

# 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

FEBRUARY, 1957

No. 122



## DRIVE TO FORM MORE B.S.L. GROUPS

Miss Nell Rawlins has joined the staff of the Brotherhood as an Organiser. Miss Rawlins has assisted with the Building Appeal during the past year.

One of her tasks will be to organise new B.S.L. Groups and to help existing Groups whenever possible. The expansion of the Brotherhoods' work has been largely due to the small groups of Friends who have worked hard to raise money and interest others in the B.S.L.'s work.

Apart from the two auxiliaries that run the Fitzroy and Royal Arcade Shops, there are only five local B.S.L. Groups.

Miss Rawlins aim is to have Groups in every suburb and as many country towns as possible.

Anyone who is interested in helping to start a Group in his or her suburb is asked to contact Miss Rawlins at JA 3057.

## The Superior writes on . . .

### PLANS FOR 1957—EXTENSIONS AT FITZROY — "THANK YOU" —

Dear B.S.L. Friends,

With 1957 we begin the 27th year of our life as a Brotherhood. May I tell you what I want to see before the end of this year? I must tell you or it would be no use my merely hoping, for of course we can do nothing without you our Friends. I want to see everything in hand in readiness for us to begin work on the very necessary additions to our Fitzroy Headquarters.

We are indeed fortunate to have this property which we bought in the depression years for £3,000 (I suppose that with the improvements we have carried out and the increase in land values it is now worth something in the nature of £23,000). It was a poor old derelict place when we took it over. It has served us well, and when the necessary additions are made it will be well-nigh ideal for our purpose. I know that many of you are familiar with our set-up. Such though is not the case, for many of our country, interstate and overseas Friends. I know these good people would be cheered to look in at the Coolibah Club and see the provision that has been made for the some 180 old men and women who would spend much of their waking hours in comfortable and happy surroundings instead of mean and cheerless rooms were it not for the generosity of B.S.L. Friends.

Then there is the Children's and Youth Centre. It is a bright and cheerful place and there is much fun, but there is more, much more, than mere fun and games. Most of the children come from homes where it is impossible for them to gain that same outlook on life that enables youngsters to grow into useful and worthy citizens. The Club is doing much to enable its members to realise these essentials for happy and useful living. We could show you the Coolibah Club and the Centre, but we could

not show you the work being done in the Social Service Bureau and the Family Service Project, for this latter work is carried out mainly in the house of the people or in our office. As personal contact between doctor and patient is essential for lasting cure, so personal contact is essential between social worker and those who come with their personal needs. It is good to know that we now have a specially trained staff for this important part of our work. The work is difficult and often frustrating, but the results are real and lasting. It would be no exaggeration to say that families are being saved from despair and hopelessness.

Although the work in Fitzroy is most encouraging, the more we do the more we realise how much more should be done. One thing seems to lead to another. That of course is as it should be for an organisation is a tree. It must either grow or die.

## IMPROVEMENTS

You will want to know something about the improvements we want to carry out. Those in charge of our Children's Centre are very anxious to have extra club rooms. These will include craft rooms, a room for film screenings and physical activities and, we hope, a canteen.

At present the numbers who can make use of all the Club

*(Continued on Page 2)*

offers are limited by lack of space. There are quite a number on the outside who should be on the inside.

When we are able to take them in, give them friendship and understanding, this might well mean all the difference between a life of failure and a life of good citizenship. Our Mr. Alex Greig is doing a really wonderful work with the lads under his care. We want him and those who assist him to be in a position to do even more.

### SHOP HELPERS

For years past I have been hoping that we might provide better accommodation for that faithful band of women who have charge of our second-hand clothes shop. I know they come to do a job, and for them the job comes first, but for too long they have done that job under conditions that must not be allowed to continue. If it were only out of a sense of gratitude for the valuable service these women render the Brotherhood, and those who come to us for help, we should see that the conditions under which they work are in some way comparable with that provided by other bodies for their voluntary workers.

### STAFF

What I say in regard to our voluntary workers at Fitzroy ap-

plies also to the staff here. No one coming to the Brotherhood can expect anything in the nature of luxury of any kind. The conditions, however, should be such that their work can be carried out efficiently. Such is not the case in some of our departments at Headquarters. The interviewing rooms are quite inadequate for the purpose as are other facilities. I am very grateful to our staff who uncomplainingly put up with inadequate conditions that fall far short of what they should be. For the work's sake these conditions must be improved. Later in the year I hope to be able to tell you of the architect's plans for the additions we have in mind.

### CARRUM DOWNS

I do not, of course, want you to forget Carrum Downs and Mornington, but for the remainder of 1957 I want the spotlight to be on Fitzroy. I have found over the years that if one concentrates on something that obviously should be done, in some way that thing is done. Most of the things that have happened to the Brotherhood in the past seem to have happened in this way. All I ask of you at this stage is that you should bear this matter in mind and talk to your friends about it. With sympathetic understanding and with expectation, it really is faith, wonderful things can and do happen. The greater the number of people thinking in

the manner I have indicated, the greater will be the result. This letter goes to some 6,000 people. Will you all, dear People, join with us in hoping and praying that our dreams for a well equipped headquarters will be realised. Dreams you know if dreamed in the right way, do come true.

