

HIA Ref 430 - [REDACTED] - Closing Statement

1. I would like the following comments to be noted by the Inquiry in addition to my original statement SNB-801 and to my response to the accusations (SNB-80094) made against me by HIA 28 in SNB-042 and HIA 103 in SNB-070.
2. I came forward to assist the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry and to relate the experiences that I suffered at the hands of the congregation during my stay at Nazareth House, between 30th September 1949 and 17th December 1963.
3. This was a very difficult process for me, as the physical and mental abuse I suffered during my time at Nazareth House has had a profound effect on me throughout my life. For many years I hid the pain that I suffered from those closest to me. It took a lot of personal courage for me to address the abuse that I suffered and relate my experiences to the Inquiry.
4. When I was presented with the false accusations of HIA 28 and HIA 103 I was devastated and I feel that the very reason I came forward was lost. I wanted to recount my experiences so I could move on with my life and to help ensure that no other child is ever subject to the abuse at the hands of the very institution that is supposed to care for that child.
5. I feel that the false accusations made against me diluted that experience, I felt that I was on trial and my focus became defending myself against the allegations that made against me. What was supposed to be a cathartic process, allowing me to move on with my life once and for all, became an experience where I felt like I was being victimised for a second time.
6. I do appreciate how delicately the panel and the legal representatives for the Inquiry handled the sensitive and complex issues. However I feel that I was unable to focus on what the process should have been for me, i.e. an opportunity to recount my experiences at Nazareth House. On the day of giving my evidence to the Inquiry I felt physically ill and pre-occupied with the allegations that I knew to be false. I feel that part of my experience was unjustly taken away from me as a result of this.

HIA430

8th April 2015

PRIVATE

Nazareth Lodge, Belfast (28/8/70 – 04/09/72)

3. I was sent from the Parochial House to Nazareth Lodge in 1970. I do not remember my brothers [REDACTED] and HIA 297 [REDACTED] being there with me, because I was a young child. I was initially sent to the baby unit, and then on to the Lodge. I only discovered that I had siblings when we were sent to [REDACTED] after Nazareth Lodge. We did not find out about our older brother [REDACTED] and our sister until much later.
4. I attended the primary school at Nazareth Lodge, but I had just started school when they took me and my brothers out and sent us to live with the [REDACTED] in [REDACTED]. The school had been recently built or refurbished when I was there, and everything in it was brand new. We wore shorts and t-shirts rather than a school uniform.
5. I do not remember much about my time at Nazareth Lodge because I was there when I was very young. I do remember that the bedroom I slept in had wall-to-wall beds, for about 20 or 30 children. The other children who were there at the time were around the same age as me. The children would have been crying and screaming at each other, and I can remember crying in my cot, but no-one came to comfort me. I remember running around the Lodge, but I cannot recall much else about my time there.

Outside Institutions

6. HIA 297 [REDACTED] and I left Nazareth Lodge and were sent to live with the NL 77 / 78 [REDACTED] family in [REDACTED] when I was about 5. We were put into a car by a social worker but we did not know where we were being sent to. Going to live in [REDACTED] was like going into Hell or World War Three. We could not understand how the government could give us to another family as we were just kids at the time. Our foster family lived on a farm and my two brothers and I had to share a bedroom. It was alright at the start but it soon changed.

1 certainly of being there longer than that.

2 **A. That's right, yes. I believe I was in the home until**
3 **maybe I was at least 7, 6 or 7.**

4 Q. You do remember being fostered out and going back and
5 forward to the home.

6 **A. Yes. Uh-huh. I do.**

7 Q. In paragraph 2 there you also say that -- sorry. You
8 were separated from your brother who was in the home at
9 that time. You only found out that he was there when
10 one of the nuns mentioned in passing about you having
11 a brother.

12 **A. That's right, yes. Uh-huh.**

13 Q. Now we know that you had older brothers and I know you
14 were talking to me today that two of them and you have
15 recorded that two of those elders brothers went to De La
16 Salle home in Kircubbin after they had been in Nazareth
17 Lodge, but you don't remember ever seeing them in the
18 home.

19 **A. No, no, I didn't, no.**

20 Q. What the congregation has said in relation to this issue
21 of separating you and your brother, that they certainly
22 tried to maintain sibling relationships, and that boys
23 would have played in the Lodge play area and the field
24 behind Nazareth Lodge and weren't separated during play
25 time. Do you ever remember seeing your brother, whom

Name: Sister Brenda McCall

Date: 3 December 2014

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

Witness Statement of Sister Brenda McCall

I, Sister Brenda McCall, will say as follows: -

1. I have read through the statement of HIA 152 and can confirm he was a resident within Nazareth Lodge. HIA 152 born [REDACTED] was admitted to Nazareth Lodge on 26 February 1958 and discharged on 15 August 1965.
2. With regard to paragraph 2, the Congregation can only apologise for the separation in [REDACTED] family as the facilities in Nazareth Lodge catered only for boys until the early 1970's. The Congregation endeavoured to maintain sibling relationships and it was a common occurrence for the children to visit their siblings whenever possible. Boys all played together in the large play area behind Nazareth Lodge and the girls in Nazareth House would visit and also use the play areas.
3. With regard to paragraph 3, the Congregation is upset that [REDACTED] felt the lay staff workers were evil. The staff of Nazareth Lodge were employed with trust in their ability to ensure the needs of the children were met and, unfortunately, this was not always upheld. The Congregation, whilst recognising the use of corporal punishment, would not accept any abuse, physical or mental, of a child by a member of staff as acceptable.
4. It is difficult to speculate on each child's period within the home without any regard for the context of the time. Physical chastisement discussed by [REDACTED] is not accepted by the Congregation as a tolerable approach in dealing with children. However, corporal punishment did exist and was widely used within family homes, schools and institutions in Northern Ireland at the time [REDACTED] was in our care. With regret, the Sisters believe that, on occasion, the policy of 'no physical punishment' may not have been adhered to.



Memorandum by the Home Office on the Conduct of Children's Homes

INTRODUCTION

1. This memorandum on the conduct of children's homes has been prepared for the guidance of local authorities and voluntary organisations, and is intended to be read with the Administration of Children's Homes Regulations, 1951. The contents are based on experience gained by Home Office inspectors in visiting children's homes and on advice tendered to the Secretary of State by the Advisory Council on Child Care. It deals with the needs of children who, for one reason or another, cannot be boarded out and are brought up in children's homes; and it is written in the main with direct reference to children living as members of small groups of mixed ages and both sexes who are in care for an indefinite period and who look to the local authority or voluntary organisation for their upbringing. But most of what is said is applicable to all children's homes; and recommendations relating specifically to large homes are contained in Appendix I.

2. In paragraph 427 of their Report the Curtis Committee stated the main requirements for the substitute home in the following words:—"If the substitute home is to give the child what he gets from a good normal home it must supply:—

- (i) Affection and personal interest; understanding of his defects; care for his future; respect for his personality and regard for his self-esteem.
- (ii) Stability; the feeling that he can expect to remain with those who will continue to care for him till he goes out into the world on his own feet.
- (iii) Opportunity of making the best of his ability and aptitudes, whatever they may be, as such opportunity is made available to the child in the normal home.
- (iv) A share in the common life of a small group of people in a homely environment."

TYPE AND SIZE OF CHILDREN'S HOMES

3. The aim when providing new homes for children in long-term care is to enable each child to live as a member of a small group. The number of children in a home of this kind (referred to in this memorandum as a family group home) may vary from eight to twelve. If the home is a house in a street (perhaps a villa type house or two semi-detached houses, suitably adapted) the children gain by living as members of the local community and by taking a full part in its social activities as do children living with their own parents. Many local authorities are setting up small homes of this kind. Rather larger homes, taking up to about twenty children, are also being established. It is important that homes should be so situated that the children will be able, out of school hours, to mix with their school friends. While every children's home should have a garden, the children should be encouraged to join with others in outside play.

4. In the family group home, the age range should be wide, say from three to fifteen years, with boys and girls growing up together. It will be desirable sometimes to include children under the age of three in the group (for example, where they have older brothers or sisters in the home), or on occasion to keep

been washed and cleaned using these substances. These substances have an extremely strong smell and it is accepted that children may well have felt that the bathwater was mixed with Jeyes fluid as a cleansing agent for them because of the lasting smell. The Sisters do not accept that it was a general practice to use Jeyes fluid as an alternative for soap or other bathing agents.

13. It is accepted that, on occasions, Jeyes fluid may have been used to prevent an outbreak of head lice, body lice and scabies. In a situation where a large number of children shared facilities an outbreak of any of these parasitic lice could have been very common and distressing. In these particular circumstances, it may be that a small amount of Jeyes fluid was used occasionally for the purposes of dealing with such conditions but, under no circumstances, as an alternative standard bathing agent.

Toys

14. The Sisters are aware of suggestions that toys given to the children by parents, family or other agencies were removed from the children by the Sisters. They do not accept that this was a practice in any institution operated by them. To a large degree the children in the houses did not receive gifts. As few received visits from family, most families would not have been in a position to give the children gifts if they did in fact visit.
15. If there were gifts at Christmas, whether from family, Saint Vincent de Paul or other charitable organisations, these would have been given to the children. They would not be removed from them by the Sisters or any staff. The Sisters do not understand where this memory comes from.

Disclosure of siblings

16. There was never any policy of not disclosing the existence of siblings in any house. There may have been occasions when the existence of siblings was not known to the Sisters as it may not have been in the information given when a child was brought to our care.
17. In some cases, for example Temonbacca and Bishop Street, a boy could have been brought to Temonbacca and his sister to Bishop Street by different people. As we did not have central registers or computers, it is possible that the two houses did not know of the siblings.
18. If children were admitted to the same house then they would almost certainly have known their siblings. They may, in earlier years, have been separated into age groups but they would not have been kept hidden from each other.

19. In later years the arrangements changed to have children of the same family placed in the same groups within the home to try to keep them together and maintain a more family atmosphere.
20. It is accepted that as a result of communication difficulties of the time and, possibly as result of inadvertent error in registers, some children may not have known of siblings. In the instances where this occurred the Sisters apologise to these children.

Separation of siblings

21. It is noted that there is a suggestion that siblings were separated within the institutions.
22. It was not a specific policy, as far as any investigation can ascertain, to separate the children from their siblings. In earlier years the children would have been managed in age related groups and, therefore, were placed in different areas of the institutions. In later years, the Sisters strived to ensure all families were kept together rather than separate children according to age.
23. In regard to the separation, the children would not have been separated at all times and would have been able to mix at the different socialising times in the Home. However, as would have been the case in normal society, it is typical that different age groups would not merge. This would have included not mixing with siblings during those activities. Activities did take up a large part of the day and, it is possible that, siblings would not have mixed for protracted periods. However this would not have been a deliberate intention of these arrangements or an objective of the Sisters to separate families

Family letters

24. Very few children would have received letters from their families. The circumstances in which they came into the care of the Sisters of Nazareth were not happy and, often, there would be no contact at all.
25. In some cases letters may have been received where a family have moved away, a mother or father may have remarried or for some other reason they were not in a position to maintain or re-establish a relationship with a child. If a letter was received along those lines it may have been withheld from a child to avoid causing pain or upset to the child. It was never a policy or approved practice to withhold correspondence from a child. It may be that a letter would be read to a smaller child and then kept by the superior or the Sister responsible for a unit. Nevertheless, this can be considered to be speculation to some degree.

5. For the avoidance of doubt, the congregation maintains that throughout the relevant period it encouraged family and sibling contact wherever it was possible and practical.
6. The Management Committee of Nazareth Lodge was established in 1987 and one of its functions was to look at the adequacy of arrangements for communication between children and their parents, relatives and friends. The 1991 SSI inspection report recorded that the Management Committee *“seems to be running very successfully”*¹¹.
7. The 1992 SSI inspection report recorded that Unit 3 has 8 to 10 places for sibling groups to be kept together with a focus on fostering. Unit 4 has accommodation for young people with emphasis on independence training for leaving care. Continuity of care will be provided when the young people leave by the aftercare services¹².
8. The 1993 SSI inspection report noted that 2 units had designated visitors’ rooms which assisted with parental and social work access without disruption to children or staff. *“One unit uses the children’s computer room also as a visitors’ room. At times this could prove inconvenient. Interestingly, parents who responded positively to the way they were received at Nazareth Lodge visited units which had accommodation to facilitate their access. One mother who was particularly critical of her welcome had access in the unit with no*

¹¹ SNB14176

¹² SNB15240

the opportunity. A number of children went home at the weekends and this type of family contact was encouraged. It was recorded that one of the Sisters encouraged parents to assist the children with their homework as she felt they should accept some responsibility for their children but this was the subject of adverse comment by the inspectors⁷. In her response statement the Mother Regional said:-

*“There are no set visiting times to the homes but parents, guardians and friends are encouraged or free to visit any time unless restrictions are imposed arising from a review. Such a restriction would be rare”*⁸. The Swag report considered that greater efforts could be made to encourage parental visiting and recommended that more be done to make parents feel welcome and to encourage them to maintain regular contact with their children⁹. The panel is referred to the evidence of HIA225 (1965-1968) whose social work records show he has regular contact with his family when in NL as he tells Kircubbin staff that he misses this regular contact (SNB 42355) and his visitation record SNB 42369 & 42397 shows visits from his father and sisters frequently, weekly and occasionally from 8/65 until 30/6/67.

The Panel is referred to the transcript of the evidence of the Mother Superior to the Hughes Inquiry and, in particular, the following extracts:-

⁷ SNB14317/8

⁸ SNB14323-14325

⁹ SNB50511

“Q. I just want you to go to the records, first of all in relation to the criticisms in the Swag report about the family atmosphere in the home....Could you read out some of the entries in or about that time?”

A. 31 October 1975. Today was Halloween and the children all had a party, and afterwards they had a big bonfire out in the big field.

Q. Yes?

A. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was 9 years old today and as there is a birthday on Sunday we combined the two parties together. [REDACTED] has his parents up and also his brother and sister, so it really was a family occasion for [REDACTED]. Today was another wet day so the children could not go out. Some of them played games or painted in the afternoon. These were some of the games they got for Christmas”.

The foregoing is highly significant evidence bearing in mind the complaints by some residents that their birthdays were not acknowledged and that they were deprived of family contact.

AND –

“Q. You say that that was introduced about a year ago. Certainly from the diary which you were good enough to produce for us it would appear that the home did observe the practice of seeking the permission of the child’s social worker before allowing a child out for a weekend or even for various holidays or whatever. That seems to have been the practice.

A. Yes.

Q. You have explained the introduction of the primary worker system. There was some suggestion that you should make parents feel more welcome, and have you taken active steps to alter the system since 1983.

A. We consider that we always made parents of the children feel welcome.

Q. Does that mean that you thought that the system you were operating did not need any improvement or alteration?

A. There was just one point put to me when I was questioned about this, that perhaps it was trying to involve the parent, say, of the child, to do homework, and that maybe the parent was inadequate himself or herself, and that in that way the parent might not be feeling so relaxed with the child in a situation like that; rather than perhaps if it was a small child, allowing the parent to bath a child and put the child to bed at night, or something like that, you know. It would be better to involve them in that way rather than have them do so something that they were not capable of doing.

Q. Have you tried to encourage parents to come more frequently to the home?

A. Yes. It is really not up to us when the parents visit, really. It is up to the regulation made by the social worker regarding visits to the children.

Q. Yes, but if you have the clearance from the social worker and said to some girl's mother, "why don't you come more frequently, you are always welcome here?" it might achieve that end. They seem to think that parents were not necessarily made to feel as welcome as they might.

A. I do not know how they could get that impression, really because we have always encouraged the parents to come"¹⁰.

¹⁰ SNB50770

5. For the avoidance of doubt, the congregation maintains that throughout the relevant period it encouraged family and sibling contact wherever it was possible and practical.
6. The Management Committee of Nazareth Lodge was established in 1987 and one of its functions was to look at the adequacy of arrangements for communication between children and their parents, relatives and friends. The 1991 SSI inspection report recorded that the Management Committee *“seems to be running very successfully”*¹¹.
7. The 1992 SSI inspection report recorded that Unit 3 has 8 to 10 places for sibling groups to be kept together with a focus on fostering. Unit 4 has accommodation for young people with emphasis on independence training for leaving care. Continuity of care will be provided when the young people leave by the aftercare services¹².
8. The 1993 SSI inspection report noted that 2 units had designated visitors’ rooms which assisted with parental and social work access without disruption to children or staff. *“One unit uses the children’s computer room also as a visitors’ room. At times this could prove inconvenient. Interestingly, parents who responded positively to the way they were received at Nazareth Lodge visited units which had accommodation to facilitate their access. One mother who was particularly critical of her welcome had access in the unit with no*

¹¹ SNB14176

¹² SNB15240

designated visitor room. This factor may, however, be coincidental and other factors may have influenced her perception”¹³.

9. The Inquiry is referred to the 1994 SSI inspection report and in particular to the following extracts:-

“6.6. Parents of the children resident were asked for their views by questionnaire. There was a response rate of 33%. All commented that they were made to feel welcome and had access to a room to meet their children. They confirmed that they all knew how to make a complaint. Other comments included the following remarks:-

“The home is great just the way it is”.

“All the staff are very understanding and very patient regarding my son’s needs which at the moment I cannot give him. I personally feel good knowing they are doing a great job in looking after him”.

“I like my son’s independence and he has school friends who live near to the home”.

“The children and staff seem to get on well together”.

“I really don’t think things could be much better. I would like to see the place much bigger so they could take more children in and look after them and give them such a nice time”.

“Each child gets a lot of attention. They have lots for children to do. Everything seems to be fine with me”¹⁴.

¹³ SNB15309

10. The same inspection report records that comments from field work staff were positive and constructive comments like the following were included:-

- *“Apart from basic care needs I feel it offers good strong boundaries, control, support, social and emotional dimensions to its care role”.*
- *“It works on a one-to-one basis, trying to nurture and stretch children to the best of their ability”.*
- *“Nazareth Lodge provides high standards of physical and emotional care for children – it emphasises treating children as individuals”.*
- *“It delivers a high level of primary care and work in social and personal development despite the adverse structure and layout of the building”.*

The foregoing testimonials speak volumes. The congregation has admitted systemic failings in certain respects as well as failings on the part of some of its Sisters and lay staff which it regrets deeply and has offered its unqualified apology. However, in the interests of justice, and in fairness to those dedicated Sisters who did their utmost for the thousands of children who passed through their residential homes, the congregation should not be condemned to the corner of shame. The following extracts from the evidence illustrate the many contradictory accounts of family contact. There are similar evidential conflicts on other issues before the Inquiry which is faced with the challenges of distinguishing fact from fiction and of judging fact by the standards of the day.

¹⁴ SNB13865

Extracts from residents' evidenceNazareth Lodge

11. HIA307 (NL 1948-1956) said that his carer until the age of 3 called to visit him in Nazareth Lodge after his mother had placed him there. He recounted a hearsay account which he had been told by another boy that on one occasion the said carer had come to visit and he had not been well and that she had complained he was not being looked after properly whereupon on her next visit she was allegedly told she could not see HIA307 and was told not to bother coming back¹⁵. This contrasts with the evidence of HIA183 (NL 1951-1957) who was in Nazareth Lodge for much of the same period as the former. HIA183 describes a positive memory of being visited monthly by a lady named [REDACTED] who was part of a group of people who would come up and visit the boys and he struck up a friendship with her. She also took him out to her house for a day, normally on a Sunday, every 6 or 7 weeks. He also recalled on one occasion a visit from a woman who he believes may have been his mother¹⁶.
12. HIA104 (NL 1963-1974) alleged that visits from his mother were used as blackmail by the Sisters to "*keep him in line*". He said his mother visited once a month and described how they would sit in the staff room chatting or go to the park. He admits that NL 5 never actually carried out her threat to prevent access to his mother¹⁷. HIA36 (NL 1960-1968) overlapped with HIA104 in Nazareth

¹⁵ Day 84 17:1

¹⁶ Day 84 64:18

¹⁷ SNB70645 Day 85 91:15-92:11

Lodge¹⁸. HIA225 (NL 1965-1968) accepted that the Sisters did not have the facilities to keep him and his siblings together when he entered Nazareth Lodge and his sisters entered Nazareth House¹⁹. His father came and visited him weekly while he was in Nazareth Lodge and he was taken up to Nazareth House to visit his sisters²⁰. He stated:-

“Yes there was good encouragement from the Sisters in respect of contact”²¹.

His contact with his family continued when he went to Kircubbin but not as frequently. On one occasion he stated that arrangements were made for him to come up from Kircubbin, collect his younger brother from Nazareth Lodge and take him up to visit their sisters in Nazareth House²². HIA56 (NL 1959-1968) said that his mother visited him twice per week from the age of 5 until the age of 10²³. HIA19 (NL 1958-1966) another resident in Nazareth Lodge from the same period, told the Inquiry about having regular visits from his grandparents who would visit him on a Saturday in Nazareth Lodge and his sister on a Sunday in Nazareth House²⁴. He also recalls spending the occasional weekend with them from the age of 10 or 11.²⁵ When he entered Nazareth Lodge he and his brothers were all placed in the same group. He did not remember visiting his sister during his time in the Lodge and claims his grandmother organised for her to wave to him during lunch breaks and that he would wave back²⁶. In response

¹⁸ Day 86 16:21

¹⁹ Day 87 32:25

²⁰ Day 87 33:7-11

²¹ Day 87 33:22

²² Day 87 56:2

²³ Day 87 97:4

²⁴ Day 88 33:10

²⁵ Day 88 33:24

²⁶ Day 88 59:22

to questions from the Chairman, HIA19 confirmed that his brothers would also have been present for his grandmother's visit on a Saturday and that he would have seen his sister during the weekends when he went out to his grandparent's house²⁷. The account of HIA152 (NL 1958-1966) is impossible to reconcile with the foregoing evidence of other children who were in Nazareth Lodge at the same time. He claimed he was never able to see his sister who was in Nazareth House and that he had never heard of the congregation arranging for bringing the boys and girls of the Nazareth homes together. He alleged that boys in Nazareth Lodge never met the girls in Nazareth House and that they never played together²⁸. He also alleged his grandparents came to visit him but that they were made to feel unwelcome and rudely treated²⁹.

13. Records disclose that HIA297's (NL 1968-1972) elder sister, who had been placed in foster care, was very regularly visiting him and his two brothers in Nazareth Lodge³⁰.

