

# 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

AUGUST, 1955

No. 113



## LEGAL SERVICE HELPS MANY

Mr. C., an old age pensioner, and his wife, lived above a shop which had been sold. He wanted to know under what circumstances he could be evicted.

He could not afford to pay normal legal fees, so he visited the B.S.L. Legal Aid Service, where he was advised that legally he was not a protected person, and a Magistrate therefore could evict him after taking into consideration the relative hardship caused to both parties.

Many such people are assisted each year through this little-known service provided by the Brotherhood and the Law School of the University of Melbourne.

One evening each week senior law students are on duty at the Brotherhood's Social Service Bureau to give advice and assistance to people who cannot afford legal fees and who are not eligible for assistance from the Public Solicitor. Students are supervised by senior qualified members of the University Law School.

The demand for this free service is increasing, and it is hoped that it will eventually be possible to extend it, and place it on a more permanent basis.

The Superior writes on . . .

## BROTHERHOOD AT CAMP PELL— CONSOLIDATION AT CARRUM DOWNS —NEED FOR NEW SETTLEMENT ?

Dear B.S.L. Friends,

Perhaps there is nothing more frustrating than the inability to make oneself understood on matters which one knows to be of vital importance. Such has been my feeling for many years past in regard to the slum problem. Many of you good people have understood and it has been that understanding that has inspired us to continue with our campaign for slum abolition in spite of the lack of understanding on the part of many who should have understood.

So many have said that the conditions in the slums are the fault of those who live there and that should they be given better dwellings such dwellings would soon become slums. On the other hand we have contended that given the right encouragement the vast majority of those who have fallen victims to bad living conditions will respond to the right kind of help offered.

Part of our objective over the years has been to demonstrate on a small scale what we maintain should be done on a large scale. Until recent months we have been unable to do this in regard to the slum problem as a whole. But now we are able to do so. We put a highly trained social worker into Camp Pell to do what she could with those families who were regarded rejects.

### GOOD RESULTS

The result has been little short of remarkable. Families that were many weeks behind with their rent have now paid up in full. Huts that were dirty are now clean. And parents who were without hope have now again taken up the task of doing all in their power to help their children become worthwhile citizens. All this means that many families to whom the Housing Commission refused to give houses because of their "hopeless condition" are now to have homes.

As they have been encouraged by our social worker to make the best of their poor huts so they will be encouraged by her and her colleagues to keep their new homes in good order. Social workers will also continue to help families with their domestic problems. For too long these folk have felt that no one cares. They were regarded as hopeless, so they were hopeless.

### GOVERNMENT TO CO-OPERATE

With the assistance of the Government we are to enlarge the scope of this most important work. The Government is to pay the salaries of six social workers who will become members of our staff. I ask that you should pray that we may be worthy of the trust thus imposed in us. I feel that if we can do what the Government asks us to do in regard to Camp Pell we, with the help of organisations whose aim is similar to ours, may be able to make a very real contribution towards clearing Melbourne of those slums which for so many years have been something of which many have been absolutely ashamed.

This practical and understanding gesture on the part of the Government has encouraged me more than I can say. I am not unmindful, however, of the tremendous task which is ours.

We have gladly undertaken to administer the scheme and such

will add to our financial and other responsibilities. We know, however that you our Friends and the community as a whole will back us up in this undertaking as you have in all our projects for the well-being of those who need our aid.

#### CARRUM DOWNS

I suppose that as long as life lasts our joys will be tinged with sorrow. The progress of the work at Carrum Downs, the cheerful co-operation of the good folk there and the nice things said by visitors to the Settlement constitute a very great joy to us who are privileged to work in such a happy atmosphere. There is a very real sorrow, however, in having to say "No" to the literally hundreds who apply to join us.

Many of those who would come are ready to finance the building of their own homes, and the majority of those who would come we should be very glad to have, should such be possible.

We feel, however, that for some time to come we must not add to our members. We must consolidate

our position, for we aim at doing something more than merely giving people comfortable homes.

Individual attention is most important. This we could not give if people should continue to come in such large numbers as has been the case during recent years.

#### ANOTHER SETTLEMENT

This might be possible had we some one whom we could set aside for the purpose of organising the project. There are any number of elderly people who would be ready to find the necessary finance for the sake of the security which could be theirs. Should we be able to spare Mr. Walton from Carrum Downs for even six months the thing could be done. But of course we cannot spare him, and so we have to continue to say "No" to those many who long for the kind of life which is enjoyed at Carrum Downs.

In my last letter I referred to our need of young men to enable us to embark upon further avenues of happy and interesting service. I am sure that young men

cannot realise the satisfaction and thrill which comes from work such as ours. To quote a missionary who recently wrote from New Guinea on this same theme, I would say—"Poor dears, they don't know what they are missing." Please bear this need in your thoughts and your prayers.

