund which works along these lines.

With this background the B.S.L. began "The Better Way" scheme in 1954. Since then £5,300 has been raised.

People contribute to the scheme by sending the amount they might otherwise have spent on flowers to the Brotherhood, which then sends a card to the bereaved family stating that a gift has been made to the Brotherhood of St. Laurence.

To use the scheme you simply have to contact 63 3011 — or write to the secretary, "The Better Way," Brotherhood of St. Laurence, 51 Royal Arcade, Melbourne.

HANDICRAFTS

Over the next four months a voluntary occupational therapist will be coming once a week to the Coolibah Club, the B.S.L. centre for old folk in Fitzroy, to give instruction in handicrafts to members.

The therapist will teach the old folk to make things like handbags, baskets and other novelties. Money for the materials will come out of club funds, and some of the articles made will go to stock the B.S.L. fair in Lower Melbourne Town Hall

next November.

Mrs. J. Millott, the manageress of the club, is very thrilled about the new venture. "We have 50 to 60 old people here every day," she says. "It is much better for them to be occupied."

Mrs. Millott, who is just back from holidays herself, is busy on preparations for pensioners' holidays at Morven, the B.S.L. holiday home at Mornington.

The holidays go on with intervals till December, this year, and the demand has been heavy this year.

Parties of 10 pensioners will be leaving each pension day for a 10-day holiday.

BROTHERHOOD PROFILES

No. 1: ERIC HART

Mr. Eric L. Hart has been secretary-treasurer of the Geelong council of the B.S.L. since its inception in 1959.

When St. Laurence Park was founded Mr. Hart took over the secretary-treasurership. The park then comprised about four or five cottages and has now expanded to the present number of 44 individual units which is soon to be increased.

Mr. Hart, born in Geelong in 1923, has lived there ever since. He went to Swanston Street State School and later to Geelong High School. After leaving school he entered the real estate firm in which his father was partner. When his father died in 1948 he acquired an interest in the business, and in 1961 it became a family company.

Mr. Hart married a Geelong girl and they have three sons, Allen aged 16, David 13, and John, four.

He says emphatically that his association with Father Tucker and the work of the Brotherhood have brought the most rewarding years of his life.

Laurence Park residents have cause to be grateful for his selfless devotion to his work.

• Continued from Page 1

were we to do? The answer came. A legacy came to hand which was to be used exclusively for the welfare of the aged. Was all this chance? Because so many things of this kind have happened to me, it was by no means chance.

In conclusion I ask you, our B.S.L. Friends of 1965, what I asked of our Friends in 1930 — I think not of money, that was not asked for in those days, but of your understanding and your prayers. If we have these two essentials we will receive what we should receive, and for that, we should be content.

With every good wish to you all from us all,

I am,

Yours very sincerely,

G. Kennedy Tucker

Secretary B.S.L.

Comment ON ABORIGINES

There should be concern at reports that several of the aborigine families who were moved to country towns from the Lake Tyers settlement in 1964 have failed to settle into the homes, jobs and environments in which they were placed. The Aborigines Advancement League reports that some of these "failed families" have been refused re-admittance to Lake Tyers. No one doubts the integrity or concern of the Victorian Government in the matter of aborigine welfare. Some years ago they set out to try and make amends for past Government and community neglect.

But the desirability of the policy of rapid re-settlement from Lake Tyers is most doubtful and it is a pity that the Government was so dogmatic about this policy. Pastor Doug. Nicholls resigned from the Aborigines Welfare Board over this issue, and anthropologist Dr. Donald Thomson opposed the emptying and intended closure of Lake Tyers.

The mistake lies in pushing a policy of "assimilation" beyond the capacities and desires of aborigines to be merged with the white community.

It is one thing to help those who wish to move away and who have a reasonably realistic appreciation of what the new life will be like. It is another to encourage or to apply subtle pressure to people who may be quite incapable of realising the tremendous changes that will take place in their lives and have the threat of complete isolation hanging over them if they fail and are unable to return to their old homes.

The traditional attitude to Lake Tyers is another complicating factor. It is the one corner of their old land that they felt really belonged to them. If they have a right left to them by the white man, it is surely the right to remain in Lake Tyers or to return to it if they wish — even if we think they should be more up and doing for themselves.