14. HIA5 (NL 1982-1985) is a paradigm example of false memory. He claimed he would see his brother and sister in the dining room in Nazareth Lodge but that he was not allowed to communicate with them. However his records show that his sister was never in Nazareth Lodge but stayed with his parents due to a heart condition.³¹ His brother remained in Nazareth Lodge for only a few months before being returned to his parents and his sister and brother were not fostered out after a week as he claims. He alleged that the Sisters would tell him "you

²⁷ Day 88 65:22

²⁸ Day 88 20:20-21:20

²⁹ Day 88 22:19

³⁰ Day 89 17:14 and SNB5774

³¹ Day 89 39:21

will never see your mother or father again” and that they destroyed letters from his parents; if his mother and father telephoned the Lodge the Sisters did not let them speak to him or his brother³²; he felt the Sisters did not want him to have contact and that they kept his parents away and he claimed that a cook in the home informed him that the nuns did not contact the parents of the children and that they told social services to tell the parents that their children were fine and not to bother visiting³³. However records show that his parents were in fact visiting him in Nazareth Lodge twice per week until November 1982 when they informed social services that they had no money to visit³⁴. The records also show that he was visited regularly by his Aunt Margaret and since November 1982 regular contact had been maintained between HIA5 and his parents and that he went home to his parents every second Saturday³⁵. The contemporaneous records provide confirm the congregation’s evidence from the outset of the Inquiry that every effort was made to facilitate family contact where possible and practical. See also the evidence of HIA91 (NL 1970-1972) whose records reveal that efforts were made to place him, his brothers and his sister together in Nazareth Lodge³⁶. The Superior of Nazareth Lodge is thanked for her part in keeping the family together³⁷.

15. HIA41 (NL 1968-1973) claimed that he and his siblings were separated when they were put into Nazareth Lodge but records show that this was done because they were described as being very demanding and the Sisters felt this was the

³² Day 89 45:10

³³ Day 89 45:20

³⁴ Day 89 46:9 and SNB40046

³⁵ Day 89 47:15 and SNB40057

³⁶ Day 89 83:20 and SNB4403

³⁷ Day 89 86:5 and SNB44422

only way to exercise some control over them. HIA41 accepted that before he and his siblings entered Nazareth Lodge they were running wild³⁸. Despite claiming that he and his family never had visitors it is recorded by his social worker that he and his siblings were visited regularly by their mother and that they enjoyed these visits³⁹. He was placed in a different group to his brother and sister at Nazareth Lodge but he was offered the option of spending weekends at Kircubbin with his older brother which he did not want⁴⁰. He is also noted as being reluctant to go to his mother on Sundays preferring to stay in Nazareth Lodge⁴¹.

Nazareth House

16. HIA85 (1945-1960) told the Inquiry her mother visited her every Thursday although she alleged that she visited her brother only once in 15 years in Nazareth House and that contact between them was not encouraged⁴². This is not accepted by the congregation and it conflicts with other evidence which the Inquiry has heard.
17. HIA166 (NH 1948-1960), in response to a question from the Chairman, said there was contact between Nazareth House and Nazareth Lodge; the girls would have walked from the House to the Lodge so that families would be able to meet up with each other. She stated that those without brothers in the Lodge would have played in the big field at Nazareth Lodge and she described learning to

³⁸ Day 89 99:9-100:2 and SNB40761

³⁹ Day 89 163:4,162:25 and SNB30622

⁴⁰ Day 89 164:24

⁴¹ Day 89 165:3

⁴² Day 106 61:19

play cricket and using skipping ropes. She said she would have been free to run about the field and that boys would have been waiting in the field for their sisters to arrive⁴³.

18. HIA124 (NH 1965-1966 and 1969) claimed that contact between her and her sisters was discouraged because they were in a different group to her. She also claimed that no arrangements were made for her to visit her brothers who had been placed in Nazareth Lodge⁴⁴. She remembered her aunt coming to visit her but claimed that SR31 would have sat in on these visits on most occasions⁴⁵. It is not accepted by the congregation that Sisters would have remained during family visits. In the same vein HIA117 (NH 1965-1975) told the Inquiry that she and her sisters were separated from their brothers on entry to Nazareth House and that they were not encouraged to visit their siblings⁴⁶. However records show that she and her sister were receiving frequent visits from family members⁴⁷. These included visits from her mother, father and grandfather, sometimes weekly. However she had no memory of seeing her mother and father after she went into Nazareth House. The records also show that her brother had come to stay with her and her sisters one weekend per month during the holidays. She was also recorded as having infrequent contact with his two brothers⁴⁸. However HIA117 claimed that she never saw her brother again the day after they were all put into care⁴⁹.

⁴³ Day 94 69:3-18

⁴⁴ Day 96 66:18

⁴⁵ Day 96 67:9

⁴⁶ Day 96 79:11

⁴⁷ Day 96 92:4 and SNB6293

⁴⁸ Day 96 107:5

⁴⁹ Day 96 107:19 and SNB6311

20. HIA43 (NH 1960-1967) said her father visited her in the home but she alleged that SR31 would deliberately keep her father from visiting her and would laugh and taunt her about this and that her father was forced to throw sweets over the walls of the home to her and that the Sisters made her feel humiliated and ashamed⁵⁰. She alleged that no arrangements were made for her to have contact with her sister or her brothers in Nazareth Lodge⁵¹. This is in stark contrast to other evidence which the Inquiry has heard and, for example, to HIA103 (NH 1960-1965) who was in the home at the same time as HIA43. She had regular contact with her father who took her out at weekends and in the summer her father would take her to her grandmother's house for holidays⁵².
21. HIA368 (NH 1969-1971) did not remember her mother visiting Nazareth House although she remembered going to her mother's house but the records show that both she and HIA175 were being visited by their mother weekly⁵³.
22. HIA141 (NL 1977-1981) was taken home by her mother for weekend visits; she was also visited regularly by her mother and elder sister who lived with her mother and she is recorded as having frequent visits with the rest of her siblings although she disputes the frequency of contact between her and her siblings⁵⁴.
23. The absence of the contemporaneous records has prejudiced the Congregation in their conduct of the Inquiry generally, not just on the issue of family contact. In

⁵⁰ Day 96 144:17

⁵¹ Day 96 146:20

⁵² Day 99 181:24; 183:6 and 182:14

⁵³ Day 101 10:13 and SNB6450

⁵⁴ Day 107:97:20, 98:1

ef/2/1

4

SR 220

BY MR CAHILL

- A Q As far as you are concerned, when you are the boss you always remember that you have to go into the ranks again after six years, is that the situation?
A Yes; that is correct.
- Q You feel that you are unfortunate in that you are the boss at the present time and have to give evidence here; is that correct?
A That is very correct.
- B Q First, tell us about the founding of Nazareth Lodge and for how long it has been engaged in the work of looking after children?
A The Order of the Poor Sisters of Nazareth was founded in London in the middle of the last century by a French lady, Victoire Larmenier. The Order was founded for the care of the elderly and for the care of orphans and abandoned children. Over the last 130 years, the same work has been carried on by the Order. Only those who have a vocation and aptitude for this type of work are admitted into the Order.
- C Q In other words, as far as girls or women are concerned, when they apply to join the Order, they know the type of work in which their life is going to be involved thereafter, is that correct?
A That is correct.
- D Q They are considered first of all in relation to their vocation for that type of work before the Order will admit them as postulants, is that correct?
A That is correct; yes.
- Q Would you continue?
A The Sisters first came to Belfast in 1866, and the house now known as Nazareth Lodge was purchased in 1898.
- E Q Where would the finances for the purchase of a house like that come from?
A The congregation had to produce the money.
- Q Is that from voluntary subscriptions?
A Voluntary subscriptions from people round Belfast, mostly, I would say.
- F Q It was founded when, did you say?
A It was founded in 1898; it was bought, and it was used as a boys' home. Then in the early 1970s the building was adapted into family group units, and girls were admitted in 1967 for the first time. At that time, there were five groups of children.
- G Q When you say there were five groups, how many did each group comprise, approximately?
A Twelve. We used to have 60 children then, but the numbers have dwindled.
- Q Has the situation been that five groups have now been reduced to approximately three?
A Three groups, yes. There are 38 children in residence at the moment.
- H Q To what do you attribute the fall in the number of personnel in the home?
A The difference in child care; lots of children are fostered and adopted now that normally would be in our place or places like it.

HIA REF: [423]

NAME: nia 423

Response by HSCB

DATE: 5 January 2015

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

Witness Statement of the Health and Social Care Board

Marian Hall, Children's Services Project Manager, assisted in the drafting of this statement.

The Health and Social Care Board will say as follows: -

1. nia 423 was admitted to Nazareth Lodge, Belfast in 1964. The Applicant remained in Nazareth Lodge until 27 November 1970 when she was fostered full time by the family.
2. The Board notes paragraph 14 of the Applicant's statement where she details being fostered out from Nazareth Lodge to the family from infancy. In paragraph 15 of the Applicant's statement she recalls being fostered out with her brother to a second family, noting that 'the nuns were trying to get us a foster placement together.' SNB 32111 contains a letter from the Down and Connor Welfare Society detailing that the Applicant was fostered out to the full time from December 1970. The letter notes that this was done voluntarily and that the received no financial assistance for the placement. The Welfare Society approved the arrangement. The Board further notes paragraph 18 of the Applicant's statement where she says that she has no recollection of any Welfare involvement in her care or of being spoken to about being fostered.

PRIVATE

HIA REF: 175

Witness Name: HIA 175

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

WITNESS STATEMENT OF HIA 175

I, HIA 175, will say as follows:-

Personal details

1. I was born on [REDACTED] in County Down. My mother had an alcohol dependency sometimes she was able to look after us and on other occasions she wasn't I never knew who my father was.
2. I was thirteen when I went into Nazareth House and HIA 368 was seven. I had an older brother [REDACTED] who was taken to Rubane in Kircubbin. I had an older sister who did not live she lived with a man in [REDACTED] and an older brother who lived with an auntie.
3. I remember the welfare coming down one day and they took me and my younger brother HIA 368 out of the house and to a court in [REDACTED]. We were made subject to a court order but the judge said that we must be kept together and as a result HIA 368 was the first boy to be placed in Nazareth House, he was only meant to be there for a few weeks.

Nazareth House (16/05/69 – 10/09/71)

4. I remember the first day that we arrived in the home. Living in [REDACTED] we did not have very much and going to the home I was wearing an adult coat

HIA 175

PRIVATE

1

PRIVATE

SR 118 room. When she came out she made me lie down on the floor and she beat me on the backside with a strap. This went on for years.

10. The older boys bullied me and played mind games. One of them broke a statue of our Lady and told me that if anyone asked I was to say that I had done it. I was so manipulated by them that I even told the priest in confession that I had broken a statue.
11. I would cry every night about the abuse but I knew that I could not do anything about it. I told my mother about the abuse every year when she visited but she could not do anything. I think she was worried that if she made a fuss the nuns would kick me out and she needed the nuns to keep me so that she could make a living in [REDACTED]
12. If the weather was good in the summertime I saw my sisters a couple of times a week as the girls from Nazareth House used to come and play in the field in front of Nazareth Lodge. I never saw my sisters during the winter time.

Life After Care

13. When I was ten years old my mother got a job in [REDACTED]. She then took my sisters and I out of our respective homes and took us back to live with her. We lived in a house near the dispensary which our mother ran. We helped to keep it clean and I chopped the wood and brought in the coal for the fire. I went to a Christian Brothers primary school in [REDACTED] and then [REDACTED] Secondary school.
14. When I grew older I got a job in a chemist shop in [REDACTED]. I was serving an apprenticeship to become a pharmacist when I was called up by the US Army. I went through my physical in Belfast and I was sent to [REDACTED] Germany. The war had just ended. I was put in charge of the pharmacy because the man who had been in charge was going home. There was a lot of disease in the country especially venereal disease. I was posted there for three years. I went home to [REDACTED] every six months. When I left the Army I went back to [REDACTED] and went to school under the GI Bill of Rights. The idea was to get all the men coming out

1 sit around in silence for a day or two. You mentioned
2 also retreats for the Sisters. What were the purpose of
3 these two sorts of retreats and what actually happened?

4 **A. Well, I don't know. I have never been on a children's**
5 **retreat. So I can only tell you what I have heard from**
6 **other Sisters. I don't think they were meant to hit in**
7 **silence. I think just the priest would have given them**
8 **an extra talk or something, you know, an extra little**
9 **lecture or something like that.**

10 The Sisters' retreat is -- we have a six-day retreat
11 once a year, usually mid-year, and then at the end of
12 the year we have a three-day retreat just to get us in
13 tune with ourselves and our relationship with God and
14 where we are in our journey of life, yes.

15 Q. And that's where you would have a visiting priest or
16 somebody taking the retreat?

17 **A. Well, in those days, yes, it was a visiting retreat**
18 **priest, but nowadays many, many Sisters go to retreat**
19 **centres and go out of Nazareth House away to different**
20 **centres.**

21 Q. One of the concerns in setting up these homes at all was
22 the question of Catholic children having care within the
23 faith. What was -- was there any concern about the loss
24 of Catholicity with the closure of the homes? I mean,
25 the children presumably have gone to other sorts of

1 establishments when they have needed residential care.

2 **A. Well, I suppose when you were in our care, it was our**
3 **responsibility to make sure that if they were Catholics,**
4 **they were brought up in the Catholic faith. Once they**
5 **left, well, I mean, we have parish sisters and things**
6 **like that, people that go around the parishes.**

7 **Q. So where would the children go now? Into the State**
8 **homes?**

9 **A. I presume so, yes.**

10 **Q. But there isn't a widespread concern about that now that**
11 **there would have been in earlier years?**

12 **A. No, because I think if there was a Catholic child in**
13 **a non-Catholic home, then it's the responsibility of the**
14 **home owner to make sure that that child is taken to**
15 **church, or else there might be somebody from the parish**
16 **that would come in and befriend the child and take the**
17 **child to the sacraments.**

18 **Q. Okay. Thank you very much.**

19 **A. Thank you very much.**

20 **CHAIRMAN: Well, Sister, thank you for coming to speak to us**
21 **again today and, of course, we have all of your**
22 **statements, which we have looked at. We are very**
23 **grateful to you for coming. I am sorry again we weren't**
24 **able to take your evidence on Friday. I am sure you**
25 **would have preferred that rather --**

14.

SISTERS OF NAZARETH.

"Holy Rosary Parish: Golden Jubilee Souvenir"

[Belfast: J. Woods, 1951].

On 9 May, 1876, the first community was established in Belfast on the invitation of Bishop Denis who provided a building in Ballynafeigh [two semi-detached ^{detached} villas made into one - since incorporated into the present Nazareth House].

The ground attached to this property included the site now occupied by the Holy Rosary church and the P.P.'s house (on the Ormeau Rd) and by the parochial hall (on the Ravenhill Rd).

In 1877 five ivy-covered cottages known as "Rose Cottages" occupied the front site of the present Holy Rosary church and faced the ^{new} Ballynafeigh Rd (was the Ormeau Rd) on which they were numbered 92-100. Behind the cottages and where the church stands was a well.

Inside the grounds were nine whitewashed cottages fronting on the Old Ballynafeigh Rd (was the Ravenhill Rd) and numbered 199-213. These cottages provided accommodation for the first inmates of Nazareth House.

Within the angle of the Old and new Ballynafeigh Rds was a whitewashed cottage "Lys Marie," which was occupied c. 1877-1892 by the chaplains of Nazareth House and the Good Shepherd convent.

In 1891 the Sisters built a residence for their chaplains [the house now occupied by the P.P. of the Holy Rosary parish].

c. 1892 the Sisters sold to St. Malachy's parish the ground now occupied by the Holy Rosary church together with the ground along the Old Ballynafeigh Rd and

The History of the Poor Sisters of Nazareth.

On the 9th May, 1876 the Bishop of the Diocese, Most Rev. Dr. Dorrian brought the Sisters of Nazareth to Belfast. At that time there was a great need in the diocese for a Congregation of Sisters who would care for the aged as well as orphan and abandoned children. The Mother Foundress - Mother St. Basil - and three other Sisters were the first to arrive. The Bishop allowed the Sisters to occupy his own residence in Ballynafeigh at the junction of Ormeau-Ravenhill road.

It is interesting to read that one of the first persons to come to Nazareth House was a Presbyterian lady, who applied for admission in response to a Press advertisement which stated that the new House was open to the aged and infirm irrespective of creed. She lived and died in her faith and was regularly attended in the Convent by her Presbyterian Minister.

In 1899 the Sisters purchased Fox Lodge on Ravenhill Road and on June 18th 1900 a home for orphan boys was opened - known as Nazareth Lodge. Later a larger house was built and this was formally opened by Cardinal Logue on October 15th, 1905.

In 1934 the Diocesan work for babies was taken over by the Sisters and the first baby, a girl ten days old, was received in the Lodge on October 16th.

Later a modern well-equipped nursery was built for this work by the Diocese on ground adjoining the Lodge - known as St. Joseph's Babies Home.

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JONES & COMPANY
Solicitors

Our Ref: FJC/KC/PLIT/5368
11th September 2013

Mr. Patrick Butler,
HIAI
2nd Floor, Microfocus House,
2-14 East Bridge Street
Belfast
BT1 3NQ

4th Floor,
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1 Hill Street,
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Dear Sir,

Re: Historical Institutional Abuse – Diocese of Down and Connor

We refer to the above matter and to the documents disclosed to date by our client.

As indicated in an exchange earlier, we have an original Deed of Assignment which will be retained for inspection by the Inquiry should they wish to see it.

The Deed is dated March 1876 and is between Bishop Patrick Dorrian and Victoire Larmemier who was the Superior of the Sisters of Nazareth living in Nazareth House Hammersmith, and relates to a piece of land on the Ballynafeigh and Newtownbreda Roads amounting to three roods and twenty five perches. There is no map or lease map drawn onto the Indenture but the original will be retained for inspection should it be required.

Yours faithfully,


FINTAN J. CANAVAN
JONES & COMPANY

Partners:
Fintan Canavan, Advocate
Richard McLaughlin

the chaplain's house. The chaplain, however, continued to live in the house until it became the parochial house of the Holy Rosary parish established in 1896. A building (now the parochial hall) was later erected on the Old Ballynefeigh Rd site to serve as church and school. 15:

In 1897, the Sisters obtained possession of Fox Lodge (since known as Nazareth Lodge) on the Old Ballynefeigh Rd. [Some years previously Fox Lodge had been the residence of a Miss Mary Young. Later it became a Protestant National school and afterwards a Protestant Industrial School. When the boys were transferred to the new Balmoral Industrial School, the house passed into the possession of Mr. Brice, a dairy farmer. He moved elsewhere c. 1894 and the house remained vacant until 1897].

Five or six Sisters were sent to the Lodge, but a separate community was not established there until 1900 when an industrial school for boys was opened.

29 October, 1953. Bishop Mageean blessed and formally opened St. Joseph's Babies' Home, Ravenhill Rd. (under the care of the Sisters of Nazareth).

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G. M. J. +

1902.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society on Sept. 14th gave a nice day's outing to Whitehead for the children - girls and boys - paying all expenses and providing refreshments and all kinds of games. The children enjoyed themselves immensely and no expense was spared to make the day a most pleasant one.

A legacy of £100. was left by the Very Rev. Eugene M^r. Carrahan, P.P. V. J. Larne, who died on the 16th October. He was always very kind to our Sisters, and took a great interest in our work.

In November, Mr. M^r. Clainor, formerly Inspector of Schools, accompanied by his daughter and niece, visited the house. He expressed much pleasure at all that was done for the Poor and little Daphaus, and gave as a donation a very nice brougham for the use of the Sick Poor.

In Nov. 20th notice was received from the Bishop that Nagareth Lodge was certified for the reception of Industrial boys; His Lordship having received the following letter:—

"Dublin Castle
18th Nov. 1902.

X My Lord Bishop,
I am desired by the Chief Secretary to transmit to you herewith a certificate under the Act 31st Vic. Chap. 25 for the Nagareth Lodge Industrial School for Roman Catholic boys, Belfast.
I have the honour to be,

G. M.

1902.

My Lord Bishop
Your Obedt

(Date of Certificate +)
A notice as a local Paper:—

"Nagareth Lodge"
In the application for the Manager of School, Belfast, 40 years of age.

by Mr. John Tag of Industrial Connection with and Mr. Wynnda Ireland, "The Gazette" that the Industrial School the reception of

To this a School Rev. Father were much opposed knowing that the Community at he against his wis

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1902.

withy Lord Bishops
 Your obedient servant
 J. M. J. +
 (Date of Certificate - 11th Nov. 1902.)

A notice as under appeared in a
 local Paper: -

"Nazareth Lodge Industrial School
 In the application of Nazareth House
 or the Manager of Nazareth Lodge Industrial
 School, Belfast, for Catholic boys under
 10 years of age. An enquiry was held
 by Mr. John Jagan, F.R.C.S.I. Inspector
 of Industrial Schools in Ireland, in
 connection with the above-named School,
 and Mr. Wyncham, Chief Secretary for
 Ireland, has certified in the "Dublin
 Gazette" that the said Nazareth Lodge
 Industrial School, Belfast, is fit for
 the reception of R.C. children."

To this, as well as to the National
 School Rev. Mother General and her Council
 were much opposed, as it brought so
 much extra work to the Sisters, but
 knowing that the Bishop had the good of
 Community at heart she would not go
 against his wishes.

On November 29th Countess Dudley,
 accompanied by Lady Evelyn Ward, the
 Hon. Gerald Cadogan and Lord Pembroke,
 (Private Secretary) visited. They were received
 by His Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. Henry,
 Rev. Dr. Conway, J. J. M^o. Donnell, Esq. J.P. and
 the members of the Community.

On arriving, the distinguished party
 proceeded to the School-room, where Her

admirably trained in this Institution. Reading in particular was remarkably good. J. Stelly, Inspector.

In April the Chapel, dormitories and passages were painted. Dear Rev. Mother General gave a present of £5. at this time.

In May 16th Sister Th. Boniface was removed and Sister St. James took her place. Mother day paid a short visit to the Lodge in this month.

No Retreat was given at the Lodge this year, the Sisters attending the one at Nazareth House, which was conducted by the Rev. Fr. Talvey.

Twenty-eight boys were enrolled in the Brown Scapular on the 16th July, by the Rev. R. Cuckford.

The most Rev. D. Th. Cherry, Bishop of

paid a visit. The usual procession in honour of Our Blessed Lady took place on 15th August.

The Sr. Vincent de Paul Society gave the boys a trip to Whitehead on 1st Sept: a most enjoyable day being spent.

As his Lordship did not succeed in getting the Workhouse Children, he applied for a Junior Industrial School.