#### JUBILEE

Might I suggest that those of you who are in reasonable distance of Melbourne should make special note of the dates of the important functions which are to be held in connection with this our Jubilee Year. We want to see you in large numbers at all these gatherings. I have written enough,

Our greetings to you all.

Yours very sincerely,

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

## SETTLEMENT RESIDENTS WORK FOR JUBILEE APPEAL

The 150 elderly residents of the Brotherhood's Settlement at Carrum Downs are taking a lively interest in the B.S.L. Jubilee Appeal. Many of them have made individual donations from their small savings and some have accepted £1 talents which they plan to turn to advantage in the interest of the Appeal. Some buy wool to knit, others buy ingredients for scones and cakes which are sold locally. One vegetable garden is flourishing, and the seeds and seedlings obtained with the "Talent" will produce fine spring salads as well as swell Jubilee Funds. Money spent by several ladies on fruit and sugar for jam making will be multiplied and returned to the Appeal.

Apart from these individual efforts, the residents, through their St. Laurence Club, plan collective efforts on a grander scale. Before

the Silver Jubilee Appeal was launched, the Club Organisers had agreed that proceeds from this year's Carrum Downs Village Fair, to be held on Saturday, 1st October, should be devoted to furnishing the nearly completed Community Centre. Members agreed, however, to continue working after their big day so that a Carrum Downs stall at the Annual Market Fair in the Melbourne Town Hall will be stocked with the handicrafts and preserves for which Settlement residents are becoming renowned. Members of St. Laurence Club have also sought permission from the Shire Council to organise a "Mile of Pennies" in Frankston shopping area. The penny drive, to be operated over two days, will require a good deal of organizing, and whilst some residents are on "point duty" others will be arranging refreshments for them.

## RECORD AMOUNT FROM £1 APPEAL 'TALENT'

A Brotherhood "Friend" recently brought £40 to the Royal Arcade Shop, and told the startled helpers that the money represented the "profits" from the £1 talent she had taken to aid the Jubilee Appeal.

The £1 had been used to buy materials to make hats. With proceeds from the sale of the hats more materials were purchased and more hats sold. This continued until she had enough materials to make hats for a hat parade. The proceeds from the parade were £40! In this way £1 was turned into £40.

"Talents" in the shape of £1 notes are still available for Friends who would like to use them to earn money for the Brotherhood's Jubilee Appeal. A card explains the scheme and suggests ways of employing the £1.

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## Work Has Commenced on New Hospital



Work has already commenced on this new hospital for Carrum Downs. The bright and spacious building will include two double and two single wards, a patients' day room, a sun verandah, nurses' station, flower room and a consulting and treatment room.

The new building will adjoin the present hospital, which was built by the Junior

Chamber of Commerce, and which has served the Settlement so well for the past three years.

The Junior Chamber hospital will become the nurses' living quarters. The builder's contract provides for completion of the hospital one week before Christmas.

Architects are Chancellor & Patrick of Frankston.

## "WORK AND STUDY" WEEK GAVE STUDENTS INSIGHT INTO SOCIAL PROBLEMS

"Students Do The Dirty!" was the caption of a recent article in the University magazine "Farrago." The article described the work and the impressions of thirty students who spent a week of their vacation working and studying in various fields of social service.

Each day students worked in different institutions and in the evening discussion groups were led by specialists in different social problems.

The week was organised by the Brotherhood and was under the direction of the Rev. Geoffrey Sambell.

A day was spent working at Camp Pell and Fitzroy, and in the evening discussion centred on slums and relative problems. A visit to Morning Star Boys' Home and Tally Ho Boys' Village was followed by discussion on delinquency and penal problems led by the Rev. John Burnett, Chaplain to the Penal Department.

Other working visits were made to Lotus Lodge Hostel for the Aged at Rosebud, the Carrum Downs Settlement, Kew Cottages

for mentally defective and retarded children and the Children's Orthopaedic Hospital, at Mt. Eliza.

"We found that by working, we were not only doing something constructive, but also learning more of the conditions than we would by a mere tour of inspection," the students reported.

A party of senior boys from Wesley College will spend a similar week during the September holidays, and it is hoped that "Work and Study" weeks will be held regularly during holidays for University and senior school pupils. Education for community service is one of the Brotherhood's most important tasks, and a week such as this is a most effective means of showing young people the community problems which they one day will have an opportunity of solving.

Members of the Brotherhood of  
St. Laurence

### CHILDREN'S CLUB

invite you to an Exhibition of

**"Things we have made  
and created"**

at the Clubrooms, 67 Brunswick St.,  
Fitzroy, 7 till 9 p.m.

Wednesday, 31st August.

For parents and friends of Club members. Inspection followed by films and supper.

Thursday, 1st September.

Annual meeting of Children's Club Committee (formerly Square Centre Committee).

Guest Speaker: Mr. Pat Loftus.  
Supper—All invited.

Friday, 2nd September.