The Government policy should be to guarantee to aborigines the right of living at Lake Tyers, to improve its administration, to enable its young people to attend community schools and at the same time give every possible help and encouragement to those wishing to take advantage of better housing, better paid jobs and better opportunities in the outside community. Some may stay when the administration in its wisdom believes they should move, others will move and fail and return, but in the long term with education, developing confidence and a more accepting attitude on behalf of Government and community there is a better chance of success than is likely to result from pushing assimilation beyond capacities or desires of aborigines.

DAVID SCOTT.

Brotherhood Board to discuss Appeal Projects

The Board of Management of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence will meet shortly to discuss the priority projects to be financed by the "Forgotten People Appeal."

The appeal has so far raised £50,000 and further donations are expected.

The appeal committee under chairman, Mr. D. Randal Dossetor are still working and have plans for several more fund-raising ventures, in an effort to reach the target figure of £75,000.

The board meeting will decide what projects can be commenced with the money already in hand from the appeal.

The projects which the appeal was staged to finance were as follows:—

- Build 14 new cottages at the Carrum Downs Settlement for the active elderly.
- Finance the construction of a 15-bed annexe at the Carinya hospital for the frail aged at Box Hill.
- Finance an activities centre at St. Laurence Park, Lara settlement for the active elderly.
- Set up a scholarship fund to help meet the acute shortage of trained social workers.
- Finance a three-year visiting and occupational scheme for "shut-ins," elderly or physically handicapped people.
- Set up a permanent youth camp site for young people from the inner suburbs.
- Finance social welfare research to ensure that Government and voluntary funds are spent in meeting priority needs in the community.

If the full £75,000 target to the appeal is not reached, by necessity some of these urgent projects will have to be reduced or postponed indefinitely.



The Governor, Sir Rohan Delacombe, helped David with his carpentry when he visited the Creative Leisure Centre. Sir Rohan made his inspection when he opened the Forgotten People Appeal. ("Age" Photo.)

REPORT FROM HANOVER CENTRE

"In this first year, Hanover Centre has been successful as a pilot project," says Mr. Alan Jordan, the counsellor, in his report.

"The type of service we provide depends on investment in skilled staff rather than in buildings and equipment, so if we are to be more effective we must have further staff and closer links with other kinds of facilities, such as hostels," he said.

The Hanover Centre, which began work last year, is a joint agency for homeless men. The Brotherhood of St. Laurence has combined with other church and welfare organisations to provide the centre. It is situated at the Fitzroy Methodist Church, 85 Hanover Street.

The counsellor's report states that in 1964 the centre had one full-time staff member with office help. Work had been based on personal contact with each client, group activities, collection of research data, provision of food and accommodation and other help.

457 INTERVIEWS

Four hundred and fifty-seven men had been interviewed at the Centre, 212 of them more than once. Material assistance had been given to the value of £1,528/18/8, which included £368/16/10 in repayments by clients.

The report states that by obtaining and publishing reliable information about homeless men, by consultation with other organisations and by participation in meetings and seminars it is able to contribute to clearer understanding by the community of this social problem and better ways of dealing with it. As yet public interest is slight, but professional interest is growing.

"However," it adds, "we are providing service which is appreciated by many clients which gives them psychological as well as material support and which opens the way to greater gains in the future."

"Many seem impressed not so much by our comparative generosity but by our willingness to take the time and trouble to get to know them as individuals."

The Rev. Peter Hollingworth represents the Brotherhood on the Hanover Centre Committee.

CARRUM DOWNS MANAGER

Mr. Ken Williams has been appointed manager of the Carrum Downs settlement. He succeeds Mr. Graeme Hyde, who has resigned after six months' leave of absence for health reasons.

Mr. Hyde will be taking up an appointment with the Y.M.C.A. at Yallourn.

Mr. Lloyd Walton has been appointed maintenance officer. He succeeds Mr. John Hare.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The operation of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence Salvage Division is quite unique and over the years it has been a shining example of self-help charity fund-raising.

It is able to make use of the items that the people of Victoria no longer require and last year was able to turn this "junk" into a very tangible asset of £19,118, to the Brotherhood's income.