Mr. Jagan, Inspector, met his Lordship at the Lodge on the 22nd October, and inspected the house and premises. He said he was perfectly satisfied, and on 11th November gave a certificate for 50 chargeable cases, pending a new wing.

On usual his Lordship was present at the children's Christmas party, and spoke very feelingly to the little ones. He said he noticed a great improvement in the boys, which he hoped would continue. At the end of the year there were 9 Ind. School boys.

In 1900 the Wisconsin Inspector proposed Nazareth Lodge a separate school from Nazareth House. The Religious Examinations took place on 16th

January. Report:- Great attention has evidently been bestowed on the Religious training of these boys during the year, the Exam. being in every respect satisfactory. J. Walsh.

Mr. Jagan, Ind. School Inspector, paid a visit on 11th March, and wrote the following in the Diary:-

I visited Nazareth Lodge this day, and was pleased to find that everything pointed to a successful career for the school.

J. Jagan

Mr. Inspector of Industrial Schools:

The National School Examination took place on the 24th March. Mr. Ross, Head Inspector, gave a good report, and wrote the following in the Observation Book:- "General condition of school highly creditable. Children admirably trained and well taught." J. Ross.

1905.

During the Visitation in July, 1905, I visited Nazareth Lodge. It is a very substantial building, but much too elaborate for a Boys' Industrial School. It is one story too high and the materials used in its construction were too expensive - on the whole, everything connected with the building seems on too grand and extravagant a scale. The Church seemed quite out of proportion and out of place in the centre of the building - a more appropriate position for it would have been over the present Children's Refectory.

Knowing that the pressure upon the Sisters was already too great and that it would be impossible for them to cope with the growing demands of the Educational Department, neither the Members of the General Council, nor myself, voted for approval of, or sanctioned, the taking of establishment or building of the Boys' Industrial School. The Bishop asked the Sisters to undertake the work and we did not like to oppose him. It would have been much more wise to us to have retained Fore Lodge (the old building) for the old men, for whom there was not sufficient accommodation in Nazareth House - or to have added to it, a less pretentious building more in keeping with the style of the old house.

A debt of £10,000 has been incurred by the erection of Nazareth Lodge.

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1912

And in good order. The boys he next visited, and was pleased to see such a fine lot of boys, healthy and well cared for.

About this time we received a legacy of £600 by the Will of the late Mr. John Cavill R.S.P. also £250 by the Will of Mr. Magennis.

These two sums have been paid into National Bank, towards paying our debt.

Mr. Magennis sent us a donation of £50, this amount with the proceeds of Concert enabled us to secure our debt by another £200.

During the Month of March Mr. Keith made the annual inspection for the National School, and was pleased with the appearance & work of the boys, he recommended a deal for the kindergarten work in the Infant School.

In the end of April we were granted an extension of the Industrial School Certificate, through the influence of the Chief Inspector Dr. Cogan & Hen.

Early in the Month of May Mr. Graham held his examination for the Industrial pupils, who on previous years had remarkably well.

Dr. Glenn paid a surprise visit on the following day saw the

1912 boys in the school room, and remarked how healthy and well they all looked.

The children's Retreat this year was given by the Rev. Fr. MacGowan C.O.S. Brody; forty five of the boys mass their first Holy Communion and were enrolled in the Brown Scapular of Our Lady on the Feast of the Ascension, the chief day of the Retreat.

On the 8th of October, is the great evocation of St. Children. Our dear Mother General came to the stage, and assisted by Mother Conleth made her devotion, medals & say all we delight to have dear Mother, also Mother Angela in our midst even for a short time, dear Mother, made some changes for the good of the House, also pointed out many improvements which would be beneficial to all, and suggested what might be done with regard to the farm in order to make it more profitable.

Dear Mother in her usual kindness of heart gave the boys & a few a lovely tea party, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Much to the regret of the Sisters dear Mother General left for the Mother House Hammamilton on the 16th of October a very happy time was enjoyed by all during her stay at the Lodge.

G. M. J. +

1902.

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 (Date of Certificate - 11th Nov. 1902.)

A notice as under appeared in a
 local Paper: -

"Nazareth Lodge Industrial School
 In the application of Nazareth House
 or the Manager of Nazareth Lodge Industrial
 School, Belfast, for Catholic boys under
 10 years of age. An enquiry was held
 by Mr. John Jagan, F.R.C.S.I. Inspector
 of Industrial Schools in Ireland, in
 connection with the above-named School,
 and Mr. Wyncham, Chief Secretary for
 Ireland, has certified in the "Dublin
 Gazette" that the said Nazareth Lodge
 Industrial School, Belfast, is fit for
 the reception of R.C. children."

To this, as well as to the National
 School Rev. Mother General and her Council
 were much opposed, as it brought so
 much extra work to the Sisters, but
 knowing that the Bishop had the good of
 Community at heart she would not go
 against his wishes.

On November 29th Countess Dudley,
 accompanied by Lady Evelyn Ward, the
 Hon. Gerald Cadogan and Lord Pembert,
 (Private Secretary) visited. They were received
 by His Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. Henry,
 Rev. Dr. Conway, J. J. M^o. Donnell, Esq. J.T. and
 the members of the Community.

On arriving, the distinguished party
 proceeded to the School-room, where Her

admirably trained in this Institution.
Reading in particular was remarkably good.
J. Stelly, Inspector

In April the Chapel, dormitories and passages were painted. Dear Rev. Mother General gave a present of £5. at this time.

In May 16th Sister Th. Boniface was removed and Sister St. James took her place. Mother Day paid a short-visit to the Lodge in this month.

No Retreat was given at the Lodge this year, the Sisters attending the one at Nazareth House, which was conducted by the Rev. St. Talvey D.P.

Twenty-eight boys were enrolled in the Brown Scoutmaster on the 16th July, by the Rev. R. Cuckford

The most Rev. D. Th. Cherry, Bishop of

paid a visit.
The usual procession in honour of Our Blessed Lady took place on 15th August. The St. Vincent de Paul Society gave the boys a trip to Whitehead on 1st Sept: a most enjoyable day being spent.

As St. Vincent de Paul Society did not succeed in getting the Workhouse Children, he applied for a Junior Industrial School. Mr. Jagan, Inspector, met St. Vincent de Paul at the Lodge on the 22nd October, and inspected the house and premises. He said he was perfectly satisfied, and on 11th November gave a certificate for 50 chargeable cases, pending a new wing.

On usual St. Vincent de Paul Society was present at the children's Christmas party, and spoke very feelingly to the little ones. He said he noticed a great improvement in the boys, which he hoped would continue. At the end of the year there were 9 Ind. School boys.

1900. In 1900 the Divisional Inspector proposed Nazareth Lodge a separate school from Nazareth House. The Religious examinations took place on 16th

January. Report:- Great attention has evidently been bestowed on the Religious training of these boys during the year, the exam. being in every respect satisfactory. J. Walsh

Mr. Jagan, Ind. School Inspector, paid a visit on 11th March, and wrote the following in the Diary:- I visited Nazareth Lodge this day, and was pleased to find that everything pointed to a successful career for the school

J. Jagan
St. Vincent de Paul Industrial Schools.
The National School Examination took place on the 24th March. Mr. Ross, Head Inspector, gave a good report, and wrote the following in the Observation Book:- "General condition of school highly creditable. Children admirably trained and well taught." J. Ross.

NAZARETH LODGE TRAINING SCHOOL.

This School was inspected on 19th December, 1950. On that date there were 3 Training School children in residence and 274 voluntary cases, made up as follows:-

Under 2	-	70
2 - 5	-	40
Over 5	-	164

No new Training School cases were admitted during the year. Three were discharged to St. Patrick's School, Milltown.

Six children attend Harding St. Intermediate School, six go to St. Mary's School, Barrack Street and two to the Marine Radio College. The rest of the school-children, including the three Training School boys, attend the Primary School within the Home.

The 70 babies are housed in what was formerly the recreation hall and this accounts for the difference in actual numbers and the number for which the School is certified. When the new babies' home is built, the hall will revert to its original use as indoor recreation space for school-children. These children have at present no indoor playing room except their classrooms. During the school holidays the partitions between classrooms are rolled away to give more space.

The staff for the school-children has been augmented by one male teacher who teaches the 6th and 7th standard boys in the hut in the grounds. He also takes Physical Training and woodwork with the other class from 1st standard upwards. At present it is not possible to do much in the way of hobbies or original leisure-time activities, except outdoor games, but it is hoped that this will be remedied when the hall is available again.

The dormitories were in good order, clean and tidy, comfortably warm, yet airy. Attention was drawn last year to the unsatisfactory ablutionary and sanitary provision in the main building. Nothing has been achieved in remedying the defects, but we were informed that plans have been drawn up to provide a sanitary annexe on the ground floor with W.C.s, stall urinals, footbaths and showers. There is in one of the upstairs toilet rooms a row of basins with so-called eye-sprays in them. It is difficult to see what use could be made of these, but Sister Hildegard suggested that they might be lowered to floor level and turned into footbaths.

The dining-room was in excellent order when we visited. The idea of panelling the tiled surrounds with wood has now been dropped.

The kitchen apartments were in good order, and the facilities have been much improved by the addition of a cold-storage room, which was well-stocked with provisions.

The boys looked healthy and cheerful. Most of the big boys were playing energetically, sliding on the frozen surface of the concrete yard. The 2 - 5 age-group children were indoors in their separate quarters in Fox Lodge. This was in good order and the new small dining and scullery annexe is proving helpful. These toddlers looked happy and well-cared for, but their playroom gives the impression of being over-crowded with children, and as a result the atmosphere is stuffy.

The babies under two also looked well-cared for and it was clear that the sisters in charge of them were doing their best to overcome, by ingenuity, the difficulties of their unsuitable accommodation. As much separation as possible has been achieved by dividing the under-six-months, the 6 - 12 months and the tweenies (1 - 2 years).

has outlined in his statement, *“there is limited institutional knowledge of events which took place during the Inquiry’s terms of reference.” This deficit in the Department’s knowledge is acute in the context of this Module.*

8. When dealing with allegations of the kind advanced by the twelve applicants, the first port of call would normally be witnesses who were present in time and place, or who had some responsibility, directly or indirectly, for the events which are said to have taken place. With the passage of time all witnesses of this kind are of course deceased. The same can be said for those who played a role in the management and regulation of Industrial Schools during that era.
9. The passage of time has been a little kinder to the preservation of documentary record. However, while it is the case that the joint efforts of the Inquiry and the Department (assisted by the Public Records Office NI) has produced much useful material, it is nevertheless appropriate to observe that the records are incomplete and those that are available do not touch directly upon the complaints that have been made to the Inquiry. This is due in no small part to the fact that the allegations which have been advanced by the twelve applicants were never the subject of contemporaneous complaint, let alone investigation, so that no record relating to the allegations was ever generated.
10. It might also be said that in any event expansive note making does not appear to have been an administrative norm in the period with which we are concerned, at least judged by today’s standards.
11. It is the case, therefore, that in many respects the Department’s submissions for this Module can only offer broad impressions of the evidence and the information which has been gathered.
12. It is with these caveats in mind that the following submissions are made.

Relevance

13. The Department notes that none of the twelve applicants who have presented to the Inquiry with their accounts of life in NL in the period before it was decertified as an Industrial School, were ever resident there in an Industrial School capacity.
14. This is consistent with the fact that the vast majority of residents of NL in that period were placed there voluntarily. The records tend to show that whereas NL was authorised to care for some 200 children, it was usually the case that at any one time only about 5% of the residents were detained as Industrial School children within the meaning of section 58 of the 1908 Act.⁵

⁵ At the time of the 1928 annual inspection there were 14 boys out of a total population of 193 who were detained in NL as Industrial School cases: SNB-13657. In 1950, a year before NL was decertified, there were 3 Industrial School children in residence and 274 voluntary cases: SNB-13672.

T.165

NOTES OF DISCUSSION AT THE MINISTRY ON 6TH JUNE, 1953.

Present:-

Mr. J.B. O'Neill
 Mr. J.G. Dunlop
 Mr. E. Jackson
 Miss K.B. Forrest

} Ministry of Home Affairs

BR 12

- Rubane Voluntary Home

BR 12 referred to the large number of boys now in Nazareth Lodge and indicated that consideration was being given to the possibility of transferring about 40 of them to Rubane. The boys he had in mind were those aged 10 years and upwards. Rubane has no accommodation for these boys at the moment but it was proposed, subject to the Ministry's consent, either to adapt the present outhouses for use as living quarters or to resort to the building of additional accommodation. The latter course was preferable to BR 12 as this would leave the outhouses free for use as workshops of various kinds where the lads in the Home would be taught handicrafts, etc.

In the discussion which followed it was generally agreed that there was no satisfactory alternative to the housing of the Nazareth Lodge boys at Rubane and that boys of the age group concerned should not be brought up exclusively under feminine influence as they would if kept at Nazareth Lodge. It was further recognized that the proposed changes would necessitate approving of Rubane for the accommodation of a total of 80 boys.

In reply to a query by Mr. O'Neill, BR 12 indicated that in the matter of outside contact with other boys most of the lads in his care at the moment were allowed home leave at holiday times, etc.; that special arrangements to visit private families were made for boys who were without homes of their own and that various sporting activities, swimming, hurley, rounders, etc., were encouraged. In the matter of hurley, a team from Rubane Home plays in the local League - home and away games being a regular feature.

BR 12 also stated that he hoped the water supply would shortly be augmented by a link-up with the mains.

On the question of a grant towards the cost of the additional accommodation which may be necessary, Mr. O'Neill explained that this was a matter which was being considered at a higher level but that he was hopeful of such grants being made available in cases where the Homes themselves were able to prove their inability to defray the costs. He advised BR 12 to have plans prepared for the improvements which were considered necessary and to submit them to the Ministry for consideration in due course.

Mr. O'Neill further undertook to embody his remarks in a letter to BR 12 as soon as the position about the payment of grants had been clarified.

P.C.

In res. I take it the next step is to consider what amendments should be made in the constitution governing the payment of grants to Voluntary Homes. N. 22/6/53

REV 159

My Time In Nazareth Lodge & Rubane House
1948 - 1957
HIA 159

NAZARETH LODGE

My name is [REDACTED] HIA 159 [REDACTED] I was born in Lisburn, Northern Ireland. The Nazareth Lodge entrance book said my mother decided to move to England so that was why she had placed me in the children's home at the of age 3.

Nazareth Lodge was on the Ravenhill Road, Belafast, BT7. The ages of the boys there were from babies up to the age of 15 to 20 or older. The left the home after being found a job or they would run away. Eventually the older boys were moved out to another home in the countryside which is called Rubane house, a couple of miles outside a village called Kircubbin. Rubane House is off Gransha Road, which is off the main Portaferry Road. When they moved there, there was no more abuse from older boys, which was a great relief. They told ghost stories, chased us up and down the corridors, turned the lights out so that we ran into everything and each other, whilst they had torches to see. They would also kick us in the back in order to hurry us along when we were going to the toilet in the bathroom.

Abuse by Nuns

The first Sunday after we made our very first communion we were all excited that we had our very first prayer book, our excitement was too much for one of the nuns, [REDACTED] SR 100 [REDACTED] During the service all the boys had to pass their book to the her (Sister [REDACTED] SR 100 [REDACTED] because she thought we weren't paying attention.

After mass all the younger boys were seated on benches along the corridor, while some of the older boys just walked up and down threatening "you're for it" and smiling. [REDACTED] SR 100 [REDACTED] came out of a bedroom and told us that we were getting six of the best (6 strokes of the cane) for carrying on in chapel. One by one we were in the bedroom and held down by four older boys and made to sit down on the benches again. One boy was screaming so loud that the nun was going to give us all six more unless he was quiet. While the older boys were encouraging him to scream louder.

The second time that I was beaten by a nun was due to be being late for choir practice in the Annex to the Theatre hall at the back of the main house. I was late because I had been told to go and see [REDACTED] SR 163 [REDACTED] at the top of the house (the attic) and get my [REDACTED] and needed cleaning once a week. Choir practice had just started when I rushed into the little ante room that stored chairs, stage props, school desks etc. As I entered [REDACTED] SR 152 [REDACTED] saw me and came out of the choir room and shouted at me "Why are you late?", without waiting for a reply she picked up a broom and started beating me. It seemed to last ages but was probably only about 2 or 3 minutes while I cowered under a desk. The only reason she stopped was because the brush broke on the desk I sheltered under. She was so red in the face and sweating (that today people would say she had lost the plot). I crawled out and still had to give my best in the choir despite being in agony.

4

9

9

I am sure a lot of boys would have liked to have known more about the house and all of its history and as to who actually owned it, a good search through the records of the Linen Hall Library, Wellington Street, Belfast, Bt 1 could have a record. There was also a new bell put up in the chapel corridor which was really a gong sound and when they put it on for the first time when we were in chapel the noise was so loud that we jumped in our seats it really was deafening it was to be heard over the whole house that mass was starting in a certain time. Father Donnelly was the first priest that was there first, and after him came Father Starkey. About 1951-52 a new staircase [stone] plus a lift were put in, this was at the front of the house were the original connecting corridor between the main house and the old Baby home. Also all the boys when they were put into four groups, were given a number starting with Sister Veronicas group No 1 etc until every body had one when they finished at Sister Clares group the ^{last} ones, ^{no 100} and we were also given a locker each to put all our clothes and shoes and run naked down the corridor to get washed or a bath, we were not always nude just when we were having a bath, and it was great when none of the elder boys were there or the nuns, as we could throw water soap and flannels about and somebody was always watching out at the top of the stairs in case either of them came up, and he would shout its la, we were caught sometimes as the bathroom had a square hole in the wall which was really a cupboard in the hallway for cleaning materials [brushes, etc] we all had the same metal bed, with our pyjamas on the pillow and some boys had a cuddly toy, of course this was all much later when the four groups were formed, a few years. When the reverend mother was leaving we were told to learn a song for the new one coming, and on the day we were all in our Sunday best waiting for her in rows in front of the house, but I believe she was either a few hours late or a day late, but we sang the song, which goes.

Welcome Back to Ireland.

Our Mother, Our Mother,
Welcome Back to the Land
of your Birth, you come in
September, your children,
they greet you, and all our
voices shall sing of your birth?

I think her name was [redacted] the song means that she had been a nun somewhere in England and had given the position of Mother of Nazareth Lodge. Some photographs were taken but

Reference _____

(Continued)

the kitchen is definitely Stage I, but as under the family-group system each group would eat in its own "flat", I don't think we should agree to substantial expenditure on the big dining-room at this stage as it might not be needed at all.

Similarly, the remaking of the boys' beds (£175) and the acquisition of combination wardrobes and dressing tables (one per pair of boys) (£540) are things which would suit any system and should be Stage I, but I think £225 for armchairs and £120 for long settees and £150 for carpets could wait.

I also think that the play equipment, totalling about £400, could wait, and anyway we might try to talk Ministry of Education into joining forces in this.

On the other hand, I regard the safeguarding of the structure of Fox Lodge as an urgent matter and would therefore switch the £750 for walls and windows into Stage I, leaving the rest until later.

The immediate demand for Nazareth Lodge is therefore something like this:-

Already spent	£3,200	
Kitchen	£1,550	
Fencing	£1,000	
Beds and wardrobes	£ 710	
Fox Lodge walls and windows	£ 750	
	<u>£7,210</u>	say <u>£7,500</u>

If, as I suggest, they be expected to pay one-third, this leaves £5,000 for us to find, all or most of which will fall in this financial year.

(2) Nazareth House, Londonderry.

Wright and Jackson were up at Londonderry about this last Friday. P. Maxwell is the leading spirit in regard to this project. The point at issue is that the inmates have no place to go to outside the actual home building in bad weather and the proposal is to erect a sort of hall behind the main building, the flat roof of which would, incidentally, be used as a playground for the "tinies". Jackson tells me he is convinced that something of the kind is essential and that a prefabricated structure such as we had thought of as an alternative would be quite inappropriate.

Unfortunately the new structure is likely to be expensive, partly because of site works (the site slopes) and partly because of the general cost of such structures of the size proposed. No plans or proposals of any real value have been submitted, but the architects are talking of cost in the region of £15/16,000. Wright thinks, as I do, that a little less could be made do when a concrete scheme is worked out, but the whole job looks like running to upwards of £10,000, of which they could probably spend about £7,500 this year.

Their idea of contributing 10% over three years is, to my mind, ridiculous, and, as I have already said, I think they should raise one-third. This means that we should budget on having a demand for £5,000 from this year's vote, with say another £3,000 or a little more next year.

/(3)

Reference

T. 398.

P.C.Nazareth Lodge

Here are some notes on the general conditions seen at the Home yesterday when we visited - as distinct from notes on the discussion with Rev. Mother.

There is no doubt one can feel much happier about the babies in the new Home. They were well-cared, well-clothed and fed. With 16 babies under six months they now hand-feed those under 4 months, while watching the others carefully at their feeds. Sister says it is possible to play with, handle, and talk to the others at other times. Two nuns were with these babies at the time of our visit. The biggest babies were making good progress in feeding themselves, holding their own beakers and so on. The whole premises - except the parts immediately above the laundry and boiler-house - were dreadfully cold. The central-heating system has still not been made to work satisfactorily, but in addition the boiler-man had let the hopper become empty so that such heat as there might have been was lost. The babies' hands were blue with cold and felt icy to touch, but they were however all warmly clad and had pull-ups on. The tiny babies were all right as they had an additional fire but the next in age were the worst. We suggested an electric fire as a booster till the system is put right.

The toddlers, 2 to 5, are also much improved. Nursery school was over for the day and they were temporarily in the care of one young girl. This was not sufficient, as at this age they are constantly needing to go to the W.C. and require to be supervised while doing so. However the children themselves were in good form and have become much more independent. Their speech seems better already.

The school-children are now the worst off and Rev. Mother agrees that they are not getting any sort of chance in life and cannot make proper development, especially those who have known nothing but this institutional care from babyhood. She aims to reduce the numbers to 100 and would like to have four good motherly women to help the nuns in charge of this group. A much larger staff than at present is absolutely essential. We saw little 5- and 6-year-olds sitting in a row with bare legs and feet waiting to get washed before supper. A slightly larger child stood facing them, hissing at them to "stay quiet". Some of this quietness and stillness was probably for the benefit of the visitors, but what an unnatural state of affairs! About half-a-dozen of these "little shrimps" were making up beds with the help of the one nun in charge. Two unfortunates who had soiled their pants were standing, dressed in little underpants only, on the tiled floor of the bathroom, waiting to be cleaned up and looking very miserable.