### THANK YOU

Thanks to you and a very generous public, Christmas and the holidays were a wonderful time for our people young and old. As I write, a band of lads are having the time of their lives at Mornington. For them it is not only a period for fun and games, but our objective is to give them something that will enable them to face up to the difficulties of life and for some those difficulties are great indeed. As I see the work going on, as I see things being done for people that makes all the difference to them, I am full of gratitude to all you good people who make these things possible.

With our Greetings to you all,

On behalf of us all,

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

## A QUICK RESPONSE

In the December issue of the "B.S.L. Notes" it was mentioned that television sets had been donated at the Coolibah Club and the Mornington Holiday Home, and that it was hoped that some time in the future Carrum Downs residents might also be able to enjoy TV.

The day after the "Notes" were posted, a B.S.L. Friend rang and offered to provide a TV set for Carrum Downs. The set was installed before Christmas in time for residents to see scenes of the Brotherhood Christmas programme at Fitzroy and Mornington screened on ABV2.

## "BETTER WAY" COTTAGE IS BEING PLANNED

The first cottage to be financed from the "Better Way" Fund is now being designed by the Carrum Downs architects.

With Government subsidy the £750 now in the "Better Way" Fund will be sufficient to build a cottage for a single elderly person. A particularly attractive site is being selected for the cottage.

The "Better Way" Fund consists of donations made in preference to sending wreaths to funerals. The Brotherhood send an "In Memoriam" card to family or friends of the deceased person.

Full particulars of "The Better Way" are contained in a leaflet obtainable from the City Office, 51 Royal Arcade.

## "HOME KNITTERS" GROUP FOR SHOP

A "Home Knitters" Group is to be formed to assist with stocking the Brotherhood's Opportunity Shop at 51 Royal Arcade.

For many years a few friends have helped by knitting and sewing and making goods such as aprons, scarves, babies' clothes, mittens, children's clothes, lampshades, etc.

It is felt than many other women who are unable to help in other ways would be willing and able to help in this way.

Wool and other materials can be provided and anyone who would be willing to join the "Home Knitters" Group is asked to contact Mrs. Rogers at the City Shop, Central 2721.

**There's a Job for You!**

## **BROTHERHOOD WANTS MORE VOLUNTARY HELPERS**

Voluntary helpers are urgently needed in several departments of the Brotherhood's work. People who give leisure hours to helping others have always played a big part in the Brotherhood's work. It is largely due to their efforts that the work has expanded, and of course each new problem that we try to tackle requires more people to do the job.

Whether or not it will be possible to maintain some of the Brotherhood's existing services will depend on the number of people who offer to help where help is now needed.

These are the present needs:—

### **CHILDREN'S CENTRE**

Mr. Alex Greig, Director of Youth Work, now has no assistant. His job includes the planning and carrying out of a full programme for the Children's Centre and Youth Club. It is an impossible task for one man alone. He is helped by a number of young people who come regularly to assist in the Youth Work. Young helpers are needed for the afternoon programme from 3 p.m. to 5.15 p.m. and in the evenings from 7 p.m. to 9.30. The evening Club is for senior boys and girls.

A play leader for a group of young children is required one afternoon a week from 1.30 to 5 p.m. Help is also required in the Children's Health Clinic with the bathing of children from 3-5.15 p.m.

Any young person who would be willing to help in any of these ways is asked to contact Mr. Alex Greig at the Fitzroy Headquarters, JA 2255.

### **HELPERS FOR SALVAGE**

The Brotherhood will soon be establishing a Salvage Department. This will mean expanding the present collection, sorting and distribution of clothing and unwanted household articles. Many additional helpers will be required and are asked to contact Mr. Bishop at the Fitzroy Headquarters, JA 3335.

Men who would be willing to assist with the repair of furniture, radios, etc., are also needed.

### **CARRUM DOWNS**

Voluntary helpers can always find maintenance, cleaning, clearing and painting jobs at Carrum Downs. If you can help at weekends or any time at all contact Mr. Croger, Carrum Downs 236.

### **INTRODUCTION PROGRAMME**

The band of voluntary helpers now assisting in the departments are mostly familiar with the Brotherhood's work and are regarded as part of the B.S.L. team.

To maintain this feeling with new volunteers an "introduction" programme will be organised. This will include a tour of Fitzroy, Carrum Downs and Mornington departments so that helpers will be thoroughly familiar with the work they are helping to make possible.

## **ASIAN STUDENTS SEE B.S.L. WORK**

In January, a group of 18 Colombo Plan students from Indonesia, Pakistan, Thailand and Malaya, spent a day seeing the Brotherhood's work at Fitzroy, Carrum Downs and Mornington. Transport was provided by B.S.L. voluntary drivers.

Three of the students from Pakistan remained with the Brotherhood for three weeks seeing the work at first hand.

The group is doing a two year Social Studies course at the University of Sydney.