The Salvage Division is located at 75 Westgarth Street, Fitzroy, and a simple telephone call to 41 3183 is all that's required to arrange for a van to call at any home in the Melbourne suburbs. Country residents can send parcels free of freight to the Brotherhood of St. Laurence, c/o Flinders Street Railway Station.

The goods you give are either given to a needy family, or are sold in one of the Brotherhood's six Opportunity Shops in Fitzroy, Dandenong, Malvern, Mornington, North Melbourne and Royal Arcade, City.

The Brotherhood can make use of a wide range of articles—just about anything in the home—ranging from clothing, ornaments, silverware, jewellery, household crockery, postage stamps, bedding, magazines, vases, pictures, books, milk bottle tops, scrap metal and radios.

Every home in Melbourne must have some of these articles which they aren't even likely to use again, so please phone and arrange for the friendly Brotherhood driver to call at your home.

Future work of the Social Service Bureau

By MISS JANET PATERSON, Senior Social Worker

At the end of last year, a discussion took place about the future work at the Bureau. It was a time for "stocktaking" for several reasons. Firstly, our social work staff had been reduced during the year and this had naturally meant a cutting down of our services. We had been forced to decide priorities and the work of five people had been limited to manageable proportions for two. Secondly, we had prospects of new staff for the coming year and wanted to know how we should use them in re-developing the bureau. The third reason was an influence from outside, namely the tendencies of other agencies to declare their policies and to concentrate on achieving good standards by specialising. This meant that more than ever we needed to know where we were going.

SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of our decisions is not in their radical nature, because they are not radical, but in the fact that they came from conscious deliberation. We believe that our function is to continue working with low income families and to develop ways and means of increasing our co-operation with the clergy.

Most people, who are familiar with the Brotherhood, have known that the work was with people with low incomes whether they were pensioners or small wage earners. However, what few people may realise is that the Brotherhood is one of a very very few organisations employing trained social workers to do this.

SOCIAL WORKERS

It follows that as well as working with individual families, we must consider the needs of those families on a larger scale. In the past we have been outspoken on subjects like the low rate of Unemployment Benefit and our outspokenness has produced results for people who were not able to speak for themselves. There are many more matters deserving this attention and we intend to produce material gathered from our daily practice that will warrant attention. For instance, at this time with the beginning of the school year, we are concerned about the cost of education and in particular the strains imposed on a family who are trying to keep "a not too bright" teenager at school.

We are inclined to think of our education system as a free one but any basic wage earner with a number of children could tell about the hidden and not so hidden charges which worry him.

Amongst our low income families, there will be many whom we have called multi-problem families because they seemed to

have recurrent troubles with lots of things at once. It has even been suggested that the term derived from the social worker's own inability to know where to start! Many people will remember that the Brotherhood pioneered work with this group with the Family Service Project in Camp Pell in 1955. Here for the first time the service was adjusted to the needs of the people as a recognition that one of the major characteristics of a multi-problem family was its inability to use ordinary health and welfare services. When an intensive social work programme began to show results in terms of better household standards, improved rent payments and greater family stability, the Housing Commission offered financial support, the staff was increased and the project attracted a great deal of professional interest.

The next stage of the Family Service Project was at East Preston. Progress was slower, new problems were encountered, and resistant ones became more resistant. By the end of 1959, it was felt that in this form and with the same group of families, the project was becoming supportive rather than dynamic and most of the families, if not on their feet, had grown sufficiently to seek this support when necessary from ordinary agency services. And so the project closed in June, 1960. It is true that many families felt abandoned, no matter how hard we tried to prepare them for the end of our visits and reassured them that we still cared and would be glad to see them at Brunswick Street. Furthermore we disappointed our professional colleagues by not producing a report on these five years of work and our silence was interpreted as a sense of failure.

We do not believe the project was a failure. Untold numbers of methods and ideas arising from it have been incorporated into our daily routine as a matter of course. Ultimately a report will be produced so that the lessons we learned can be made available to the many who followed the project with interest and who have waited so long for our evaluation. The work we are now planning will probably be with a selected number of families who fit certain criteria which were derived from the project. A principle one is likely to be "contact with the social service bureau over a period of five years or more but never really known" (or helped). We will examine our attitudes and their attitudes; we will look at the nature of their problems and the relevance to them of the help we offer; and will try to do this in such a way that records can be easily compared. The aim will be increased understanding and more effective service.