What is needed here is really fundamental re-organisation so that these little creatures can have some individual loving care instead of being dragooned. Rev. Mother recognises this and even went so far as to say that children playing in the gutters of the slums were better off, if they had father and mother to care for them, however poorly.

I am afraid the position here is that while the big boys have benefited from moving to Rubane the little ones have suffered from their going to some extent.

(1963) WY33225/4495
12/52 300,000
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REGIMERE
CODE 5-30-0

2.0 HISTORY, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Nazareth Lodge has existed as a children's home since 1899, when "Fox Lodge" (formerly a home for Protestant boys) became vacant and was purchased by the Order of the Sisters of Nazareth. Large numbers of boys were admitted and were educated by the Sisters in classrooms within the home. In 1934, at the request of St Patrick's Orphan Society, the Sisters undertook the care of babies. This work continued at Nazareth Lodge until St Joseph's Baby Home was opened in 1953. In the same year the De La Salle Brothers opened a residential school for boys at Kircubbin, Co Down and from then on boys were transferred from Nazareth Lodge to Kircubbin as soon as they reached the age of 11 years. It was not until 1967 that girls were first admitted. In 1972 the wing, known as Bethlehem, was converted into 2 family group units and a little later 2 floors in the main building were also converted for 2 family group units. With a falling demand for places one of the units in the main building has been closed so that at present there are 3 groups with numbers varying between 11 and 14 children in each group.

2.2 The following statement of the aims and objectives of the home was provided by the Mother Superior prior to the inspection:-

- (1) to provide for the care of children in a residential setting
- (2) to provide a caring, stable environment in which the spiritual, physical, emotional and social needs of the child are met

Part II—Children in Homes

INTRODUCTION

39. The Study Group concerned with Homes visited 18 of the Voluntary Homes registered with the Ministry and virtually all the Homes provided by the Welfare Authorities. The total numbers in each category on 31st December, 1955, were 24 and 14 respectively and the total numbers of children in care in each group were 910 and 269.

40. In preparing our report we have considered the report issued by the Scottish Advisory Council on Child Care in 1950 and the memorandum published by the Home Office in 1952 on the conduct of Children's Homes. However, it is important to remember that, while the basic problems are common to all three areas, there are conditions in Northern Ireland that require a different approach.

41. Primary consideration has been given to the needs of those children who have been deprived of a normal home life with their own or a substitute family and have thus become the responsibility of the local Welfare Authority or a voluntary organisation until they reach the age of 18. We are well aware of the recommendations of the Curtis Committee,* which are supported by other experts such as Dr. John Bowlby, that a child who is denied the privilege of growing up in his natural family should, where possible, be provided with a substitute family, preferably by adoption, otherwise in a foster home. Thus will such a child be likely to find affection, understanding and security. None the less there will be many children who will look to the staff of a Welfare Authority or Voluntary Home for the same qualities of care.

SIZE AND CLASSIFICATION OF HOMES

42. Although it is true that large institutions catering for long-stay children have some disadvantages, they are likely to be necessary in Northern Ireland for some time to come, since some voluntary organisations are already committed to buildings that are difficult to alter. We suggest that the organisation of such Homes should be arranged in such a manner that each child shall have the opportunity of enjoying a sustained and close relationship with an adult member of the supervisory staff. Consequently, apart from any staffing ratio that may be suggested later for the purely material care of the children, there should, in ideal circumstances, be sufficient staff of the right calibre to ensure that each such member should have this special responsibility of taking the place of a parent for a group of not more than twelve children. Where voluntary organisations or local authorities are contemplating new buildings for large institutions we would recommend the design of arranging small cottages, each catering for a group of up to twelve children, round a large central block, so that common services and amenities may be provided economically and at the same time the children can gain the advantage of living in small groups.

*Report of the Care of Children Committee, 1946, H.M.S.O., Cmd. No. 6922.

PART I

The Background

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1. The Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1950 centralises responsibility for certain matters affecting the welfare of children and young persons in the Ministry of Home Affairs, and places a duty on welfare authorities to receive into their care any children whose parents or guardian are unable or unfit to care for them. The Act also imposes a duty on welfare authorities, either separately or jointly, to provide accommodation for children coming into their care, or to make arrangements with voluntary homes to provide such accommodation. Until this Act came into force the only authority for the inspection of voluntary homes was contained in Section 25 of the Children Act 1908. Under the authority of this Act as amended the Children's Inspector appointed by the Ministry of Home Affairs visited and inspected homes for the reception of poor children or young persons supported wholly or in part by voluntary contributions. The Ministry had no power to require such homes to be registered nor was there any means by which any Government department could intervene in the arrangements for the training, education, or after-care of the children accommodated in the homes.

2. In a few of the homes then in existence, effective after-care and boarding-out schemes were in operation, but in the majority of homes it was evident that improved standards of accommodation, education and training were required.

3. While appreciating the excellent work done by voluntary organisations for the care of children deprived of a normal home life, the Government agreed that, as a measure of protection for the organisations themselves, the homes should be registered, and that to ensure an adequate standard of treatment and accommodation the supervision of the homes should be brought within the control of a Government department.

4. Accordingly, in the Children Act of 1950, the Ministry of Home Affairs was given power to require the registration of all voluntary homes (i.e. homes or institutions for the boarding, protection, care and maintenance of poor children or children otherwise in need of help) and to cause them to be inspected from time to time. The Ministry was also empowered to make regulations for the conduct of such homes and for securing the welfare of children therein. Regulations for this purpose, entitled Children and Young Persons (Voluntary Homes) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1952, were made in 1952.*

5. Amongst other things, these regulations empower the Ministry to limit the number of children at any one time in a home, to limit the period during

*S.R. & O. 1952, No. 131

74. To assist in our recommendations of this we sought some information about the financial position of the homes. Unfortunately, as will be seen from the ensuing paragraphs, the results of our inquiries were very limited. Where homes in Northern Ireland are affiliated to parent bodies elsewhere it is appreciated that the organisations concerned may have difficulty in apportioning their resources and costs amongst their Northern Ireland homes. Also in a multi-purpose home, where, as well as accommodation for children, there is a section for old people and perhaps a primary school or a business undertaking such as a laundry, the difficulty of separating the accounts can well be understood.

75. An inquiry as to which homes have sufficient resources to meet day-to-day expenses and provide staff and premises adequate for a modern standard of child-care brought forth a response from only ten homes. Five of them say that their resources are sufficient; three that they are not; and two, while they are able to manage, feel that they would need more money in order to achieve adequate standards. Two of the five with sufficient resources accommodate in the main women and girls over 14 years of age and augment their revenue by operating a laundry.

76. The ten homes already mentioned replied to a further question about the extent to which a lack of funds is hampering desirable development, including improvement of premises and staffing and the employment of field workers to investigate applications for admission and undertake after-care. Two homes say they have adequate resources, and the remaining eight say they have not and are hampered to a greater or lesser degree by a lack of money. Some say they are prevented from improving accommodation, furnishings and equipment, others from providing amenities such as central heating. Some claim that they would willingly pay better salaries and engage more staff had they the means. One large home for over 80 boys with very inadequate sleeping quarters and poor play-space estimates that it requires a considerable sum to make good these deficiencies. Another, for boys and girls of up to school-leaving age, would like to provide an after-care hostel. But, even though specifically asked, none expressed any intention of appointing a field worker.

77. In only six instances were financial details of the cost of running voluntary homes supplied in response to the Council's request. These details are set out in Table A, but for the sake of anonymity neither the names of the homes nor the exact number of children who can be accommodated in them are given. In comparing these figures we have noted that the annual running costs of home No. V, at £11,000, are lower than those of home No. I at £11,706, and considerably less than those of home No. VI at £14,279, although the number of children accommodated in home No. V is much higher than in either of these other homes. We find it difficult to accept these figures as a basis for comparison because we are not absolutely sure that they represent the same items. The difference may represent either a difference in the method of calculating running costs or a difference in standards. In voluntary homes as a whole there is no consistent uniform method of calculating costs and we feel it would be a good idea if they had one.

78. We feel that it is clear from the nature of this very limited response to our inquiry that, while financial difficulty obviously exists in some cases, there appears also to be a problem of inertia.

private arrangement parental contributions might be more easily evaded.)

- (b) Amongst those responsible for the admission of children to voluntary homes there is sometimes a belief that only in a home under the auspices of his own church can a child be sure of an adequate religious upbringing.
- (c) Where a private approach is made, for example, to a clergyman who has a working relationship with a particular voluntary home, it may simply not occur to him that there is an alternative to a direct placement in the home.
- (d) Those who administer voluntary homes may in some cases be apprehensive lest too close a working relationship with welfare authorities may in the long run prejudice their independent and voluntary character.

These attitudes betray a lack of confidence in welfare authority services, which we feel is, in general, unjustified. To overcome them will be mainly a matter of goodwill on both sides though some positive gestures would be of real help, e.g., some of the welfare authorities might make a rather more positive effort to ensure that there are sufficient Roman Catholic staff at all levels of seniority in their children's homes to make quite sure that the religious upbringing of Roman Catholic children in their care will be safeguarded.

70. On the welfare authority side co-ordination with some voluntary homes may be limited for the following reasons amongst others:

- (a) Some voluntary homes may admit children too readily and without adequate investigation.
- (b) A rigid segregation of age groups and sexes in some voluntary homes renders them unsuitable for many of the children who come into care.

It will not be easy to overcome the first difficulty until the voluntary homes employ suitable field staff or use the services of welfare authorities' staff as recommended in paragraph 30. The second difficulty will remain insuperable for those voluntary homes which continue to cater for a limited age range and for one sex only.

71. We now think it unlikely that co-operation between voluntary organisations and welfare authorities can be greatly improved by formal or statutory arrangements. The best hopes lie simply in increased mutual understanding and sympathy and in an appreciation of what each has to offer for the other. The voluntary homes we feel will have a great deal to lose by standing aloof from the statutory services: those which do so will tend to move steadily away from current standards and practice in child-care, and may end by being regarded as no more than outdated survivals of a bygone age. By working in co-operation with welfare authorities, on the other hand, in addition to the financial security arising from regular payments for children in care, voluntary homes can ensure that they are participating in what should be a comprehensive service and that they have access on a regular and informal basis to facilities which they would otherwise be unable to provide. As for the gains to welfare authorities, the existence of a number of voluntary homes in different areas, catering for various age groups and religious backgrounds, enables them to

the Circular, because they felt that an investigation by Social Services or a voluntary body might prejudice any subsequent investigation conducted by them. They also asserted that all complaints where an offence may have been committed should automatically be referred to them – there should be no discretion. (The Police were also concerned about the discretion recommended in paragraph 13.102 of the Report of the Committee of Inquiry into Children's Homes and Hostels (1986) that 'patently false' allegations of criminal activity need not be referred to them.) These issues took time to resolve; indeed the development of a Joint Protocol setting out a working relationship between the Police and Social Services took several years and, after inexplicable further delay at the Department of Health and Social Services, did not issue until 1991.

7. I do not recall allegations of child abuse in residential settings earlier than those reported in Rubane and Nazareth. That is not to say they did not occur, rather they may not have been reported or recorded or, perhaps they may have been overlooked. In my statement on Rubane, referring to the sixties and earlier, I said that residential care was 'understaffed, underpaid and undervalued'. It was a time when there was a heavy dependence on residential care and it was a Sisyphean task just to keep homes going, both statutory and voluntary. Such was the sympathy for care staff that the idea they might abuse children in their care would have been met with disbelief. The duty of care exercised by field staff in respect of children in care was seriously compromised by there being too few of them and even fewer trained. (Again, in my Rubane statement, I have referred to caseloads.) Subsequently, over the years there was progress. A 1968 Departmental Circular made it a requirement that newly appointed social workers be professionally qualified and, concurrently, universities expanded their qualifying courses. In the late 60's and early 70's there was an influx of qualified staff. Improvements in the status and training of residential child care staff took longer and owed much to a recommendation in the 1986 Report of the Committee of Inquiry into Children's Homes and Hostels that 'The Boards... should introduce parity of pay between residential child care and fieldwork staff, linked to professional qualifications and training (Recommendation 6).

8. The 1970s was a period of significant change in the provision of care for children deprived of a normal home life. The 1950 Children and Young Persons Act, had

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1971

August to pay for the complete overhaul and electrification of the pipe organ, with a new console being placed in the centre of the Church, at the cost of £114.55. We must remember these dear old people in our prayers.

Despite the pressure of the times on all our Benefactors, many of whom are suffering real hardships, they still insist that the collecting Sisters call on them, as they look forward to this visit as a special blessing from God and a consolation in their sorrow.

Mother Gobauit opened the new entrance to Nazareth; the new parlours are already operating quite successfully, as they are more central, the Sisters moved to the new Refectory and community room in time for Christmas.

Bishop Phillin paid us his usual visit on Christmas Eve, He talked to the Sisters for some time and then visited the old people

1971

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Christmas was a very happy time and we had the great privilege of Midnight Mass.

The Forty Hours Adoration began on the Feast of the Holy Family. This was a wonderful ending to a year that had God's blessing on the Community.

During the year we had a surprise visit from St. M. Forces. It was on the night of August 1st. They came as the result of a 'tip off' from a certain newspaper that we had a room full of rifles!

The Soldiers were very courteous and they felt the message was a loss but they were obliged to carry out the orders given them. They carried out their search without upsetting the old people. Of course there were no rifles to be found!

We are very grateful to God that the Sisters have been preserved from danger.

2.0 HISTORY, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Nazareth Lodge has existed as a children's home since 1899, when "Fox Lodge" (formerly a home for Protestant boys) became vacant and was purchased by the Order of the Sisters of Nazareth. Large numbers of boys were admitted and were educated by the Sisters in classrooms within the home. In 1934, at the request of St Patrick's Orphan Society, the Sisters undertook the care of babies. This work continued at Nazareth Lodge until St Joseph's Baby Home was opened in 1953. In the same year the De La Salle Brothers opened a residential school for boys at Kircubbin, Co Down and from then on boys were transferred from Nazareth Lodge to Kircubbin as soon as they reached the age of 11 years. It was not until 1967 that girls were first admitted. In 1972 the wing, known as Bethlehem, was converted into 2 family group units and a little later 2 floors in the main building were also converted for 2 family group units. With a falling demand for places one of the units in the main building has been closed so that at present there are 3 groups with numbers varying between 11 and 14 children in each group.

2.2 The following statement of the aims and objectives of the home was provided by the Mother Superior prior to the inspection:-

- (1) to provide for the care of children in a residential setting
- (2) to provide a caring, stable environment in which the spiritual, physical, emotional and social needs of the child are met

3.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE FACILITY

- 3.1 Nazareth Lodge is a large, 4 storey red-brick building located in grounds extending to several acres. The grounds also accommodate St Joseph's Children's Home, St Michael's Primary School and a nursery school. The home which is set well back from the Ravenhill Road is situated approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the city centre.
- 3.2 The gardens which surround the home are laid out in grass and are well maintained. Apart from the roof and guttering which are understood to require attention the building appears to be in good structural condition. The home has been pleasantly decorated throughout. The use of wallpaper and carpeting and the introduction of lower false ceilings has done much to reduce the institutional appearance.
- 3.3 To the side of the main building has been added a 2 storey 'L' shaped wing. It is known as Bethlehem House and it accommodates 2 of the 3 groups of children at Nazareth Lodge.
- 3.4 The arrangement of the accommodation on the ground and first floors in Bethlehem House and on the 2nd floor of the main building is shown in the sketch plans at appendix A. The bedrooms for both units in Bethlehem are on the first floor. There are 8 single rooms, 6 double rooms and 2 rooms have accommodation for 3 and 4 children. At ground floor level in Bethlehem each unit has its own kitchen, dining-room, sitting-room, study and office. There is adequate

for the registration of the voluntary homes and the power to supervise or inspect the care being provided. The Ministry would also have had to approve all of the residential child care staff appointed by the Management Committee, as this was the case for the Welfare Authorities. To obtain and retain registration, the voluntary homes had to meet specific standards with regard to the accommodation, care and management of the homes.

- 1.31** However, it was very difficult for the Ministry to achieve significant improvement in the large institutions, for reasons that have already been well rehearsed. Also, the increased demand for residential care during the 1960's and 1970's, directly related to the increase in the number of children coming into care and the difficulty in recruiting suitable foster parents, were important factors limiting the opportunities for change.
- 1.32** In the case of the Home, the Ministry provided a substantial grant for the development of the 'Cottage Home' units and enabled care to be provided on a smaller group basis. They may also at this time, have improved staffing levels, as more staff would be required to allow for the reorganisation of the care on a small group basis and in addition, it would have provided an opportunity to recruit more lay staff. This may be the reason why the Home had the highest per capita charge in 1972, as indicated in the following section.
- 1.33** The Ministry of Home Affairs, subsequently the Department of Health and Social Services, had specific responsibilities for the financing of voluntary children's homes with regard to capital expenditure and training of staff. The Welfare Authorities, subsequently the Boards, were responsible for meeting the per capita charge for children they had placed in these homes. In BWA the Finance Department dealt with these matters and liaised with me. Any increase in the maintenance charges was submitted to the Northern Ireland Association of County and County Borough Welfare Committees and the Association recommended the increases to the Welfare Committees. (See Appendix 4)

As already indicated the charge for the Home was increased from £14 to £17 per week with effect from 1st September 1972 and was the highest charge of any of the homes listed. This increase was back-dated to 14th May 1972, the date of the Welfare Committee meeting. These charges were not inclusive of all costs.

- 1.34** There is a section in Belfast Welfare Committee Minutes of 26th September 1972, relating to boys who were privately placed in the Home, being received into care (Appendix 4). At this time all of the privately placed boys were received into the care of the Welfare Authorities. The correspondence in this appendix is self-explanatory.

6.7.6 The system of regular reviews for children placed by a welfare authority ensured that these issues were discussed and assessment of the merits and /or availability of a boarding out arrangement continued. This contrasts with those children that were privately placed for whom no such system was in place.

6.7.7 Some Applicants to this Inquiry, who were placed privately, spent a significant proportion of their childhood within one of the Homes run by the Sisters of Nazareth in Belfast. These particularly include:

- HIA 361: placed 6th October 1941 to 7th July 1952, almost 11 years;
- HIA 30: placed 27th December 1944 to 6th November 1960, almost 16 years;
- HIA 166: placed 31st August 1948 to 1960, 12 years;
- HIA 224: placed 8th March 1949 to 1st March 1966, almost 17 years;
- HIA 430: placed 30th September 1949 to 17th December 1963, over 14 years;
- HIA 197: placed 1949 - 1967, 18 years;
- HIA 52: placed 4th June 1951 to 10th May 1968, almost 17 years;
- HIA 20: placed 21st October 1952 to 10th January 1967, over 14 years;
- HIA 316: placed 1953 - 1967, 14 years;
- HIA 250: placed 30th May 1955 to 16th September 1972, 17 years;
- HIA 21: placed 6th February 1957 to 25th August 1968, 11 ½ years;
- HIA 9: placed 21st January 1960 to 19th December 1974, almost 15 years;
- HIA 62: placed 3rd June 1961 to 15th March 1974, almost 13 years;

6.7.8 Within the Applicants to this Inquiry there are no examples of children that were placed in Nazareth Lodge, Belfast or Nazareth House, Belfast by the welfare authorities at a young age, and who then remained in the Home for such a long period. The HSCB suggests that the systems in place to

ef/2/1

4

SR 220

BY MR CAHILL

- A Q As far as you are concerned, when you are the boss you always remember that you have to go into the ranks again after six years, is that the situation?
A Yes; that is correct.
- Q You feel that you are unfortunate in that you are the boss at the present time and have to give evidence here; is that correct?
A That is very correct.
- B Q First, tell us about the founding of Nazareth Lodge and for how long it has been engaged in the work of looking after children?
A The Order of the Poor Sisters of Nazareth was founded in London in the middle of the last century by a French lady, Victoire Larmenier. The Order was founded for the care of the elderly and for the care of orphans and abandoned children. Over the last 130 years, the same work has been carried on by the Order. Only those who have a vocation and aptitude for this type of work are admitted into the Order.
- C Q In other words, as far as girls or women are concerned, when they apply to join the Order, they know the type of work in which their life is going to be involved thereafter, is that correct?
A That is correct.
- D Q They are considered first of all in relation to their vocation for that type of work before the Order will admit them as postulants, is that correct?
A That is correct; yes.
- Q Would you continue?
A The Sisters first came to Belfast in 1866, and the house now known as Nazareth Lodge was purchased in 1898.
- E Q Where would the finances for the purchase of a house like that come from?
A The congregation had to produce the money.
- Q Is that from voluntary subscriptions?
A Voluntary subscriptions from people round Belfast, mostly, I would say.
- F Q It was founded when, did you say?
A It was founded in 1898; it was bought, and it was used as a boys' home. Then in the early 1970s the building was adapted into family group units, and girls were admitted in 1967 for the first time. At that time, there were five groups of children.
- G Q When you say there were five groups, how many did each group comprise, approximately?
A Twelve. We used to have 60 children then, but the numbers have dwindled.
- Q Has the situation been that five groups have now been reduced to approximately three?
A Three groups, yes. There are 38 children in residence at the moment.
- H Q To what do you attribute the fall in the number of personnel in the home?
A The difference in child care; lots of children are fostered and adopted now that normally would be in our place or places like it.

3.—(1) In these Regulations the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them, that is to say:—

“the Act” means the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland), 1950;

“administering authority” means the person or persons carrying on the voluntary home;

“child” means a person under the age of eighteen;

“Fire Service” means in the area of the County Borough of Belfast the Belfast Fire Brigade and elsewhere in Northern Ireland the Northern Ireland Fire Authority;

“home” means a voluntary home as defined by Section 98 of the Act;

“primary school” has the same meaning as in the Education Act (Northern Ireland), 1947;

“the Ministry” means the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland;

“training school” has the same meaning as in the Act.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889, shall apply to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

4.—(1) The administering authority shall ensure that each home in its charge is conducted in such a manner and on such principles as will further the well-being of the children in the home.

(2) The administering authority shall make arrangements for the home to be visited at least once in every month by a person who shall satisfy himself whether the home is conducted in the interests of the well-being of the children, and shall report to the administering authority upon his visit and shall enter in the record book referred to in the Schedule hereto his name and the date of his visit.

5.—(1) The administering authority shall appoint a person to be in charge of the home:—

Provided that any person in charge of the home immediately before these Regulations come into force shall be deemed to have been appointed to be in charge of the home under this paragraph.

(2) The person in charge of the home shall compile the records referred to in the Schedule to these Regulations and shall keep them at all times available for inspection by any inspector appointed by the Ministry.