## **SEE CARRUM DOWNS IN 1957**

Each year parties from Mothers' Union branches, Church groups and other organisations visit the Carrum Downs Settlement. All day trips can also be arranged to take in a visit to Brotherhood activities at Fitzroy in the morning, lunch at Carrum Downs and a tour of the Settlement followed by afternoon in the attractive surroundings of "Morven," the B.S.L. Holiday Home at Mornington.

If you would like to arrange a full day or half day tour of the B.S.L. for members of your organisation, contact the City Office, 51 Royal Arcade, Central 2721.

## **NEWCOMERS TO THE BROTHERHOOD**

At Fitzroy and Carrum Downs the staff have been strengthened by new members who have filled vacancies of those who have left us.

At Fitzroy, Miss F. Channel, Miss M. Holmes, Miss Sue Yuncken and Mr. Hamilton-Smith have joined the social work staff.

At Carrum Downs, Mr. Croger is now the Welfare/Administrative Officer.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**“THE BEST IS YET TO BE”**

by

**FATHER TUCKER**

*The Ingredients for a Happy and Useful Old Age*

AVAILABLE FROM 51 ROYAL ARCADE, C.1

Price 2/- (incl. postage)

\*\*\*\*\*

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

- Mrs. Lyons, Toorak.  
 Mrs. Lawson and Friends, Ascot Vale.  
 Mrs. Braud, Hawthorn.  
 Mrs. Dodd, Hawthorn.  
 Mrs. Rigg, Beaumaris.  
 Mrs. Wilson, E. Prahran.  
 Mrs. Sungline, Drouin.  
 Mrs. Vicary, Drouin.  
 Mrs. Moyle, Drouin.  
 Miss Gray, Toorak.  
 Mrs. Shaw, Hawthorn.  
 Mr. Birch, Mentone.  
 Mrs. Watson, Croydon.  
 Miss Dosley, East Melbourne.  
 Mr. Beech, Box Hill.  
 Mrs. Baldock, Black Rock.  
 Mrs. Dexter, Balwyn.  
 Mr. Kendal-Wright, East Melbourne.  
 Miss Andrews, St. Kilda.  
 Mrs. Villam, St. Kilda.  
 Mr. Barker, Sandringham.  
 Miss Frenmewen, Carnegie.  
 Miss Abery, Blackburn.  
 Miss Munroe, Caulfield.  
 Mrs. Oates, Chiltern.  
 Mrs. Sharp, Balwyn.  
 Miss Wilson, East St. Kilda.  
 M/s. Vincent, Armadale.  
 Mrs. Vincent, Armadale.  
 Mrs. Ebling, Yarraville.  
 Mr. Nixon, Essendon.  
 Miss Haughton, Reservoir.  
 Mrs. Twyford, Highett.  
 Cpt. Grimett, Newcastle.  
 Mr. Ball, Middle Brighton.  
 Mrs. Ferguson, Elwood.  
 Miss Cochrane, Toorak.  
 Miss Smith, Ringwood.  
 Mrs. Rawlings, Toorak.  
 Mrs. Steege, South Melbourne.  
 Mrs. Fox, South Melbourne.  
 Mrs. Wyburg, Armadale.  
 Miss Watson, East Caulfield.  
 Mrs. Grant, Melbourne.

## DON'T MISS "Postscript"

Sunday Nights  
at 10 p.m.

# 3 K Z

The B.S.L.'s  
Views on the News  
and Reports on  
Brotherhood  
Work

## GROUP NEWS

Owing to reasons beyond our control, it has become necessary to give up the B.S.L. session at 3 XY and 3 UL. For the benefit of those who may not have heard the final broadcast on December 26th, I would like to thank you all for your interest and help over the past years. Many of you have done valuable work for our Opportunity Shop in the city. Please keep up the good work and write to me when you need wool, materials, etc., or call into 51 Royal Arcade and see me when you are in town. We do need to add to the numbers who now help in this way. Please try and interest your friends and neighbours in the B.S.L. by passing on your copy of the "Notes." In this way our ever-growing band of "Friends" continue to expand. To give an example — A lady living in Lanwarry Road, Drouin so interested her neighbours that they meet in one another's homes and now make many articles for our Opportunity Shop. To these good people I say once again on behalf of the Brotherhood,

Thank You!

WINIFRED ROGERS.

## BUS TRIPS TO CARRUM DOWNS

There will be a bus trip to Carrum Downs on the second Saturday in each month during 1957 unless there is some special function such as the Carrum Downs Market Fair which makes it necessary to alter the date. Please buy your tickets as early as possible from the City Shop, 51 Royal Arcade. The buses leave the City at 2 p.m., returning about 5.15 p.m.

A B.S.L. bus trip is the most comfortable, convenient and the cheapest way of seeing the Settlement. Afternoon tea is served in the Community Centre.

Here are the dates for the next three months:

Saturday, February 16th.

Saturday, March 16th.

Saturday, April 13th.

Tickets 6/6 return at 51 Royal Arcade.

## DONATION SLIP

THE SUPERIOR,  
BROTHERHOOD OF ST. LAURENCE,  
51 ROYAL ARCADE,  
MELBOURNE, C.1. Central 2721.

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."