Our interest in improving co-operation

with the clergy has grown naturally since the appointment of our chaplain. With his help, links have been established on an individual basis with parish clergy when we have needed their help for a client in the district. We feel we have much to offer each other and should be working more closely together if only to reduce the wastage of welfare effort. We need the help of the parish organisations and we believe that the local clergyman could use our help and specialised training when he encounters personal problems that are beyond the scope of pastoral counselling.

PERSONAL PROBLEMS

Last year in June, we wrote to many clergymen explaining our staff position and regretting our inability to accept all the work they might want us to do. It is now possible to write again retracting this letter and inviting referrals. There are various ways in which we can make the link between the clergy and the social workers of the Brotherhood a real thing. One way is to invite the clergyman concerned to a case conference when a family he has known is being discussed. This gives him a chance to see how we think and work and the face to face contact has endless advantages over telephone conversations. On the other hand we are interested to understand the complications and difficulties of his work in the parish and in particular the sense of anxiety and frustration that is inevitable when a hungry, homeless family comes to him at night long after our offices are closed.

This outline of plans for 1965 has concentrated on two main emphases and has not described the general nature of family case work. Traditionally social workers have found this hard to do but perhaps the key to the whole thing is in the phrase that "instead of helping people, we try to help them to help themselves." Financial relief, clothing, assistance with accommodation and holidays are all provided against the fundamental belief that it is the person who matters and it is his ability and will to change that we are really working on.

BUREAU'S 1964 STATISTICS

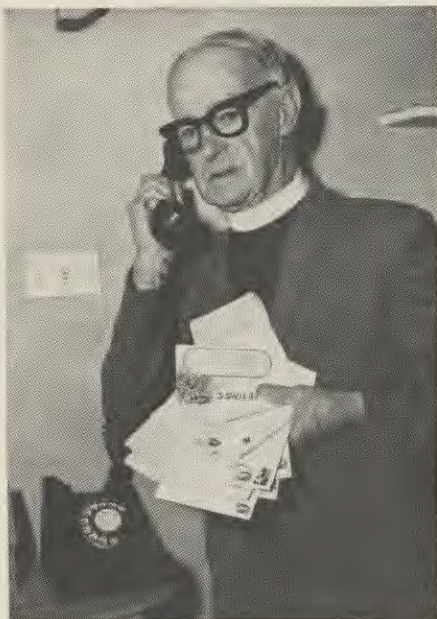
NUMBERS

Total number of families seen	653
New	273
Previously known	380
Home visits	484
Office interviews	2,084
Other visits on behalf of clients	153
Amount of aid	£4,785
(record figure)	

MAIN AREAS FROM WHICH FAMILIES CAME

(registered at first visit in the year)	
Fitzroy	128
Preston, Reservoir	62
South of Yarra within 4 miles of G.P.O.	41
Carlton	41
South of Yarra over 4 miles from G.P.O.	41
Collingwood, Abbotsford	33

BIRTHDAY FOR FATHER TUCKER



Father Tucker, founder of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence, celebrated his eightieth birthday on 18th February at a surprise party at St. Laurence Park, Lara. About 40 members of the Brotherhood staff sprang the surprise on him and knowing how he likes things done, they made it just a simple party, with no lavish gifts.

A recent meeting of the Geelong council of the Lara settlement gave Father Tucker a birthday cheque for 12 guineas, which he promptly gave to Carinya—the Brotherhood hospital for the frail aged at Box Hill.

BOAT FOR BROTHERHOOD

Over the years the salvage division of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence has received some strange items, but recently they received their first ever boat.

Perhaps it is a sign that the boating craze is at last over, but the nondescript, home-made 16 footer, complete with mast and sails, was quickly sold—for a fiver!

Recent "finds" among the goods collected by the salvage division were two early 19th Century samplers which are still for sale.

The samplers, small pieces of embroidery, measure 22 inches by 18 inches. One has the name Mary Spendlar, age 11, and is dated 1812, and the other Elizabeth Spendlar, age 13, is dated 1816. Other unusual items which have recently come to hand include an old Law book, unfortunately damaged, bearing the date 1800, and an antique heating stove of Russian origin.