(3) The person in charge of the home shall be responsible for the custody of the medical records of each child and shall keep them at all times available to the medical officer or to any inspector appointed by the Ministry.

General provisions governing the conduct of voluntary homes

4.—(1) The administering authority shall ensure that each home in its charge is conducted in such a manner and on such principles as will further the well-being of the children in the home.

(2) The administering authority shall make arrangements for the home to be visited at least once in every month by a person who shall satisfy himself whether the home is conducted in the interests of the well-being of the children, and shall report to the administering authority upon his visit and shall enter in the record book referred to in Schedule 2 his name and the date of his visit.

Appointment of person in charge

5.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) the administering authority shall appoint a person to be in charge of the home.

(2) Any person in charge of a home immediately before these regulations come into operation shall be deemed to have been appointed to be in charge of the home under paragraph (1).

(3) The person in charge of the home shall compile the records referred to in Schedule 2 and shall keep them at all times available for inspection by any inspector appointed by the Department.

(4) The person in charge of the home shall be responsible for the custody of the medical records of each child and shall keep them at all times available to the medical officer or officers appointed by the administering authority under regulation 7 or to any inspector appointed by the Department.

Change of person in charge

6. The administering authority shall forthwith give notice to the Department when a person in charge of a home ceases to be in charge of that home, and of any new appointment to the position.

Medical care and hygiene

7.—(1) The administering authority shall appoint a medical officer for each home in its charge.

(2) The duties of the medical officer shall include—

(a) the general supervision of the health of the children (excluding dental health);

(b) the general supervision of the hygienic condition of the premises;

(c) attendance at the home at regular intervals with sufficient frequency to ensure that he is closely acquainted with the health of the children;

(d) the medical inspection of the children at regular intervals;

(e) the provision of such medical attention as may be necessary;

(f) the giving of advice to the person in charge of the home on matters affecting the health of any of the children or the hygienic condition of the premises; and

(g) the supervision of the compilation of a medical record for each child in the home containing particulars of the medical history of the child before admission, so far as it is known, of his physical and mental condition on admission, of his medical history while accommodated in the home and of his condition on discharge from the home.

J.M.J.+. .

Report on Visitation.

Nazareth House,
Ormeau Road,
Belfast BT7 2HL.
6th - 13th October 1980.

Council Meeting. in connection with the Visitation held on 12th. October 1980.

Presided over by SR 220

Members Present.

Observance of Rule and Religious Discipline There is a good religious spirit in the community and the rule is well observed. The Sisters are punctual at their prayers and at the community exercises. The office is recited with devotion and the Sisters are prayerful. A Religious Priest gives a conference and hears confessions afterwards once a month. A regular confessor comes every fortnight. The Sisters are generous and helpful to one another.

Bursar's Remarks and Bursar's Stores. The Bursar said she gets all that is necessary for the smooth running of the house. Stocks are sufficient and are replenished monthly. The food is well cooked and the menu varied. Wine and spirits are under proper supervision.

Sisters' Part. The Convent is clean and tidy and everything in order.

Chapel. The chapel is beautiful and very devotional. Sacred Vessels and vestments are well cared for and everything pertaining to the chapel is in perfect order. The Tabernacle key is in safe keeping.

Linen room. The Sisters' habits are neatly made and according to regulations. There is a good supply of all that is necessary in the linen room.

Books ordered to be kept. The Account Books and registers are neatly written and are up-to-date.

Employments.

Residents. St. Basil's.	35 Ladies,	13 Men,	2 Priests.	Total 50
Miriam Wing	42 Ladies,	7 Men	1 Priest 1 Brother	Total 51
St. Joseph's Wing	23 Ladies	15 Men		Total 38
			Residents	139.

There are three big employments of Residents in this house and the Sisters in charge of them leave nothing undone to make them happy and content. Their rooms are bright and comfortable and the Residents are happy and appreciate all the Sisters do for them.

<u>Children.</u> St. Martin's Group.	6 Girls	4 Boys	Total 10
Our Lady's Group	6 Girls	4 Boys	Total 10
	Children		20

Two groups of children. The children are well looked after and are happy in their self contained flats. A few of them in one group are attending a special school and need understanding. The Sister in charge of one group is also teaching in St. Michael's School.

Collecting. The two Sisters are well received and have many good friends who have known and respected them for years. Their appearance in our habit has often been favourable commented on.

Personal Background

11. I entered the congregation in 1968 and was professed as a Sister of Nazareth in 1971. I grew up in Glasgow where I saw the work of the Congregation and often helped the Sisters voluntarily as a teenager. Through this, I worked with children and young people who were in the care of the Sisters in Glasgow, before taking the decision to enter the Religious life with the Sisters of Nazareth.

12. I did not live or work in any of the houses which are being investigated but I have known many of the Sisters who did. At the General Chapter in 2012, I was elected as General Councillor and I now reside in Nazareth House, Hammersmith. As the Congregation's Safeguarding Sister, one of my responsibilities is to investigate these sad and disturbing complaints and to search for and collate evidence to assist the Inquiry. I also maintain contact with the Sister in each region responsible for safeguarding. In Ireland that responsibility lies with Sister Victoire Mulligan who is in close contact with the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland (NBSCCCI). As a member of the Congregational Leadership group, I have been asked to be the spokesperson for the Congregation and I am committed to cooperating fully with the Inquiry on behalf of the Sisters.

Nazareth House, Ormeau Road, Belfast

13. In 1876 the Sisters of Nazareth were invited by Bishop Dorrian to establish an old people's home and to care for the children in Belfast, initially in the Bishop's own house on the Ormeau Road. This was renamed Nazareth House, Belfast and opened in May 1876 for the care of the elderly. Adjoining land was soon purchased and building work commenced 1883. The new extension was opened on 14 June 1884. This was the only Foundation House in Ireland made by our Foundress Victoire Larmenier. With the extra space the Sisters met the need of the day in the locale and the care of the children commenced in Belfast. The total number of children cared for was 2,909. Nazareth House ceased providing child care in 1984 and finally closed in 2000.

14. A Primary School existed on the grounds of Nazareth House, Ormeau Road, mainly attended by girls in residential care. The school closed in 1974 when it amalgamated with Nazareth Lodge.

Nazareth Lodge, Ravenhill Road, Belfast

15. In 1897, further accommodation was required, particularly for boys. This led to the purchase of Fox Lodge on the Ravenhill Road. On 18 June 1890, this was opened as a home for boys. At this time a separate school was opened at the Lodge for the boys while the girls continued to be educated at Nazareth House School. Expansion continued and on 15 October 1905, a completely new residence, in the grounds of Fox Lodge, was opened for boys ages 6-14. This became Nazareth Lodge, Belfast. Fox Lodge continued as a home for boys aged 2-5 until 1957 when it closed down and the children transferred to Nazareth Lodge.
16. Over the years, the internal working of the home gradually changed. The home no longer functioned as one large complex. The children were divided into groups with approximately 20 children in each group with a Sister in Charge who was responsible to the Sister in overall charge. This change took place in early 1960's.
17. By this time the Nursery School, which had been on the ground floor of Nazareth Lodge, was well established and was moved into a completely new building, called Bethlehem in December 1961. At the same time a new boy's- primary school was built and opened as Nazareth Lodge Primary School on 25 April 1960. In 1968, the decision was taken to expand the boy's school so that it could also accommodate the girls from Nazareth House Primary School. Building work commenced in 1970 and on 07 September 1974 the new amalgamated school was opened and renamed St Michael's.
18. In 1996, taking into account the changes in residential care for children, the decision was made to close Nazareth Lodge which subsequently closed to admission of children in 1998. The following year the Home was closed and demolished. During the same period, plans were drawn up to build a completely new home for the elderly on the site of the Lodge in Ravenhill Road. Thus, in December 2000, Nazareth House,

Ormeau Road was sold and a new Care Village was opened for the elderly. The total number of children who were resident in Nazareth Lodge totalled 3,708.

Finance

19. There are no records to show that the State provided any financial help in the early years. Our research has shown that, for a period, Nazareth Lodge was certified as a training school and this is supported by some of the entries in our registers which refer to boys being sent by the courts for various reasons. The Sisters received payments from the State for those boys sent through the justice system. The Founding Sisters bore the majority of the stress and anxiety of the financial responsibilities of the entire operation. Many Sisters went collecting donations of money, food or clothing from door to door to care for those children who were in our care. The Sisters were all well received and this became the main source of income. The people of Northern Ireland were exceptionally generous, particularly during the straightened times and hardship caused by the ongoing civil unrest and social disruption. For this the Sisters of Nazareth were and remain grateful to those who gave so generously; these donations provided children in our care with food, clothing and the opportunity of education. Our gratitude to those people remains today and we thank all who helped. Likewise our gratitude to those who left bequests in their wills or who made generous donations. In the Council Book for Nazareth Lodge in the entry for 15th January 1977 there is a record of a former resident being awarded a sum from the Department of Education and making a gift to us of £500.00. It is also noted in the council book for Nazareth Lodge on the 10th June 1986 that Jerry McAuley, a former resident, ran the Belfast Marathon and raised £1000 for the children in our care. Efforts such as these deserve mention and thanks from the Sisters.
20. Records reveal an Appeal Fund in 1950 through which the Sisters of Nazareth received donations to Nazareth Lodge Boys' Home. These records include donors' addresses and the contributions they made.
21. The records held by the Congregation demonstrate that some parents or family members promised to pay a small monthly sum to support their child/children. Some

**Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee**

Material	Dated	Signed
Proposed Constitution of Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee	20 th August 1950	-
Letter to Rev D Mageean	31 st January 1958	Felix Hendron
Letter to Rev D Mageean	2 nd February 1958	Eleanor Kinder
Letter to Rev D Mageean	4 th February 1959	John Connolly
Invitation to Opening of New Club Premises	9 th March 1958	-
Letter to My Lord Bishop	6 th February 1956	Charlie O'Neill

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION

(as agreed at meeting of Committee held 20.8.50)

Further alterations and amendments are shown
in red.

1. TITLE. The Committee heretofore known as "Nazareth Lodge Hostel Fund Committee" shall hereafter be called "NAZARETH LODGE WELFARE COMMITTEE" (hereinafter referred to as "The Committee").
2. CONSTITUTION. The Committee shall consist of men and women interested in the material cultural and spiritual welfare of Past Pupils of Nazareth Lodge. All persons aged 21 years and upwards will be eligible. (The word "Catholic" to be inserted before the word "men", and, after the word "upwards" ~~delete~~ remainder of sentence, and substitute "shall be eligible for membership subject to the provisions of Article 10 hereof").
3. OBJECTS. The main objects of the Committee will be
 - (a) ~~The~~ welfare of Past Pupils of Nazareth Lodge up to the age of 21 years.
 - (b) The provision and maintenance, when funds permit, of a hostel or other accommodation for past pupils.
 - (c) The granting of financial assistance to past pupils of Nazareth Lodge, at the discretion of the Committee.
 - (d) The provision of further training and vocational education at technical or other institutions.
 - (e) To help the Sisters of Nazareth Lodge in their work whenever possible
 - (f) To assist the girls of Nazareth House, at the discretion of the Committee.
(Delete the word "main", and add two Clauses
"g) To do such work as may appear to the Committee to further any of the foregoing objects, and
"h) With the approval of his Lordship the Bishop for the time being of the Diocese of Down and Connor, to co-operate with any other Body of persons in furtherance of the objects of the Committee". Delete "up to the age of 21 years".)
4. SUB-COMMITTEE. The Committee may set up such sub-Committees as may be necessary from time to time to further the objects of the said Committee.
5. OFFICERS. The Officers shall consist of -
President and Vice-president
Chairman and Vice Chairman.
Secretary
Treasurer.
(Add: "The Officers shall be elected by the members of the Committee at the Annual General Meeting. In the event of a vacancy arising during the year, the Council shall nominate a member to fill such vacancy until the next Annual General Meeting.")
6. EXECUTIVE. The Executive shall consist of the above Officers in addition to four other Members of the Committee (Add: "elected by the Committee at an Annual General Meeting. A vacancy on the Executive may be filled as provided for in Article 5 hereof".)
7. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. The Annual General Meeting shall take place on the second Sunday in January of each year. The business of this meeting shall include the presentation of the Secretary's, Treasurer's and Auditor's reports; the election of the Executive and of two Honorary Auditors.

(Page 1 of 2)

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION (contd.)

8. FINANCE. All Accounts due for payment shall be presented and passed by the Committee at each monthly meeting. All cheques authorised for payment shall be signed by the Chairman and Treasurer. (Add: "All moneys not required for current use shall be vested in the President, Vice President and Chairman for the time being of the Committee, provided that, if the Bishop so directs, any property may be vested in such persons as he may nominate. All moneys and property shall be held for the purposes of the Committee.")
9. ALTERATION OF RULES. These Rules may only be changed by Motion at the Annual General Meeting, and notice of such Motion must be in the hands of the Secretary at least 14 days before the date of this Meeting. Any alteration shall require a two-thirds majority. (After the word "Meeting" in the second line of this Article, add: "or at an extraordinary meeting called for that purpose. After the word "majority" add: "of members present and voting".)
10. ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS. (All persons who were members of the Nazareth Lodge Hostel Fund Committee on the day of *February, 1951* shall be members of the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee. New members shall be admitted on the recommendation of the Executive and a simple majority of the members voting at any meeting. The Executive may limit the number of new Members to be admitted, and may exercise such power by withholding their recommendation from any nomination for membership.
11. The Committee shall be under the spiritual direction of his Lordship the Bishop for the time being of the Diocese of Down and Connor, who may nominate a Spiritual Director.
12. WINDING UP In the event of the winding-up of the Committee, all moneys and property shall pass to the Bishop to be applied by him for the objects of the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee, or for such similar objects as ~~may~~ to him may seem just.

Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee

Patron: His Lordship Most Rev. Daniel Mageean, D.D.

Spiritual Director: Rev. Hugh J. Starkey, B.A.
 President: Felix Hendron, Esq.
 Vice-President: James B. Kennedy, J.P.
 Chairman: James Keegan, Esq.
 Hon. Treasurer: Miss E. Kinder.
 Hon. Secretary: Miss K. McDade.
 Welfare Officer: Peter M. Murphy.

H. H. M.
 9 March, 1958.

122 Great Victoria Street,
 Belfast.

Telephone 24342.

31st January, 1958.

Most Rev. D. Mageean, D.D.,
 Lord Bishop of Down and Connor,
 Lisbreen,
 Belfast.

My Lord Bishop,

I am writing to your Lordship on behalf of the above Committee. Since May last our Committee has been re-decorating and re-fitting the new premises at 122, Great Victoria Street, and it is only now that our work is near completion.

We would very much like to have your Lordship bless the building in the presence of the boys and many friends of the Club. We feel that Sunday afternoon would be a convenient time for the majority. In view of this we would be very grateful if your Lordship could perform this ceremony on a Sunday afternoon at a time and date which would be convenient for yourself.

Might we respectfully suggest an afternoon subsequent to March 2nd. Apologising for this intrusion on your Lordship's most valuable time.

I am,

Your Lordship's obedient Servant,

Felix Hendron

President.

Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee

Patron: His Lordship Most Rev. Daniel Mageean, D.D.

*Spiritual Director: Rev. Hugh J. Starkey, B.A.
President: Felix Hendron, Esq.
Vice-President: James B. Kennedy, J.P.
Chairman: James Keegan, Esq.
Hon. Treasurer: Miss E. Kinder.
Hon. Secretary: Miss K. McDade.
Welfare Officer: Peter M. Murphy.*

*122 Great Victoria Street,
Belfast.*

Telephone 24342.

2nd February, 1958.

Most Rev. D. Mageean D.D.,
Lord Bishop of Down & Connor,
LISBREEN.
Belfast.

My Lord Bishop,

Please find enclosed the Report of the Welfare Officer and the Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December, 1957 as presented to the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee at their Annual General Meeting in January past.

Unfortunately our Isle of Man Excursion last year was not the success of other years, and that coupled with the outlays in connection with the new premises in Gt. Victoria Street has left us with a very small balance on hand.

On behalf of the Committee I wish to thank your Lordship for the interest taken by you in our work. Humbly asking your Lordship's blessing on the year that lies ahead.

I am your Lordship's Obedient Servant,


Hon. Treasurer.

MAZARETH LODGE WELFARE COMMITTEE

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 1957

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>
DONATIONS	87 16 3	
PROFITS:		
Lucky Dip	406 0 0	
Jumble Sale	20 17 7	
Treasure Hunt	13 3 10	
Whist Drives	54 9 8	
Isle of Men Excursion	235 10 10	
Bazaar	834 0 7	
BANK INTEREST	21 0 0	
	<u>£1672 18 9</u>	
TOTAL INCOME		
BALANCE: Excess Expenditure over Income	1335 2 0	
	£3008 0 9	
	=====	
Opening Balance	£1913 15 2	
	=====	
		413 18 0
		515 16 5
		800 0 0
		110 9 4
		41 11 7
		<u>1367 15 8</u>
		182 13 8
		24 10 5
		86 17 0
		68 5 0
		15 19 0
		27 11 3
		24 4 6
		<u>239 8 7</u>
		462 5 4
		<u>41 1 3</u>
		£3008 0 9
		=====
		£3008 0 9
		=====
		1335 2 0
		127 12 6
		396 14 2
		30 4 0
		<u>24 2 6</u>
		451 0 8
		<u>£1913 15 2</u>
		=====

WELFARE OFFICERS' REPORT for the year ending 31st. December 1957.

To the Executive and Members of the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee, I now have to present my FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT - the period covered is from 31st. Decr. 1956 to 31st. December 1957.

In Belfast and the Provincial towns of Northern Ireland, grave concern has been expressed regarding the alarming increase in the number of workers who have become redundant and have been obliged to join the ranks of the unemployed during the past year. It will be obvious therefore, that the task of keeping our boys in full time employment, called for more strenuous efforts than in any previous period during the past four years. In spite of this acute problem, I am happy to report, that the vast majority of the boys have been kept actively engaged in their various occupations - a list of which is included elsewhere in this report.

To achieve these results and in order to keep the boys fully employed 96 separate interviews with employers and prospective employers have been recorded during the year. In Belfast and other parts of Northern Ireland 48 boys come directly under the care of the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee. Unfortunately 3 of these boys have been in conflict with the Law and have been committed through the Courts for minor offences; two under the care of Rev. Bro. Stephen, St. Patrick's Training School, Glen Road, Belfast; one at the Borstal Millisle, Co. Down. A further two boys classified as sub-normal, one employed on light work at Nazareth House, the other boy at St. Vincent De Paul's Divis St. Belfast.

Contact has been maintained with another ten of the old boys at work in England and Scotland. In this connection I desire to express my sincere thanks to the Rev. Father R. Murphy, Director of the "Irish Centre" 23 Moat Row B'Ham. England, who has been of much help and assistance to me and is always ready and willing to co-operate in any way possible.

I am happy to report that the vast majority of the boys are now gradually approaching the self-supporting category, so far as wage earning is concerned. The number in need of supplementation to their weekly earnings shows a gradual decrease over the year. Never in any one week during the greater part of the year, has the number exceeded 10 and in some weeks of the year the Subsidy to meet board & lodgings plus a small amount for out of pocket expenses has dropped to as low as 4 or 5 boys. On the other hand, the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Commte. have had an increasingly heavy burden to bear in the provision of wearing apparel including underclothing, suits, overcoats and footwear, in addition to the usual overalls, jeans and other protective clothing to enable them to carry on at work.

When a boy becomes unemployed, either through slackness of work, transfer from one job to another more suited to his ability or aptitude, or because of sickness and in need of Hospital treatment, the appropriate benefits to which he is entitled automatically become operative. In the case of a boy 16 years and over National Assistance is also claimed in addition to the usual unemployment benefit.

EMPLOYMENT DETAILS continued.

Two of the older boys have completed their apprenticeship this year and others are in the 3rd, 4th, and last years, while two have become self-employed, one doing very well indeed on his own account. Another two boys in the younger age group from Rubane House are due to take up courses of instruction in connection with their occupations at the Technical College early in January. Yet another young man will soon complete his training at Trench House to become a member of the Teaching Profession.

Contact has been established with the Joint Wages Council for the Building & Civil Engineering Trades, as also with the Agricultural Wages Board in order to ensure that the appropriate rates of pay applicable to an apprentice are complied with in every case.

Full and complete reports are placed before the Executive of the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee each month in order to keep them fully informed regarding all changes of employment, reasons for dismissal and behaviour while at work, together with any reports or comment from the employer.

ACCOMMODATION & LODGINGS

Our records show that over the years we have made contact with 30 Catholic homes in different parts of the City, where in many cases the mother of a family has opened up her home to the lad who has just made a start in his first job and must learn to fit in with normal family life and get accustomed to an entirely new environment.

Regular and frequent visits to the boy's digs have been made during the year and it has always been my endeavour to find a home within easy access to the boy's place of work so that bus fares can be kept down to a minimum. While single-bed accommodation has always been insisted upon, it is not so easy to get single-room plus full board & lodgings for less than £2.5s. per week. Some of the older lads in the 4th, and last year of apprenticeship, can afford a little more and often agree to pay up to £2. 10s. a week when they find the home congenial and the food reasonably good. As is usual, there have been changes from one address to another though this tendency is less marked than in earlier years and it is worthy of note that many of the boys have continued at the same digs for two or more years. The behaviour of the boys and reports from the homes for the most part give no serious cause for complaint.

RUBANE HOUSE KIRCUBBIN

In September 1953 the first group of young boys left Nazareth Lodge to take up residence at Rubane House, Kircubbin. During the past four years 30 boys have left the shelter of the Home at Rubane to face the world and the future. The first 12 months can be a very critical period for any young boy, especially when he has hardly any specialised training and only a vague idea of the trade or skill he intends to take up. It will be readily understood that in the circumstances, changes of employment are inevitable until eventually he is placed in some occupation where he can feel happy and content at his work. It is during the initial period that the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee comes to his rescue by means of a subsidy to enable him to meet the cost of his digs, to advise and assist him to take his place with his more fortunate fellows and become a useful citizen and a worthy member of the community.

In August 1957 twelve young boys in the 1945/46 age group left Nazareth Lodge for Kircubbin. These new additions bring the total of boys from the Lodge up to 43 now in residence at Rubane House.

The age groups are made up as follows:- 4 boys in the 1942 age group, due to come out in the coming year with promising prospects of work for three of them early in January. There are 9 boys in the 1943 age group; 7 in the 1944 age group and the remainder in the 1945/46 group.