Inspection of work—films—supper.

We Hope You Will Come.

# WE WELCOME THESE NEW B. S. L. FRIENDS

### Suburban

- Mrs. Bartlett, East Ormond.
- Mrs. Moran, East Preston.
- Mrs. Brown, Armadale.
- Mrs. C. Porter, Toorak.
- Miss Barrowclough, Hawthorn.
- Dr. D. M. Embelton, Essendon.
- Miss G. Munro, Hampton.
- Miss D. Lee, Essendon.
- Miss M. Allan, South Caulfield.
- Mrs. Sturrock, Thornbury.
- Mrs. Oliver, Hawthorn.
- Miss Lewen, Malvern.
- Miss N. Malcolm, South Yarra.
- Mrs. W. M. Pitt, Middle Brighton.
- Mrs. Brady, East Melbourne.
- Miss Miller, Moonee Ponds.
- Mrs. J. Wilmoth, Oakleigh .
- Miss R. Powell, Malvern.
- Miss Hopkins, Black Rock.

### Country

- Mrs. Peakman, Croydon.
- Mrs. Atkinson, Croydon.
- Mrs. G. F. Goff, Wonga Park.
- Mrs. F. Sharp, Wonga Park.
- Miss Betts, Carrum Downs.
- Mr. P. Margetts, Silvan.
- Mr. C. R. Spencer, Yallourn.
- Mrs. Doonan, Geelong.
- Mrs. Spence, Bunyip.
- Mrs. E. K. Keys, Dandenong.

## New Time for Warragul Broadcasts

The Brotherhood radio talk broadcast over 3UL Warragul, on Tuesday, now goes on the air at 2.45 p.m. instead of 3 o'clock. Other B.S.L. broadcasts are 3KZ, Sundays at 10 p.m., and 3XY, Wednesdays at 4.30 p.m.

## Bus Trips Planned for Next Three Months

The monthly bus trips to the Carrum Downs Settlement have become so popular that it is essential to buy tickets in good time at the B.S.L. Shop, 51 Royal Arcade. Tickets are 6/6 return.

There will be trips to Carrum Downs on these days:—

**Saturday, 13th August.**

**Saturday, 10th September.**

**Saturday, 1st October.**

Friends are asked to make a special note of the outing on 1st October, as Carrum Downs residents will be holding their Annual Fair on this day.

## Staff member returns to B.S.L.

Mr. Tony Bishop, who has been working in London for the past two years, will return to the staff of the Brotherhood early in August. Before going to London, Mr. Bishop was in charge of the Social Service Bureau, and had been with the Brotherhood for many years. He will take up the position of Executive Officer of the newly formed Family Service Project and be responsible for the administrative and detail work which will be entailed with the expansion of the Project.

## Garden Party at Murrumbeena

The Murrumbeena-Hughesdale Group is holding a garden party on 8th October, at the home of the Secretary, Mrs. R. Curtis, 5 Fellows Street, Hughesdale, UM 3128.

B.S.L. Friends in the district are invited to attend and take their friends. Gifts of cakes and produce will be welcome.

## MARKET FAIR COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting of the Market Fair Committee will be held on 12th August, at 2.30 p.m., in the Victorian Housewives' Rooms, Flinders Way. Anyone willing to assist with staffing and stocking the stalls is asked to attend the meeting, or ring the office at 51 Royal Arcade.

Gifts for the Fair can be left at 51 Royal Arcade. Toys, "white elephants," produce are needed.

## B.S.L. FUNCTIONS TO MARK JUBILEE

Here is a list of functions planned to commemorate the Brotherhood's twenty-fifth Jubilee. We suggest that you cut out this list and keep it for reference.

**Saturday, 1st October.**

Fair at Carrum Downs.

**Sunday, 30th October.**

Dedication of Sanctuary in new Community Centre by the Right Reverend, the Bishop of Wangaratta.

**Wednesday, 2nd November.**

All Souls' Day Service at Carrum Downs.  
Preacher: The Rev. C. N. Thomas.

**Saturday, 5th November.**

Opening of Community Centre by Sir Edmund and Lady Herring.

**Saturday, 12th November.**

Garden Party at "Morven," B.S.L. Holiday Home, Mornington.

**Wednesday, 30th November.**

"Jubilee" Fair in Lower Melbourne Town Hall.

**Thursday, 8th December.**

Brotherhood "birthday."  
Business Men's Luncheon.  
"Friends" Garden Party at Fitzroy.

**Saturday, 10th December.**

Opening of "St. Stephen's House" at Carrum Downs.

**Sunday, 11th December.**

Choral Eucharist at St. James', Dandenong. Preacher: Rev. W. Weston, Rector of Adamstown, N.S.W.

## DONATION SLIP

THE SUPERIOR,  
BROTHERHOOD OF ST. LAURENCE,  
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Please find my donation for £ : :

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

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