NEW FRONT FOR CARRUM DOWNS

For many years the Brotherhood has been aware that the main Frankston highway frontage of the Carrum Downs settlement did not do justice to the attractiveness of the rest of the settlement.

The low lying paddock was a tangle of weeds, the old gateway at the entrance had not been replaced and the plant house had fallen into disrepair.

The Brotherhood was reluctant to spend money on improvements when there was such an urgent need of funds for housing and essential maintenance.

Some months ago a donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, gave £500 for improvements to the frontage. There have been long delays in commencing the work owing to need for local Council to finally determine road levels into the settlement.

Plans have been approved for a post and rail fence along the entire frontage and a simple entrance with brick pillars on either side. Trees and shrubs will be planted along the fence. Tenders have been called and work should be completed within two months.

SPEAKER FOR WOMEN'S GROUPS

Mrs. S. F. Rogers is once again available to talk to women's groups on behalf of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence.

Please contact her at 67 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. Telephone 41 7055.

TREASURE HUNTERS

Treasure hunters are urgently needed by the Brotherhood of St. Laurence to search through the goods it receives in its salvage drives.

Manager of the Brotherhood's Salvage Division, Mr. Graham Walker, said that much of the work would be sorting clothing, grading it on suitability for further use or whether it could be sold as rag.

"But there is always the chance of finding some real treasure. In the past we have found jewellery, paintings, old books and some quite valuable curios," he said.

Mr. Walker said that helpers were needed to work between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. and he thought that women's clubs and similar organisations would be very suitable if they could help.

ANYONE CAN HELP

Anyone at all who can help should contact Miss Rutledge, telephone 41 7055.

Clothing collected by the Brotherhood is available to needy families and pensioners.

Clothing not needed by the social workers is sold to the public, together with household goods like jewellery, crockery and ornaments, through the Brotherhood's opportunity shops in Fitzroy, Malvern, Dandenong, Mornington and North Melbourne and Royal Arcade, City.

This 'treasure hunter' helps with the essential task of cleaning and renovating articles for sale in the Brotherhood's Opportunity Shops. The Brotherhood urgently needs more people to help at Salvage Division.



AUXILIARIES

CHELTENHAM/MORDIALLOC AUXILIARY. The Annual Meeting of this Auxiliary was held on 2nd March at the home of Mrs. Taylor, 198 Warrigal Road, Mentone. The Auxiliary accepted with much regret the resignation of Mrs. Hilditch as president, but are grateful to her for all she had done in the past year. Mrs. J. Collins has most kindly accepted nomination as president. Mrs. Taylor as secretary and Mrs. Geoghegan as treasurer. Gratitude is felt for all that the outgoing office-bearers have done, but special mention must be made of Mrs. Ellis for all the sterling work she has put in as secretary for the past three years. This group has a number of street stalls planned for the year, and has already arranged a morning coffee party.

MORNINGTON AUXILIARY. At its first monthly meeting on Wednesday, 3rd February, at "Morven" this group made plans for the coming year, including working for a fair in November. Mrs. J. O. Watt, of Mount Eliza, has kindly offered her home for a morning coffee party in March.

BOX HILL AUXILIARY. This Auxiliary has drawn up a most interesting syllabus for the year. At its next meeting on 22nd March at the home of the President, Mrs. A. N. Henry, 51 Combarton Street, Box Hill, there will be a demonstration of fashion fabrics in conjunction with a talk.

PRESTON AUXILIARY has held its first monthly meeting of the year, and the Opportunity Shop in High Street has been open since 4th January. This group is very happy to have raised a record amount for the Brotherhood in the past year. Thanks are due to the president, Mrs. Gardiner, and to all who helped by their interest and work to bring this about. Mrs. Gardiner (47 5833) would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to help in the shop.

SUNSHINE AUXILIARY. At the February meeting the resignation of Mrs. Doak as President was announced, and this was greatly regretted as she has carried out a really splendid task for the auxiliary and the Brotherhood. However, we are most grateful to Mrs. Davies for kindly undertaking to act as President, and to Mrs. Phelan as Treasurer. Mrs. Jensen has been a devoted and efficient secretary for the past three years. There will be a home and garden demonstration on 13th April at the home of Mrs. Davies, 59 Cornwall Road, Sunshine, and a street stall has been arranged for Friday, 30th April.