With all of these boys I have made contact several times in the past year and at the request of Rev. Bro. Ignatius a very representative number of the former pupils of Rubane House were present at the first Annual Reunion which took place at Kircubbin on St. Stephen's Day. I am hoping during the coming year to make frequent visits to the Home at Kircubbin so that I may be kept informed of the progress, ability and aptitude of those boys who are due, or will soon be ready to take up employment.

Since all activities including Office and Welfare Administration have now been centralised in one building, a greater measure of co-operation can be achieved and my duties as Welfare Officer can be carried out with greater efficiency as I am now in constant contact with the boys and all Club activities.

It is the moral and spiritual welfare of the boys that must take precedence in all our work, and a room has been set aside in the Club premises for our Spiritual Director Rev. DL 467 who, in spite of his arduous duties is at all times permitting, makes himself available to the boys, and especially on Friday night from 8 - 10 p.m. when they can pay a visit to his room and be sure of a kind and sympathetic understanding of their problems. I feel highly privileged to be associated with DL 467 who has been of great help to me. To all Members of the Executive and Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee I am most deeply grateful.

(Signed) DL 367

Welfare Officer.

For - NAZARETH LODGE WELFARE COMMITTEE.

LIST of NAMES and OCCUPATIONS in which our boys were engaged at 31st. Dec. 1957.

Apprentice Electrician
 Assistant Store keeper & Van helper
 Builder's helper
 Farm worker
 Trainee Teacher
 Apprentice Electrician
 Assistant Store helper Spirit Trade
 Grocery & Provision Business Self-employed
 House-boy at Nazareth House
 Kitchen Porter, Sleive Donard Hotel
 Apprentice Spirit Trade
 Assistant Waiter
 Timber Yard Worker
 Apprentice Painter & Decorator
 Comis Waiter, Grand Central Hotel
 Tiler's helper & labourer
 Apprentice Hackle maker
 Photo Printing & Mechanical Drawing
 Apprentice Cabinet maker
 Mill Worker
 Store & Kitchen Porter
 Kitchen Porter, Imperial Hotel
 Glen Road, Training School
 Farm Labourer
 House boy, Mount Royal Hotel
 Kitchen help " " "
 Store helper Bottle Exchange
 Glen Road Training School
 Self-employed
 St. Vincent's Men's Home
 Qualified Electrician
 Apprentice Baker
 Apprentice Spirit Trade
 Comis Waiter Grand Central Hotel
 Qualified Machinist Harland & Wolffe
 Apprentice Joiner
 Borstal Training School, Millisle Co. Down.
 Apprentice Joiner
 Farm Labourer
 Apprentice Hairdresser, Newcastle
 Assistant Spirit Trade
 Apprentice Cabinet maker
 Assistant Mineral Water Mnfrs.

Contact has been maintained with 10 boys at work in England and Scotland, many of whom were present at the Annual Reunion in Great Victoria St. on Sunday 29th. Dec.

Spiritual Director—Rev. Hugh J. Starkey, B.A.

TELEPHONE 24342

Welfare Officer—Peter M. Murphy

Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee

Patron: His Lordship Most Rev. Daniel Mageean, D.D.

122 Great Victoria Street

Belfast

President—
Felix Hendron, Esq.

Vice-President—
James B. Kennedy, J.P.

Chairman—
Robert Egli, Esq.

Hon. Treasurer—
George Hanna, Esq.

Hon. Secretary—
~~Michael Connolly~~
J. Connolly.

4th February, 1959.

Most Rev. D. Mageean, D.D.,
Lord Bishop of Down & Connor,
"Lisbreen",
Belfast.

Mr Lord Bishop,

I beg to submit the Welfare Officer's Report, Balance Sheet and Statement of accounts as presented by our Treasurer to the Annual General Meeting of the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee held at the end of January. I also enclose the Statement of accounts of St. Augustine's Youth Club, the Youth Organisation under our care.

May I take this opportunity of thanking Your Lordship for the continued interest you have taken in our activities, and humbly beg your Lordship's Blessing on the functions we may decide on during the coming year.

I also wish to convey the hope that Your Lordship's health may continue to improve and that soon you will be restored to your normal strength and vigour.

I am,

Your Lordship's obedient servant,


Hon. Secretary.

WELFARE OFFICERS' REPORT - for the year ending December 1958.

IN THIS my 5th. Annual Report to the members of the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee the period covered is from 31st. December 1957 to 31st. December 1958.

In a review of the past five years, our records show that the number of boys coming directly under the care of the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee have almost doubled. In 1954 contact was established with 33 boys under care. This year the total has risen to 60. Approximately 90% of these boys have been kept actively engaged in reasonably remunerative employment during the past five years. Many of the 'old boys' who have completed their apprenticeships during the period under review can now claim to be on an equal footing with any other man in the community, earning the statutory rate of pay in the profession trade or skill in which they are engaged.

EMPLOYMENT DETAILS : Monthly figures published in the Ministry of Labour Gazette for the year 1958 show no relaxation in the employment situation generally in the Belfast area and Provincial towns of Northern Ireland. This particularly applies to the teen-age groups. The keen competition on every side for the vacancies available do not leave much choice for the applicant/without some elementary training in the trade he desires to take up. Employers are becoming more and more insistent that boys reaching the age of 15 plus - the new school leaving age - must acquire at least a working acquaintance with the necessary tools and other equipment associated with the trade he intends to take up. As the employer points out "we cannot afford in the face of extreme competition to have first year apprentices a liability on the firm; the initial wages at age 15-16 together with the increased National Health Insurance Stamp, makes it imperative that a boy must be of use from the day he begins work with the firm" An opening in the light engineering industry - Sheet Metal Work has been effected during the latter part of the year with promising results for 1959.

Prominent members of the Hotel & Catering business in Belfast, propose opening a school in February this year, where a practical course of training under the expert guidance of a qualified tutor will be undertaken. Demonstrations from time to time will also be given by some of the leading Chefs from Dublin, Edinburgh and London. Many of our boys have been absorbed into this business over the past years, and they will be expected to take full advantage of this special course of training.

In order to keep our boys actively engaged 80 separate interviews with employers and prospective employers have been recorded during the past year. I am happy to report that one boy who obtained his Senior Certificate in 1955 has - due to the encouragement, advice and assistance of the Executive of the Welfare Committee - now entered on his career in the Teaching Profession. His qualification and appointment to the full time teaching staff of a City school in the Falls Road district dates from 1st. January this year. A further 5 boys have also completed their apprenticeships - one to the light engineering, two in the Joinery Trade, one to the Cabinet-making trade and one in the Hotel & Catering business. Another boy due for discharge from the Musgrave Park Hospital where, unfortunately, he has spent the greater part of the year as a patient under treatment, will when he resumes work, enter on his final year as a Wood-machinist with a large firm in the City. In the lower age group we have two 2nd. year and one 1st. year apprentices to the Electrical Engineering. Many of the boys in the 3rd. & 4th. years at work have now come to the stage of self-supporting, so far as wage earning is concerned. This happy state of affairs is reflected in the supplementation to weekly wages, which over the year has been kept at a very low level. A complete list of the various occupations in which our boys are engaged is included elsewhere in this report.

ACCOMMODATION & LODGINGS : Every effort has been made to place the teen-age boy in a good catholic home, where possible with a married couple having a young family of their own, who are willing and anxious to help the less fortunate boy and give him an opportunity to enjoy normal family life. Such homes have been found, and it is a significant fact, that over the years, and in particular the past two years, changes of address have become less frequent, indicating that the boy is happy and content and treated as one of the family. Regular visits to the homes and reports from these good ladies regarding the behaviour of the boys give no cause for serious complaint.

The splendid facilities available to the boys at our Club Premises 122 Gt. Victoria St. where they can spend their leisure hours, has kept them away from any serious conflict with the Law. With the exception of a few minor cases before the Petty Sessions Court, discipline has been well maintained and our thanks are due to the Club Leader and others concerned with the Management of St. Augustine's Catholic Youth Club.

RUBANE HOUSE KIRCUBBIN : During the year under review 12 boys in the 11 plus age-group were admitted to Rubane House from Nazareth Lodge. These new additions bring the total of ex-Nazareth Lodge boys up to 41 in residence at the date of this report. During the same period 7 boys in the upper age group left Rubane House making a total of 36 Kircubbin Boys over a five year period all but one gainfully employed in the City and other Provincial towns in Northern Ireland at date of this report.

Members of the Special Sub-Committee formed in August last to make a detailed study of the vocational requirements of the boys about to take up employment, met officials of the Ministry of Education at a special meeting held at Rubane House on 8th. October. In the main, the discussions centred around the problems confronting the young boy with insufficient training to make himself useful to an employer in the first year of his apprenticeship. What elementary training could be made available? some concrete proposals were put forward for the consideration of the appropriate authority in the Ministry concerned with these matters. It is to be hoped, that as a result of the frank exchange of views a definite improvement in the training of the boys will be achieved in the years that lie ahead.

I have made several visits to Rubane House during the year in order to contact the boys about to leave when they attain the age of 15½-16 to ascertain what ability and aptitude they may have for the jobs that are available. My thanks are due to Rev. Bro. Ignatius who has always made me welcome and extended to me his full co-operation and help in every way.

Many of our young boys between the ages of 16 & 18 are facing the most difficult period of their lives when they leave the shelter of Rubane House to face the world. It is here that our Chaplain [REDACTED] DL 467 who is also Spiritual Director of the Praesidium of the Legion of Mary, attached to the Club can advise and befriend any boy in need of his help. DL 467 and members of the Welfare Committee accompanied by Assistant Mother General of the Community of the Sisters of Nazareth made a tour of inspection at our Club Premises on 3rd. December last. Assistant Mother General expressed her sincere appreciation of the good work being done for the after-care of the boys by the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee.

In conclusion I wish to offer my own thanks to the Executive and members of the Welfare Committee for all the help and encouragement during the past year.

(Signed) [REDACTED]

Welfare Officer.

NAME

OCCUPATION

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT

[REDACTED]	Apprentice Electrician	Mod. Neon Signs, Belfast
[REDACTED]	Store keeper & Van helper	McDevitt & Co. Belfast
[REDACTED]	Farm worker	Craigavad, Holywood, Co. Down
[REDACTED]	Teacher	Raglan St. P.E.S. Belfast
[REDACTED]	Apprentice Electrician	Victoria Electric Co. Belfast
[REDACTED]	Hotel Porter	Imperial Hotel Donaghadee
[REDACTED]	House boy	Nazareth House, Belfast
[REDACTED]	Assistant Chef	Royal Yacht Club, Bangor
[REDACTED]	Assistant Spirit Trade	McLill's Lounge Bar, Divis St.
[REDACTED]	Qualified Waiter	Thompsons Restaurant Belfast
[REDACTED]	Labourer Flour Mills	Provender Co. Ltd. Belfast
[REDACTED]	Trainee Waiter	Wellington Pk. Hotel, Belfast
[REDACTED]	Comis Waiter	Dobin's Castle Hotel C'fergus
[REDACTED]	Unemployed	
[REDACTED]	Tiler's helper & labourer	Granlesse Donegall Pass Belfast
[REDACTED]	Trainee Chef	Royal Hotel Bangor
[REDACTED]	Army Trainee	Thiepval Barracks, Lisburn
[REDACTED]	Hotel Helper	Four Star Hotel, Belfast
[REDACTED]	Van-helper	Romax Ltd. Lower North St. Belfast
[REDACTED]	Cabinet Maker	Coleman & Co. Cullingtree Rd. "
[REDACTED]	Store helper Mineral Waters	McKenna & McGinley Belfast
[REDACTED]	Cafe worker	Mayfair Cafe Royal Ave Belfast
[REDACTED]	Trainee Joiner	Glen Road Training School
[REDACTED]	Sorter & labourer	Belfast Bottle Co. Albert St.
[REDACTED]	Assistant Chef	Wellington Pk. Hotel Belfast
[REDACTED]	Cafe worker	Maple Leaf Cafe High St. Belfast
[REDACTED]	Trainee Garden work	Glen Road Training School
[REDACTED]	Bakers Labourer	Kenmedy's Bakery, Belfast
[REDACTED]	Apprentice Electrician	Mod. Neon Signs, Belfast
[REDACTED]	Farm Worker	McKavanagh Crumlin Co. Antrim
[REDACTED]	Army Trainee	Thiepval Barracks, Lisburn
[REDACTED]	Kitchen/help	Dobbins Castle, Carrickfergus
[REDACTED]	Light engineering	Harland & Wolfe, Belfast
[REDACTED]	Qualified Joiner	Robt. Murray Bldg. Contractor.
[REDACTED]	Corrective Training	Borstal Woburn Ho. Millisle.
[REDACTED]	Qualified Joiner	Pollock & Co. Mount St. Belfast
[REDACTED]	Farm Labourer	Fintona Co. Tyrone
[REDACTED]	Hairdressing	Nugent Hairdresser Newcastle Co. D
[REDACTED]	Farm Labourer	Dummurray Co. Antrim
[REDACTED]	Bar Apprentice	Douglas I. O. M.
[REDACTED]	Wood-machinist	Lees Hymn Lees, Belfast
[REDACTED]	Store Assistant	B.B.C. Refreshment Co. Belfast

Contact has been maintained with the following who left Belfast during 1958.

[REDACTED]

Omagh Co. Tyrone
 London
 Stranraer Scotland
 Birmingham
 Birmingham
 Wiltshire

St. AUGUSTINE'S YOUTH CLUB.

SHOP TRADING ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER 1958.

	CR.
1958.	
Net 31	
To Purchases	£ 239. 2. 1.
By Sales	£ 173. 8. 11.
" Loss at Burglary (estimated)	15. 10. 2
" Stock-in-Trade	24. 9. 3.
" Loss on Trading	25. 13. 9.
	£ 239. 2. 1.

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER 1958.

EXPENDITURE.

To Rates	£ 162. 12. 8.
" Heating & Lighting	99. 4. 9.
" Repairs, Renewals & Painting	340. 5. 3.
" Sports Equipment, Fees etc.,	50. 13. 9.
" Printing & Stationery	12. 11. 5.
" Affiliation Fees	5. 6. 0.
" Miscellaneous	31. 13. 8.
" Loss at Burglary b/d	15. 10. 2.
" " on Trading b/d	25. 13. 9.
	743. 11. 5.

INCOME.

By Club Fees	70. 10. 6.
" Ministry Grant	44. 1. 10.
" Tournament Fees	2. 6. 0.
" Donations	5. 0. 0.
" Bank Interest	- 3. 7.
" Profit on Functions :	
Dance	£ 5. 0. 0.
Ballot	20. 2. 3.
Socials	5. 18. 0.
	31. 0. 3.
	153. 2. 2.
	590. 9. 3.
	£ 743. 11. 5.

LOSS FOR YEAR

£ 743. 11. 5.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st. DECEMBER 1958.

<u>L I A B I L I T I E S.</u>		<u>A S S E T S.</u>	
<u>Sundry Trade Creditors</u>	£ 26. 16. 6.	<u>Cash on Hands</u>	£ 4. 18. 1.
		<u>" in Current A/C</u>	<u>91. 3. 8.</u>
		<u>Stock - in - Trade</u>	24. 9. 3.
<u>Advanced by Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee</u>	742. 11. 3.	<u>Fittings & Equipment at Cost :</u>	
		Trophies	21. 7. 6.
		Oil Heaters	<u>36. 0. 0.</u>
			57. 7. 6.
		<u>Capital Account: being excess of Liabilities over Assets</u>	590. 9. 3.
	£ 768. 7. 9.		£ 768. 7. 9.

C E R T I F I C A T E.

I have examined the books of St. Augustine's Youth Club and certificate from the Ulster Bank Ltd., and certify the foregoing Accounts to be in accordance therewith.

DATE 17/1/1959

S. A. Luddy ACCOUNTANT & AUDITOR
16, WORKMAN AVENUE,
BELFAST.

WELLS LODGE WELFARE COMMITTEE.

STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS AS AT 1st. JANUARY 1958.

L I A B I L I T I E S.

SUNDY CREDITORS:-

Whist Drives 1957	£ 22. 12. 0.
Insurance of Premises	19. 19. 0.
Telephone	24. 17. 4.
Bazaar 1957	70. 17. 6.
I.O.M. Excursion 1957	24. 6. 0.
	<u>182. 11. 10.</u>

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

being excess of Assets over Liabilities

1452. 17. 6.

A S S E T S.

Cash on Hands	£ 30. 4. 0.
Cash in Current A/C : No. 1.	996. 14. 2.
" " do No. 3.	134. 5. 8.
	<u>561. 3. 10.</u>
<u>Fittings & Equipment:-</u>	
Scaffolding & Lighting	86. 17. 0.
Television Set	68. 5. 0.
Card Tables	27. 11. 3.
	<u>182. 13. 3.</u>
Deposit on Premises Gt. Victoria St.	800. 0. 0.
Rent due re 124, Gt. Victoria St.	44. 2. 3.
St. Mary's Hall: Deposit 1958	20. 0. 0.
I.O.M. Excursion 1957	7. 10. 0.
	<u>Amounts due</u>
	<u>£ 1615. 9. 4.</u>

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER 1956.

E X P E N D I T U R E

To Subsidies, Clothing & Lodgings	£ 302. 10. 8.
" Welfare Officer's Salary & Insurance	540. 19. 6.
do. Travel Expenses	11. 16. 3.
" Insurances	46. 12. 6.
" Telephone	44. 1. 3.
" Postage, Printing & Stationery	81. 13. 7.
" Re-Union Expenses	24. 2. 8.
" Cash Stolen- Burglary	43. 16. 10.
" Retreat Expenses	16. 12. 6.
" Miscellaneous	18. 10. 2.
	<u>1130. 15. 11.</u>
" Profit being excess of Income over Expenditure	1867. 4. 3.
	<u>£ 2998. 0. 2.</u>

I N C O M E.

By Donations	576. 9. 4.
By Rent Received 124, Gt. Victoria St.	264. 13. 8.
By Bank Interest	1. 8. 7.
<u>By Profit on Functions:-</u>	
Isle of Man Excursion	£ 994. 8. 10.
Bazaar	857. 1. 9.
Lucky Dip	182. 7. 0.
Jumble Sale	45. 0. 4.
Treasure Hunt	33. 13. 11.
Dance	17. 19. 6.
American Tea	23. 17. 3.
Turkey Drive 1957	1. 0. 0.
	<u>2155. 8. 7.</u>
	<u>£ 2998. 0. 2.</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st. DECEMBER 1958.

LIABILITIES.

Sundry Creditors :-
 Telephone £ 22. 3. 1.
 re Bazaar 2. 15. 0.
 24. 18. 1.
 Rent Received 124, Ct. Victoria St. in advance 22. 1. 2.

ASSETS.

Cash on Hands £ 14. 1.
 Cash in Current A/C 366. 17. 0.
 " on Thrift Deposit A/C 218. 8. 6.
 585. 19. 7.

Fittings & Equipment as at 1/1/58

182. 13. 3.
Additions during year:-
 Bazaar Games 130. 0. 0.
 Filing Cabinet 11. 16. 8
 Typewriter 67. 6. 9.
 391. 16. 8.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT:

Balance as at 1/1/1958 1452. 17. 6.
 ADD: Profit for Year 1867. 4. 3.
 3320. 1. 9.

Deposit on Premises as at 1/1/58 800. 0. 0.
Additions during year 800. 0. 0.
 1600. 0. 0.

Advances St. Augustine's Youth Club 742. 11. 3.

Deposit re Bazaar 1959 20. 0. 0.

Insurance prepaid & unexpired 26. 13. 6.

£ 3367. 1. 0.

£ 3367. 1. 0.

CERTIFICATE.

I have examined the books of Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee and certificates from the Ulster Bank Ltd., and certify the foregoing Accounts to be in accordance therewith.

DATE 14th Jan. 1959.

A. Kelly
 ACCOUNTANT & AUDITOR
 16, WORMAN AVENUE,
 BELFAST.

NAZARETH LODGE WELFARE COMMITTEE

The Committee invite you to the
Formal Opening and Blessing

. . . of . . .

New Club Premises

at 122 GREAT VICTORIA STREET

on *Sunday, 9th March, 1958* at 4 o'clock

. . . by . . .

His Lordship Most Rev. D. Mageean, D.D.

*Subscriptions from those unable to attend will be gratefully acknowledged by the
Hon. Treasurer, 122 Gt. Victoria St., or Rev. H. Starkey, B.A., 122 Gt. Victoria St.*

R.S.V.P.

P. QUINN & CO., LTD BELFAST

Sp. D. Devine & Sons Ltd,
St. George's Market,
Belfast.

6th February 1956.

My Lord Bishop,

Please accept my most humble apology at the liberty I used this evening in telephoning your goodness. Just now I fully realize that my proper method ought to have been in correspondence, still the error is mine, and it can never happen again.

With reference to the Nazareth Lodge House Committee, this body of laity will consist of the following -:

Mr G. Cairns, Glastonbury Avenue. (Law).

Mr J. Mulholland, Fitzwilliam Avenue Solicitor

Mr J. Sloan, Knockenbracken Park. Civil Servant S.P.

Mr A. Lennon, Gallowally " Corporation Official

Mr. Mrs. J. Smith, Teacher.

" C. O'Neill, Managing Director D. D. S. Ltd.

" R. Burns, Commercial Traveller

" Mr. Devine, Clerk.

" J. Kelgan, Civil Servant.

" S. McKenna.

together with some others whose names are listed in the correspondence in connection with the project, and which is at present at my own home, and I am unable to recall their names just at the moment.

The aims of the committee will be:

1. To raise funds to aid the Nazareth Boys Home.
2. To be of assistance at any time to the Rescued Mothers and the Sisters, to any material aid they may call upon us to give to them.

We believe that these two ideals alone would sustain our existence, and in time we are bound to be of greatest advantage still, in all things appertaining to the Home.

Personally, I believe that our labours will enable the Sister to devote more time to the babies, the toddlers, and the young boys, to culture them better for adoption or Rehome, hence that they may be well developed in every possible manner, when they leave to enter public life.

This being so, it will go along way to ease the labours of the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee, a committee that is doing wonderful toil for the after care boys. I have consulted the executive of the welfare committee, whose Chairman Mr Heegan, has very kindly agreed to assist the house committee, and they are overjoyed at our introduction, as we shall alleviate their burdens and give them sole time to look after the after-care boys alone, a task requiring great attention at all times.

In haste I am detailing this brief letter, My love, and trust that you will give us your cherished blessing, and I can assure you personally that our efforts and labours

shall be at all times to your greatest expectations and satisfaction.