ORMOND AUXILIARY will hold its annual meeting on Monday, 5th April, at 2 p.m., in the Presbyterian Hall, corner of North Road and Booran Road. This auxiliary had a most successful year in their Opportunity Shop in Katandra Road, and the President, Mrs. Utber, would welcome new members (58 3912). The group is also planning some social gatherings and excursions for the coming year.

CITY OF HEIDELBERG AUXILIARY.

The annual meeting of this auxiliary is on 23rd March at the home of the Secretary, Mrs. Hall, 29 Silverdale Road, Ivanhoe. The first function arranged in an interesting programme for the year is a luncheon in St. Stephen's Hall at which Lady Jungwirth will be the guest speaker.

WARRANTYTE AUXILIARY. This auxiliary held its first meeting of the year at the home of the president, Miss D. Rutledge, on Thursday, 4th March, at which the year's activities were planned.

BRIGHTON AUXILIARY held its first meeting in January and already have a full programme in operation. Six street stalls have been arranged, and the first two social functions are a card party on 25th March in the Masonic Hall, and a luncheon on 29th April in St. Luke's Hall.

KOONUNG AUXILIARY. At the annual meeting in January of this active group, Mrs. S. Campling was elected as president, Mrs. M. Fellowes as secretary, and Mrs. D. Keogh as treasurer, and our good wishes are extended to them for their period of office. Much appreciation is felt for all that the founder-president, Mrs. C. J. Beel, and her office-bearers achieved during the past year. The group has arranged a Dutch auction and a visit to headquarters as preliminary activities.

RINGWOOD AUXILIARY. This active group has made a number of plans for the coming year, the first being a street stall on Thursday, 22nd April. A guest speaker is being invited to attend the next meeting on 10th March at the home of Mrs. Hewat, Canterbury Road, Heathmont.

FORTUNAS AUXILIARY held its annual meeting in February and Mrs. N. Ley was elected as president, Mrs. Partos as secretary and Mrs. Chalmers as treasurer. We wish them well for their term of office, and much gratitude is felt towards the outgoing officers for all they have done. A full programme has been arranged for the year.

PRAISE FOR CARRUM DOWNS

The Brotherhood of St. Laurence settlement at Carrum Downs came in for some praise recently in a letter published in the "Weekly Times."

"It is a delightful place," says the writer, "with neat, cosy little cottages, each with a small flower garden, and a vegetable garden at the back of some. There is a lovely hospital with a fine Sister in charge who is resident there, and there is also a dear little chapel."

"There are gravel paths with lots of gaily painted seats along them, and you can go for lovely walks under big shady trees. The settlement also has a large library and lovely large kitchen."

"In the fine dining room a reasonably priced hot meal may be had by the folk who are not able to cater for themselves, and there is a nice shop in the grounds where you can buy almost anything."

"The baker and butcher call three times a week, also a big bus comes right into the grounds, so that residents can travel to Frankston and back very cheaply if they want to. Those who are able to go enjoy a ride like this and it's a break from the usual routine to go out and see something."

"They also have concerts sometimes and there is a room set aside where the women meet and have a sewing afternoon sometimes and make dainty gifts for street stalls. It was a joy to see these elderly women out walking in the grounds."

"They all seemed to be so happy and all talk to and visit each other. If anyone at any time can give any help to this grand place run by the Brotherhood of St. Laurence, it richly deserve it. My husband and I thoroughly enjoyed our afternoon there, and it is a memory we both will be happy to keep."

DONATION FORM

The Superior,
Brotherhood of St. Laurence,
51 Royal Arcade,
Melbourne, C.I.

Please find enclosed my donation of £ : : to assist
the work of the Brotherhood.

Name

Address

Donations for the following purposes are allowable deductions for Income Tax purposes:

Carrum Downs Settlement for the Aged, Children's Centre, Holiday Camps Appeal, St. Laurence Park, Lara, Social Service Bureau, Carinya Home for Frail Aged.