Should we be of any assistance to you or your goodself at any time, please understand that you have only to call upon us, and our personal endeavors will always be at your esteemed disposal.

Believe me to be,

Your very dutiful son,


Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee

Material	Dated	Signed
Letter to Rev D Mageean	28 th March 1958	Chairman of Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee
Letter to Rev D Mageean	20 th May 1957	Joseph O'Hara
Letter to Mr O'Neill	5 th March 1956	Bishop of Down & Connor
Letter to Rev D Mageean	2 nd February 1957	Eleanor Kinder
Letter to Rev D Mageean	26 th April 1956	Kathleen McDade
Letter to Rev D Mageean	25 th January 1956	E Kinder
Letter to My Lord	4 th May 1955	Gabriel Cairns
Letter to Rev D Mageean	20 th October 1954	Br Stephen
Letter to Rev D Mageean	29 th November 1954	Gabriel Cairns
Letter to Rev D Mageean	27 th February 1952	E Kinder
Letter to Rev W Philbin	8 th June 1963	Francis X Kennedy

Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee

Patron: His Lordship Most Rev. Daniel Mageean, D.D.

Spiritual Director: Rev. Hugh J. Starkey, B.A.
President: Felix Hendron, Esq.
Vice-President: James B. Kennedy, J.P.
Chairman: James Keegan, Esq.
Hon. Treasurer: Miss E. Kinder.
Hon. Secretary: Miss K. McDade.
Welfare Officer: Peter M. Murphy.

122 Great Victoria Street,
Belfast.

Telephone 24342.

28th March, 1958.

Most Rev. D. Mageean, D.D.,
Lord Bishop of Down and Connor,
"Lisbreen",
Belfast.

My Lord Bishop,

I have been instructed by the above Committee to convey their pleasure on being informed that an improvement has taken place in your Lordship's health following your recent illness. May I hasten to add the hope that this improvement continues until restoration is complete.

The interest which your Lordship has taken in the work of this Committee has at all times been a source of great consolation to us in our work. In this regard your very generous donation, which we received from your Secretary through Father Starkey has been a further proof of your Lordship's interest in our work.

On learning of your Lordship's illness it was the unanimous decision of the Committee to cancel the formal opening, and to await such time as your Lordship would be in a position to carry out the ceremony.

May I therefore on behalf of the Executive and the Committee convey our grateful thanks on this occasion of your very generous gesture. Believe me it will go a long way towards helping us financially in the work we have undertaken.

Promising a continued remembrance of your Lordship in our prayers.

I am,

Your Lordship's obedient Servant,


Chairman.

JOSEPH O'HARA & SON,
SOLICITORS.

JOSEPH O'HARA,
JAMES O'HARA, LL.B.

TELEPHONE No. 30122.

59 ROYAL AVENUE,
(OPPOSITE GENERAL POST OFFICE)

BELFAST.

20th May, 1957.

Your Lordship,

Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee.

We are acting for the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee in the acquisition of premises Nos. 122 and 124 Great Victoria Street Belfast from Thomas C. Kelly of 8 Waring Street Belfast Estate Agent. As your Lordship may already know final agreements have been reached subject to your Lordship's approval - that the premises should be acquired by way of Lease for the term of 10 years from the 1st day of May 1957 at a yearly rent of £800 payable annually in advance with an option to the Committee to purchase the premises on the 1st day of May 1967 for the sum of £4,000 to be paid on that date, the said sale to be carried out by way of Lease for the term of 880 years from 1st May 1967 at an annual rent of £50.

If these terms meet with your Lordship's approval, we would be glad to receive a list of the Trustees in whose names the property should be acquired.

Would your Lordship also please let us know as to whether the Declaration of Trust to be executed in respect of these premises should declare the usual general diocesan charitable trusts, or whether the trusts should be exclusively for the purposes of the Welfare Committee.

We are,
Your Lordship's obedient servants,

Most Reverend Daniel Mageean, D.D.,
"Lisbreen",
Somerton Road,
BELFAST.

SOH/KM.

5th March, 1956.

Charles O'Neill, Esq.,
C/o Messrs. D. Devine & Sons Ltd.,
St. George's Market,
Belfast.

My dear Mr. O'Neill,

Thanks for your letter of 6th February. It raised certain difficulties and doubts which I wished to resolve before coming to a decision, and the delay is due to my having to make the relevant enquiries.

First of all, I should wish to thank all those who agreed to act as members of the proposed House Committee for Nazareth Lodge. I appreciate deeply their interest in the Institution.

In connection with Nazareth Lodge there is already a Welfare Committee in existence, which has done magnificent work over the years for the Boys who have passed through the Lodge and which has, in addition to its welfare work, made substantial subventions to Nazareth Lodge itself. This Committee is now contemplating further developments, and I am strongly of the opinion that setting up another Committee would cut across their efforts, both by curtailing their income and by confusing the minds of the public with regard to the objects of the two Committees.

In addition to the Welfare Committee the St. Vincent de Paul Society is assisting in the maintenance of some boys in the Home, and the Diocesan Orphan Society has had to finance both the erection and equipment and the running expenses of the Babies' Home up till the present. Furthermore, since Rubane House was established the boys of 11+ are transferred to it or are adopted in private homes. The number of boys, therefore, in Nazareth Lodge must be smaller than in the past when there has been no such House Committee. In brief, Nazareth Lodge is getting more financial support now than in the past from various sources at a time when its numbers are actually smaller than formerly. Moreover, the appeals to the Catholic public that are now being made for schools, halls, Churches and

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institutions are so many that I should be reluctant to tax their resources further at the present time.

I am not convinced, therefore, of the expediency or of the real need just now for a House Committee for Nazareth Lodge and regret that I am unable to accede to your request for approval of it.

With kindest regards,
I am, very sincerely yours,

Bishop of Down and Connor.

Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee.

President : GABRIEL CAIRNS
Chairman : JAS. KEEGAN
Hon. Treasurer : MISS E. KINDER
Hon. Secretaries : MISS K. McDAOR
 MISS O'REILLY
Welfare Officer : E. M. MURPHY

34 BERRY STREET,

BELFAST.

Telephone: 24342

2nd February, 1957.

Most Rev. D. Mageean, D.D.,
Lord Bishop of Down & Connor,
Lisbreen.
BELFAST.

My Lord Bishop,

Following on our Annual General Meeting of the above Committee I hereby enclose the Income & Expenditure Account for the year ending 12th January 1957.

The Committee would respectfully draw your Lordship's attention to the large decrease in Subsidies to the boys as compared with last year's figure - approximately £400 of a decrease.- This is accounted for mainly by the Welfare Officer being able to keep the majority of the boys in fairly constant employment during the year

The No. 2 A/c is for Nazareth Lodge. Since furnishing your Lordship with last year's report the Committee have handed over £1,630 to the Rev. Mother.

I also enclose the Welfare Officer's report as presented to the Annual Meeting. I apologise for the length of it, but it gives a very full report of the year's work.

The Committee wish me to convey to your Lordship their grateful thanks for the deep interest you have taken in their work during the year.

I am,

Your Lordship's obedient servant,

Eleanor Kinder

Hon. Treasurer.

NAZARETH LODGE WELFARE COMMITTEE.

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT No. 2 A/C. YEAR ENDING 12th JANUARY 1957.

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Proceeds of Flag Day 1956	1118 11 3	Outstanding Accounts - Bazaar 1955	49 0 0
		Flag Day Expenditure	288 18 11
TOTAL INCOME	<u>1118 11 3</u>	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>£337 18 11</u>
		Balance: Excess Income over	780 12 4
		Expenditure	<u>£1118 11 3</u>
			=====
Balance: Excess Income	780 12 4	Cheque to Rev. Mother 2/2/56	800 0 0
Add Opening Balance:		" " 12/9/56	750 0 0
Cash in Bank	849 8 6	" " 30/10/56	80 0 10
	<u>£1630 0 10</u>		<u>£1630 0 10</u>
			=====

NAZARETH LODGE WELFARE COMMITTEE.

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT No. 2 A/C. YEAR ENDING 12th JANUARY 1957.

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Proceeds of Flag Day 1956	1118 11 3	Outstanding Accounts - Bazaar 1955	49 0 0
		Flag Day Expenditure	288 18 11
TOTAL INCOME	<u>1118 11 3</u>	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>£337 18 11</u>
		Balance: Excess Income over	780 12 4
		Expenditure	<u>£1118 11 3</u>
			=====
Balance: Excess Income	780 12 4	Cheque to Rev. Mother 2/2/56	800 0 0
Add Opening Balance:		" " 12/9/56	750 0 0
Cash in Bank	849 8 6	" " 30/10/56	80 0 10
	<u>£1630 0 10</u>		<u>£1630 0 10</u>
			=====

The duty which falls to me this evening is one which I approach with very great pleasure indeed. For the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee is a body whose efforts I have watched with admiration through the years. They are a group of Catholic lay people who have formed a most competent and efficient organization with the object of helping the Orphan child. According to their Constitution their primary purpose is to help and to finance boys who have been brought up in Nazareth Lodge.

They discharge this very worthy task in two ways. Firstly by giving financial support to the Sisters of Nazareth who care for the boys from their early years. The extent of this financial help is very substantial. Let me give you some figures of it. During the year 1955 the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee raised £1,605 for the Sisters. In addition they spent over £200 in buying clothes for the boys who were transferred from Nazareth Lodge to Rubane House on reaching the 11 age group. Only last month this splendid Committee paid over to the Reverend Mother £830, the proceeds of this year's flag day.

But the Committee has another function to fulfil and I cannot help feeling that it is a more fundamental one. There inevitably comes a time when the Orphan boy must leave the sheltering care of the institution, stand on his own feet and face the world. It is during this critical, transitional stage that the Committee steps forward to see that he does not face it alone. They try to take the place of father and mother - by finding employment for the boy, by finding him suitable living accommodation, by supplementing his meagre earnings so that he may pay his way in decency and still have something left to spend; by providing clothing and footwear; by having a full-time salaried Welfare Officer to look after the needs of the boys and to pay monthly visits to their homes and their employers; by providing a Club where the boys may spend their leisure time in useful pastimes and amusements. Finally, and most important of all, by acting as friend and counsellor to any boy who may stand in need of advice. The Committee is fortunate to have in Father Hugh Starkoy a Chaplain whose zeal and self-sacrifice in attending to the spiritual welfare of these boys is beyond all praise.

But don't come to the conclusion that it is the aim of the Committee to make these boys dependents for life. On the contrary their object is to see the fledgling take wing for himself. They try to place the boys in trades in which, after a few years, they will be able to earn sufficient money to place them on an equal footing with any other man in the community - even if that other man had the advantage of parents and good home life. Ultimately, they would hope to see the young men happily married, with homes of their own and surrounded by all the joys of family life.

How far have the Committee been successful in achieving these purposes? At the moment there are 45 boys under their care. Last year 25 boys were placed in jobs. Some of them are Builders, Plasterers, Electricians, Cinema Operators, Assistant Chefs, Mechanics. One boy obtained a scholarship and is now completing his training for the teaching profession. All this

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costs money and in the past year the Committee spent £1500 on Subsidies, Lodgings, Clothing and Welfare Officer's Salary. Club expenditure including rent and maintenance was £250. Office expenses amounted to £220. In all, expenditure on after-care during 1955 was almost £1,800 and this is no addition to the substantial financial support given to the Sisters of Nazareth for the Boy's Home.

Now these splendid workers see a threat to their good work. They realise that they are in danger of losing much of the fruits of their efforts. The work is in peril because the attractions outside the Club are luring the boys away from it. Remember that these boys are teenagers who are beset on all sides by the tempo of modern life. The premises at present in use for Club purposes are inadequate. Moreover, they are in a poor state of repair. The most pressing need of the moment is proper Club premises and the Committee are fully alive to this need. After long and careful deliberation, they have decided this year to devote the proceeds of the Bazaar towards a special fund for the provision of proper Club premises with all the amenities and attractions that will further the good work.

Our best wishes go out to the Committee for this great endeavour. In view of it, I appeal to you with all the earnestness I can, to support this Bazaar most generously. To give not only what you can afford and never miss; but to keep on giving until it hurts a little. As a community, we can be proud that there are amongst us, men and women voluntarily and fully giving their time and their talents to this truly noble cause. But as a community we should feel ashamed if there were to be halted or even restricted through lack of financial support from the rest of us.

WELFARE OFFICERS' REPORT for the period ending 31st. December 1956.

IN THIS my third Annual Report to the Executive and Members of the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee, the period covered is from 31st. December 1955 to 31st. December 1956.

Before dealing with the employment situation I should like to refer back to my report in 1954 when contact was established with 33 boys, only 13 of whom could be classified as self-supporting, the remaining 20 being partially subsidised by the Welfare Committee. The position to-day as regards these early contacts, has, as may be expected, materially altered. In the first place, 19 of the 33 have attained the age of 21 years. Nine of these young men are now working in England. Another nine in various parts of Northern Ireland and one in the Merchant Navy, all of whom come under the category of self-supporting. In this group two of the young men have been married during the past year and have set up homes in England. Contact with all but three of the boys in England has been maintained. Many visits have been recorded both at our Berry St. Office and at the Club premises in King St of boys on holiday from the English cities where they are employed. Useful and valuable information has been collected regarding their rates of pay, living conditions, etc. Two boys have been re-united with their families, one in Harrogate and another in Slough, Buckinghamshire.

We now have 14 of the 1954 contacts still under care at this date but at least six of these have reached the self-supporting class. One boy is continuing his studies at Trench House Training College another has completed his apprenticeship to the Electrical Trade. A further three boys are entering on the 4th. & 5th. year of their apprenticeship. One at M/s. Harland & Wolffe, one in the Joinery trade and one at the cabinet making trade

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RUBANE HOUSE KIRCUBBIN

In 1954 there were 25 Nazareth Lodge boys in residence at Kircubbin. In July of that year the first 5 arrived in Belfast, and towards the end of 1955 the number had risen to 13. During the current year the remaining 12 boys from the original 1954 group were placed in various occupations - a list of which is included elsewhere in this report - in the City and Provinces. The vast majority of these boys, in the initial stages of employment become dependent on the Welfare Committee for the full subsidy allowance and in particular, the provision of clothing and footwear has always been a heavy drain on the resources, and this year has proved no exception to the rule. Nevertheless I am happy to report that even in this class many of the boys are making the grade, and I pay tribute to the tenacity of those who have held on to their original occupations and are now entering on the second and third year of apprenticeship and will soon be joining the ranks of the self-supporting category.

The first six months of the current year could be fairly described as a period of full employment. This happy state of affairs continued with little change up to the end of September. During the latter part of October and early November 4 boys engaged in the Catering Business became redundant owing to the seasonal nature of their occupation. Fortunately 3 of the boys were in the 16 age group and qualified for National Assistance in addition to the usual unemployment benefit. It is a great hardship on a boy who has not reached the age of 16 and who becomes unemployed, he is denied the additional necessary help of National Assistance.

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I have at all times endeavoured to extract the full maximum benefits due to our boys, but I regret to say that although they are quite familiar with the procedure regarding the regulations prescribed by the Ministry, in order to obtain such benefits, they sometimes, which would appear either deliberately or through sheer carelessness ignore the instructions and thereby render themselves liable to a six weeks suspension of the necessary benefits to which they are entitled. This attitude of Could'nt-care-less has put an additional strain on the Welfare Funds and two boys are at present undergoing a period of suspension of benefits on account of their bad working records and entire disregard of the Ministry's normal requirements.

Towards the end of the present year two boys from the 14/16 age group who had been on a trial period proved to be unsuitable and as it was not possible to place them in alternative employment at the time they were re-admitted to Kircubbin. Both boys have been rated as sub-normal educationally and very far below average in intelligence, but together with three others in the same grade still resident at Rubane House, every effort will be made to find some kind of suitable employment early in the new year.

During the year 3 young boys from Nazareth Lodge were admitted to Kircubbin. These additions brings our total of young boys born between 1942 -1945 up to 24 together with the 5 older boys already mentioned, making the total at the date of this report 29 Nazareth Lodge Boys now resident at Rubane House, Kircubbin.

CHANGES of OCCUPATION & UNEMPLOYMENT

Apart from the six boys mentioned earlier in this report who are entering on the 4th. & 5th. year of their apprenticeship, many changes of occupation were necessary in order to keep the rest of the boys actively engaged. In the case of eleven boys in the 15/17 age group. no fewer than 28 different changes of employment have been recorded during the year. Altogether approximately 44 employers have been contacted and interviewed both in the City and also at Antrim, Larne, Lisburn, Newry and Rostrevor. One boy through the good offices of Rev. Brother Benignus, obtained suitable employment as apprentice mechanic in a Dublin garage. It is only fair to say that most of the changes were due to slackness of work and sometimes to unsuitability of the boy for the job in question, but I am bound to add that in many instances the responsibility for this state of affairs rested entirely on the boys themselves. Bad time keeping being the principal cause.

A monthly report has been prepared and furnished to the Executive Committee, giving reasons for dismissal, changes of occupation and behaviour of the boys while at work, together with reports and comments from the employers.

ACCOMMODATION & LODGINGS

Suitable accommodation convenient to the place of work has not always been easy to find. The terms for board lodgings has varied according to the nature of the employment. Some boys in the catering trade get most of their meals on the job. In cases of this kind accommodation can be arranged for £1. 10/- to £1. 15/- per week. On the other hand, where full board is required, it is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain this for less than £2. per week. During the past year there has been a tendency on the part of some landladies to make a demand for higher rates owing to the increased cost of living. Another item under consideration at the moment is the question of the boys laundry. This in some cases may be an additional expense.

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ST. AUGUSTINE'S YOUTH CLUB

During the closed season extensive renovations were undertaken by the boys themselves, under the supervision of the Legion of Mary. Since the beginning of the new season monthly meetings have been a regular feature, at which our Chaplain DL 467 takes a special interest in the boys and avails of the opportunity of having a short talk on the all-important subject of their spiritual welfare. 23 of the boys together with members of the Praesidium and the Welfare Committee made their Annual Retreat at Mount St. Clements Ardglass on 28/29 July last. After the lecture tea is provided by the ladies of the Welfare Committee, and this item is very much appreciated by the boys. These monthly meetings also provide an opportunity for the boys to ventilate any grievances and offer constructive suggestions regarding the running of the Club.

Members of the Welfare Committee keep a watching brief on all the activities, and from time to time address the boys and offer useful and helpful advice. An added attraction to the amenities of the Club has been the acquisition of a television set recently installed and gratefully appreciated by the members of the club.

The concluding event took place on Christmas day, when at the invitation of the Welfare Committee, the boys of Nazareth Lodge were entertained to High Tea in the Whitehall Cafe. Our treasurer Miss Kinder took an active part in the arrangements for this function and was ably assisted by the President of the Praesidium, NL 70 and Officers of the Legion of Mary. Then to round off a most enjoyable afternoon an invitation was extended to all for a visit to the Concert in St. Mary's Hall on Christmas night. On my own behalf and that of the boys I sincerely thank the members of the Welfare Committee.

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Once again I wish to extend my grateful thanks to our Chaplain Re. DL 467 [REDACTED] who in spite of his arduous duties both at Nazareth Lodge and to the Forces at Hollywood, has at all times made himself available to aid and assist me, when confronted with the many and varied problems which needed his kind and sympathetic understanding.

To our President and Chairman for their encouraging help and guidance. To the members of the Welfare Committee for their un-failing attendance at the Friday night Rota, where they made contact with the boys and were ever ready to help and assist in every way.

To each and every one I am most grateful,

(Signed)

DL 367 [REDACTED]

P.M. Murphy,

Welfare Officer,

For → NAZARETH LODGE WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee.

President: JAS KEFGAN
Chairman: GABRIEL CAIRNS
Hon. Treasurer: MISS E. KINDER
Hon. Secretaries: MISS K. McDADE
 MISS P. McCANN
Welfare Officer: P. M. MURPHY

34 BERRY STREET,
B E L F A S T.

Telephone :

26th April 1956.

Most Rev. D. Mageean D.D.
Lord Bishop of Down & Connor.
"Lisbreen".
Belfast.

My Lord,

The Committee has been informed by the Police that they would be prepared to issue a permit for the holding of a Flag Day on Saturday 4th August next. So far as we can ascertain no other Catholic Body proposes to hold a Flag Day within a month prior to, or subsequent to that date.

Before taking any steps in the matter, the Committee respectfully request Your Lordship's permission to hold the Flag Day.

I am.

Your Obedient Servant.

..... *Kathleen Mc Dade*

Hon. Secretary.

Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee.

President : JAS KEEGAN
Chairman : GABRIEL CAIRNS
Hon. Treasurer : MISS E. KINDER
Hon. Secretaries : MISS K. McDADE
 MISS P. McCANN
Welfare Officer : P. M. MURPHY

34 BERRY STREET,
BELFAST.

Telephone :

25th January, 1956.

Most Rev. D. Mageean, D.D.
Lord Bishop of Down & Connor,
Lisbreen,
BELFAST.

My Lord Bishop,

I hereby forward to your Lordship the
Income & Expenditure Account as presented to the
Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee at their Annual
General Meeting, on 8th inst.

I have also been requested to enclose
the Welfare Officer's Report as presented at the
same Meeting.

On behalf of the Committee I wish to
thank your Lordship for the interest you have taken
in our work in the past, and wish you continued good
health in the year ahead.

I am,

Your Lordship's obedient servant.


Hon. Treasurer.

NAZARETH LODGE WELFARE COMMITTEE.

STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING 6th JANUARY, 1956.

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>
Profit from Excursion A/c	1179 8 4	
" " Dance Committee	5 0 6	Subsidies, Lodgings & Clothing for Boys 968 1 2
" " Jumble Sale	42 9 9	Welfare Officer's Salary & Insurance 534 10 0
" " Holywood Dance	10 0 0	King Street Club: Rent, Rates, Gas & Electric 186 4 6
" " Lucky Dip Draws	197 6 1	Club Expenditure 52 3 11
Subscriptions	89 10 0	Berry Street Office: Rent, Rates, Gas & Electric 62 2 7
Proceeds of Kingsway Dance	50 12 2	Duplicator 37 6 7
" " Colleges Union Dance	168 12 0	Office Expenditure 111 1 3
Refunds towards Dinner	2 18 6	Deposit for Hire of St. Mary's Hall for 1956 20 0 0
Sundries	12 0 0	
TOTAL INCOME for year	1780 9 10	TOTAL EXPENDITURE for year 1971 10 0
BALANCE: Excess Expenditure over Income	191 0 2	
	£1971 10 0	£1971 10 0
	=====	=====
Balance at 7th January 1955:		
Cash in Bank 1228 4 10		
Cash on Hands 11 10 0	1239 14 10	
Add Outstanding A/cs due	16 2 6	
	£1255 17 4	
	=====	
		BALANCE: Excess Expenditure over Income b/d 191 0 2
		BALANCE at 6th January 1956:
		Cash in Bank
		No. 1A/c 833 13 8
		No. 3 A/c 206 1 3
		Cash on Hand 25 2 3
		1064 17 2
		£1255 17 4
		=====

NAZARETH LODGE WELFARE COMMITTEE

NO. 2 A/C.

STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING 6th JANUARY, 1956

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>
Profit from Mannequin Shows	11 8 6	Cheque handed Rev. Mother
" " Concert	84 8 0	27/2/55 78 8 8
" " Dance Committee	14 7 8	" " " 10/10/55 850 0 0
" " Flag Day	806 6 3	Sundry Accounts paid 64 8 8
" " Bazaar	677 15 9	
Mrs. Morelli's Special effort	<u>10 10 0</u>	
	1604 16 2	

BALANCE: at 6th January 1956:
Cash in Bank 849 8 6

Add: BALANCE at 7th Jan. 1955:
Cash in Bank 190 14 0

Outstanding A/cs due 46 15 0

£1842 5 2	£1842 5 2
=====	=====

Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee.

President: JAS KEEGAN
Chairman: GABRIEL CAIRNS
Hon. Treasurer: MISS E. KINDER
Hon. Secretaries: MISS K. McDADE
MISS P. McCANN
Welfare Officer: P. M. MURPHY

34 BERRY STREET,
B E L F A S T.

Telephone:

COPY.

WELFARE OFFICERS REPORT for the period ending 31st. December 1955.

IN THIS my second report to the members of the Welfare Committee the period covered is from 17th. December 1954 to 31st. December 1955

In response to a request from our Chairman in April last year, I prepared a report for Dr. Tohill who was then engaged in compiling a survey on after-care, with particular emphasis on the work of the Voluntary Organisations. The report dealt mainly with the work we are doing for the boys who leave Nazareth Lodge, and the methods we employ in putting that work into effect. The report was completed and forwarded to Dr. Tohill on 27th. April 1955.

EMPLOYMENT DETAILS

In February last year, three of our boys who were finding it difficult to obtain steady work in Belfast, decided to seek work in England, and left for Birmingham where the prospect of work was more attractive. At intervals during the first six months of the year, a further six boys - all from the upper age group - left Belfast for London, Manchester, Blackpool, and Scotland. Contact has been maintained with all but two of these boys, and their names and addresses have been forwarded to **DLA 468** St. Paul's Presbytery, Belfast, who in turn will pass on the information to the Legion of Mary Headquarters in the English centres where our Boys are located. I am pleased to report that six of the boys have visited Belfast during the holiday season, called at our Office in Berry St. and were frequent visitors at our Club in King St. where they renewed their acquaintance with the other members of the Club. From conversations I have had with these boys, they appear to be doing well, look prosperous and happy, and have given me details of the type of work in which they are engaged, rates of pay, accommodation charges etc.

At this date we have 14 boys working in Belfast, who come under the category of "self-supporting i.e. in so far as wage earning is concerned. We therefore have 24 boys - which includes those now in England - as compared with 13 at the same period last year, who can be classified as in this category. This is reflected in the weekly subsidy payments, which during the latter part of the year has shown an all-time low-level record. It must be remembered of course, that many of these 14 boys are still dependent on the Welfare Committee for clothing and footwear allowances from time to time.

Nine of the 14 in this group have held on to their original occupations, and have now entered on the 3rd. and 4th. year of their apprenticeship. Soon they will be reaping the rewards for the perseverance they have made in the particular trade or skill in which they have been engaged.

Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee.

President: JAS KEEGAN
 Chairman: GABRIEL CAIRNS
 Hon. Treasurer: MISS E. KINDER
 Hon. Secretaries: MISS K. McDADE
 MISS P. McCANN
 Welfare Officer: P. M. MURPHY

34 BERRY STREET,
 BELFAST.

Telephone :

Employment Details Continued.

RUBANE HOUSE KIRCUBBIN

Our Records show that at the time of my last report in December 1954, seven boys from the 15/16 age group had arrived from Kircubbin and were already at work in the City. Towards the end of September 1955 another six boys had been added to this number, making a total of 13 boys at this date, all from Rubane House, and all gainfully employed in various occupations - a list of which is included elsewhere in this report. It will be readily understood, of course, that the wages paid in the initial stage of employment is quite inadequate to meet the needs of the boy, and that the vast majority in this group will be dependent on the Welfare Committee for the full subsidy allowance. I am happy to state, however, that in the case of four of the boys in this section, their earnings are such, that they can now be numbered among the "self-supporting" category of the older age group. In passing I would like to pay a special tribute to all our younger lads, who are doing their best in nearly every case to make the grade. Employers have made this clear to me on many occasions during the course of my visits to them, and I am pleased to record that complaints have been less frequent than was the case in my last report.

There are still three boys in this age group at Rubane House for whom employment will be available in the early part of 1956. On 23rd. August last, in company with the Vice-President, Mr. Egli, we transferred ten young boys from Nazareth Lodge to Kircubbin - all within the 1942/44 age group. These latest arrivals bring our total up to 32 Nazareth Lodge boys now in residence at Rubane House.

UNEMPLOYMENT etc.

As must be expected, there have been changes of occupation during the past year, and at least 6 in the 17/19 age group have been in and out of work at various times. It was through the good offices of the **DL 467** that an opening was found in St. McNissi's College at Carron Point, where work of a suitable nature was obtained for three of these boys, together with full board and lodgings, plus adequate remuneration. Unemployment has been less prevalent than in the corresponding period last year, but this may be due in some measure to the fact, that a number of our boys have taken up work in England.

The position at this date is as follows:- One boy who has completed 3½ years as an apprentice Plasterer, had been paid off when the firm closed down some months ago. He received a very good reference, and has just finished a spell of temporary work at the G.P.O. Two of the boys are at present in Hospital undergoing treatment. A fourth boy in receipt of National Assistance, is at St. Vincent de Paul's Men's Home, Divis St. The fifth boy has not been able to work during the past year, but is receiving the full rate of Disablement Benefit. In all these cases, the boys concerned are now in receipt of the appropriate benefits and the maximum amounts to which they are entitled.

Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee.

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 Chairman: GABRIEL CAIRNS
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34 BERRY STREET,
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Telephone:

ACCOMMODATION and LODGINGS

Regular and frequent visits to the "digs" where our boys are in residence, have been carried out during the year, and I have at all times stressed the importance of separate room and single-bed accommodation wherever possible. The idea of single-bed accommodation is now an accepted principle by all Landlady's, but the request for single room at the rate of £2. per week, plus full board is not always easy to obtain. However, in the case of those boys who are being subsidised, any request for an increase has been strenuously resisted, and we can still secure single-bed accommodation with full board for £2. per week, in spite of the increased cost of living, at the same time within easy access to the place of work, so that bus fares can be greatly reduced, and in many cases eliminated altogether. A few of the older boys, no longer on the subsidy list, and whose financial position has improved in the fourth year of apprenticeship can afford, and often do, pay up to £2. 5s. per week.

As is usual, there have been a number of changes from one address to another, and a few minor incidents have occurred, but on the whole, the behaviour of the boys, and the reports from their landlady's give no cause for serious complaint.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S CLUB

Under the capable direction of the Legion of Mary - Our Lady of Nazareth Praesidium - the Club in King St. has had a year of steady progress. Meetings are held on each evening except Monday, and our boys have taken full advantage of the facilities offered, by joining in active participation in the many fixtures arranged in connection with the Down & Connor League. Other outside Clubs have met in competition, and been entertained at the Club, and in turn our members have visited the C.B.P.P.U. Star of the Sea, and St. John Bosco Clubs where fixtures had been arranged for Table Tennis, Senior Darts competitions etc. I would like in passing to offer my sincere thanks to the **NL 70** and the other Officers of the Praesidium for their untiring efforts, in this very arduous and heavy task, which has been carried out in an admirable manner during the past year.

ST. CLEMENT'S RETREAT ARDGLASS

Definitely the outstanding event of the year, was the enclosed Retreat held at Ardglass from the 6th. - 8th. of August last. Mr. **NL 40** and members of the Legion of Mary accompanied the boys who were well represented, the attendance averaging 65%. Practically all of the boys being subsidised by the Welfare Committee were present. Excuses for non-attendance were offered on behalf of a number of the older boys who were unable to attend. It was most gratifying to note that the boys conducted themselves well and carried out all exercises of the Retreat in a most exemplary manner.

FUNCTION in WHITEHALL CAFE

The concluding event of the year took place on Christmas Day, when at the invitation of the Welfare Committee, the boys of Nazareth Lodge were entertained to High Tea in the Whitehall Cafe. Our Treasurer Miss Kinder, took an active part in the arrangements and the function was a highly successful one. When the boys had thoroughly enjoyed themselves in the Whitehall, there was yet another surprise in store for them, as our Chaplain DL 467 had earlier in the week booked seats for the Concert in St. Mary's Hall presented by the Legion of Mary on Christmas night. Four ex-Nazareth boys on holiday from England were also present, and together with members of Our Lady of Nazareth Praesidium, approximately 30 - in all had a most enjoyable evening. On my own behalf, and that of the boys I sincerely thank our Chaplain and the members of the Welfare Committee for this excellent entertainment, which was very much appreciated by each and every member.

DL 467 Once again I wish to extend my grateful thanks to our Chaplain DL 467, for the help, assistance and encouragement he has rendered to me, in the many and varied problems encountered during the past year, and in particular for his kindly and sympathetic interest in the welfare of the boys under my care. To our President, Chairman and Officers of the Executive Committee, for their ready co-operation and guidance during the year. To all the members of the Welfare Committee, and especially to those who gave so freely of their spare time to attend at our Office in Berry St. and assist in the distribution of the weekly grants, and offer their help and advice on the many problems with which our boys have had to contend.

To each and every one of them, I am deeply grateful.

(Signed) - Peter Murphy

Welfare Officer,

for Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee.

Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee.

President: JAS KEEGAN
 Chairman: GABRIEL CAIRNS
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 MISS P. McCANN
 Welfare Officer: P. M. MURPHY

34 BERRY STREET,
 BELFAST.
 Telephone:

4th. May, 1955.

My Lord,

I enclose herewith the statement of account for the years ending respectively, the 4th. January 1954, and the 4th. Jan. 1955. I regret that the accounts for 1953 were not sent, and that there has been considerable delay in sending those for the year 1954. In both instances I am afraid, that the fault was entirely mine.

As you will note, my Lord, the accounts are divided into two distinct parts, (a) those relating to "After Care" and (b) those relating to "Present Care".

AFTER CARE The total amount expended on this branch of our work amounted to £1405. 18. 9d. in the year 1953; and to the sum of £1716. 19. 11d. in the year 1954. The Grants to the boys both by way of Subsidy and for Clothing were considerably less in 1954 than in 1953. This reduction was achieved by reason of the fact that the boys were found more lucrative, and at the same time more useful positions. Nearly all are in positions which on the expiration of their period of apprenticeship, will find them equipped with useful trades and able to maintain themselves in a manner comparable with any other members of the Community. Two of the boys are receiving advanced education at the Christian Brothers' School Barrack Street, and it is our earnest hope that they will be in a position to seek admission to St. Mary's Training College before the end of the present year.

On the whole my Lord, I am happy to state, that very considerable progress has been made in the work of After-care. The progress that has been made is due in no small measure to the Welfare Officer, who visits the homes of the boys and their employers every month. In this way we are able to follow closely the progress of each boy. The results of the Welfare Officer's work have more than justified his appointment. The Committee members attend in rotation at the Office on Friday nights for the purpose of paying the subsidies, and to learn at first hand the difficulties which arise. Each boy has a Savings account in the joint names of himself and Miss Kinder, our worthy Treasurer, and although clothes and footwear for the boys are paid for by the Committee in the first instance, the boys are encouraged to make small weekly contributions towards the cost.

PRESENT CARE The Committee's contribution to Nazareth Lodge in the year 1953 amounted to £3261. 9. 10d. (this figure includes a special grant of £1000. 0. 0.) and to £2156. 6. 2. in the year 1954. The results of the Bazaar in 1954 were rather disappointing, but the decline is attributable to the fact, that people had less money, and in a small measure to the fact that we were unable to obtain the use of the Minor Hall on the last night of the Bazaar. The Minor Hall had been booked by a private individual for all the Saturdays of the year, for a function run for his private profit, and we were unable to prevail upon him to surrender the Hall for that night.

- 2 -

In conclusion I would like to mention one matter which has been brought to our notice, and which it is our hope will be the cause of pride to your Lordship. Recently we had an interview with a Doctor Tohill who, on behalf of the Welfare Authorities, is carrying out research into Orphanages, with particular emphasis on "after-care" throughout Britain and the Six Counties. From the results of his enquiries and researches, he was able to inform us that in the field of "after-care" we had advanced far beyond the limits achieved by any other Organisation.

The Executive and Members of the Committee wish me to convey to Your Lordship the pledge of their loyalty and devotion, and to assure you that they will, so long as God permits, continue their efforts on behalf of the Children of Nazareth Lodge, past, present, and to come.

I am,

Your Lordship's,

Obedient servant,


for Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee.



Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee.

President : JAS KEEGAN
 Chairman : GABRIEL CAIRNS
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 MISS P. McCANN
 Welfare Officer : P. M. MURPHY

34 BERRY STREET,
 BELFAST.

Telephone :

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - PRESENT CARE

FOR YEAR ENDING 4th JANUARY 1955.

INCOME

EXPENDITURE

Profit from Concert in St. Mary's Hall - Feb.	56 18 7	Expenses in connection with Flag Day - Aug.	207 0 8
Proceeds of Flag Day	1,182 8 3	Expenses in connection with Mannequin Parades	28 13 0
" " Mannequin Parades	89 10 0	Christmas Shops & Fun Fair - Expenses	399 18 2
" " Christmas Shops etc.	1,596 7 7	Woodburn Dance Expenses	140 15 4
" " Woodburn Dance	161 15 4	Cheque Book	16 8
Total Income	<u>3,086 19 9</u>	Total Expenditure	<u>777 3 10</u>
		Balance being Excess of Income over Expenditure	2,309 15 11
	<u>£3,086 19 9</u> =====		<u>£3,086 19 9</u> =====

CASH ACCOUNT

AS AT

4th JANUARY 1955.

1954				
Jan 1	Balance at Bank	22 10 6	Expenditure for year	777 3 10
	Income for year	3,086 19 9	Cheques handed over to Rev. Mother	2,156 6 2
			Balance at Bank 4/1/55	<u>176 0 3</u>
				<u>£3,109 10 3</u> =====
		<u>£3, 109 10 3</u> =====		

Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee.

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 Welfare Officer : P. M. MURPHY

34 BERRY STREET,
 B E L F A S T.
 Telephone :

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - PRESENT CARE

YEAR ENDING 4th JANUARY 1954.

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Takings at Bazaar	2,010 15 4	Expenses in connection with Bazaar	703 17 9
Profit from Flag Day	961 6 4	Balance c/down	2,318 7 5
" " Concert in St. Mary's Hall	50 3 6		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	£3,022 5 2		£3,022 5 2
	=====		=====

CASH ACCOUNT - PRESENT CARE

Balance from Income & Expenditure A/c	2,318 7 5	1953 Jan. Debit Balance in Bank	34 7 1
		Cheques to Rev.Mother:	
		Concert	50 3 6
		Flag Day	961 6 4
		Bazaar	1,250 0 0
			<hr/>
			2,295 16 11
		Balance: Cash on Hands	22 10 6
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	£2,318 7 5		£2,318 7 5
	=====		=====

INCOME and EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - AFTER - CARE

YEAR ENDING 4th JANUARY 1954.

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Isle of Man Excursion; Receipts from Tickets, Programmes & Advertising	£2,563 16 6	Isle of Man Excursion Expenses	£1,744 19 6
Subscriptions etc.	15 5 0	Grants to Boys Subsidies & Lodgings	953 12 0
Bank Interest	25 0 3	Clothing & Footwear for Boys	357 17 9
		Salary - Welfare Officer -Part time	17 0 0
		Berry St. Rent,Rates Light,heat, repairs	30 15 0
		Rent for Meeting Places	7 10 0
		Sundries, Postages, Printing, Stationery	39 3 1
Total Income	<u>£2,604 1 9</u>	Total Expenditure	<u>£3150 18 2</u>
Excess Expenses over Income for year	546 16 5 <u>£3,150 18 2</u>		<u>£3150 18 2</u>

CASH ACCOUNT - AFTER - CARE

YEAR ENDING 4th. January 1954.

1953 Jan. Balance at Bank	£2,600 9 3	Excess Expenses over Income for year	£546 16 5
		Grant to Rev. Mother 1,000	0 0
Transfer from King St. A/c	<u>455 11 3</u>	Expenditure on Lodge Services	205 9 0 <u>£1,752 5 5</u>
		Balances; Cash at Bank	1,279 5 1 24 10 0 <u>£3,056 0 6</u>
	<u>£3,056 0 6</u>		<u>£3,056 0 6</u>

EXTRACT FROM THE MEMORANDUM OF THE CONFERENCE WITH THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AT STORMONT ON 5th OCT., 1954.

CAPITAL GRANTS FOR NAZARETH LODGE

Regarding the urgency of the need for immediate improvements to be carried out at this Home, Mr. Duff produced tentative estimates he had received from the Rev. Mother at Nazareth Lodge showing the expenditure involved in order to carry out essential improvements to the Home. After some discussion, the Ministry agreed to allow the Rev. Mother to procure firm estimates for the following items:-

- (a) Kitchen (£2,000)
- (b) Boys' Dining Hall (£940)
- (c) Dormitories (£1,200)
- (d) Sanitation (£1,700)

Mr. Jackson suggested that three competitive tenders would be sufficient and all agreed that this procedure would save time. Bro. Stephen raised the question of financial assistance for this part of the work and Mr. Duff said he would be disposed to recommend a two-thirds grant in the present financial year. Bro. Stephen undertook to advise the Rev. Mother to obtain competitive tenders accordingly and submit them to the Ministry.

WELFARE OFFICER FOR BOYS

Bro. Stephen gave a report on the work being done by the present Welfare Officer, Mr. Peter Murphy, at Nazareth Lodge. He said that the After-Care Committee for the Lodge had appointed this officer who is doing an excellent job for boys who had formerly been in Nazareth Lodge and Rubane. The Committee were paying him from funds obtained from running various functions such as bazaars, concerts, etc. They had acquired an office for Mr. Murphy which cost £104 per annum. In his report, Bro. Stephen gave statistics of the number of boys on after-care at the moment and also the various jobs to which they had been assigned. Concluding the report, Bro. Stephen requested the Ministry to give sympathetic consideration to his application for a grant towards the cost of maintaining this appointment, and after a brief discussion Mr. Duff said that, subject to Mr. Murphy agreeing to undertake the after-care of boys leaving Nazareth House, Termonbacca, and De La Salle Home, Kircubbin, and evidence that neither of the Homes had sufficient financial resources, he was prepared to make a recommendation to the Ministry that a fifty per cent grant be made available towards the expenses involved.

Mr. Murphy's proposed remuneration:-

Initial Salary	£550.
Expenses	£150.
	Total	<u>£700.</u>

WELFARE OFFICER FOR GIRLS

The salary suggested for this post was £350 plus £150 expenses, to make a total of £500. Arising out of the discussion, it was agreed that this officer would function from Derry. Nazareth House, Derry, would be required to pay £500, made up as follows:-

Ministry's Contribution	£215.
St. Joseph's Training School	£ 70. ($\frac{1}{3}$ of £500 approx.)
		<u>£285</u>

The remaining £215 to be contributed by:-

Good Shepherd Convent, Belfast.
Good Shepherd Convent, Newry.
Nazareth House, Derry.
Nazareth House, Belfast.

It was agreed that Bro. Stephen should contact these Schools and discuss the matter.

Approximate number of children at present on after-care:-

St. Joseph's School	10
Good Shepherd, Belfast	8
Good Shepherd, Newry	6
Nazareth House, Derry	25
Nazareth House, Belfast	25

Total	<u>74</u>
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Telephone
BELFAST 2289



St. Patrick's Boys' Training School,

MILLTOWN.

FALLS ROAD,

BELFAST,

20th October, 1954.

My Lord Bishop,

I beg to attach herewith copy of the minutes of a recent interview with the Ministry of Home Affairs on the question of a capital grant for Nazareth Lodge and financial assistance towards an after-care scheme for the boys leaving De La Salle Home, Rubane.

Your Lordship is doubtless aware that the Children and Young Persons Act, 1950, Section 103, places an obligation on voluntary organisations to provide for the after-care of all children leaving Voluntary Homes or of requesting the Welfare Authority to undertake the supervision of such children.

Your Lordship will ~~also~~ note that the Ministry is prepared to meet 50% of the Welfare Officer's salary and travelling expenses on condition that he also undertakes the supervision of the boys leaving St. Joseph's Home, Termonbecca, Derry. The same conditions would apply to the after-care of the girls leaving the various Orphan Homes in Northern Ireland. In this connection, owing to the financial complications etc, I feel it would be necessary to approach His Lordship Most Reverend **SND 131**, Bishop of Derry, before suggesting the scheme to the Sisters in charge of the Homes in his diocese and I would like to have Your Lordship's advice or approval before making this approach.

With kind wishes,

I am, My Lord Bishop,

Yours very obediently,

Most Reverend Daniel Mageean, D.D.,
"Lisbreen",
Somerton Road,
BELFAST.

MEMORANDUM OF MEETING WITH BROTHER STEPHEN - SUNDAY 10th day of
October, 1954.

In response to a request from Brother Stephen, the President and Chairman to-day called with him to discuss matters arising out of certain representations made by him to the Ministry of Home Affairs. The matters discussed are here dealt with under separate heads:-

(1) NAZARETH LODGE: Brother Stephen, on behalf of the Nazareth Lodge, approached the Ministry to determine what grant (if any) the Government would be prepared to make towards the cost of re-construction. He was informed that a certain sum is allocated annually by the Ministry of Finance to enable grants to be made to Voluntary Homes. The total allocation last year was paid to Glendhu and the sum available this year was ear-marked for a Catholic Home. As the result of this the Government would be prepared to pay 2/3rds of the cost of certain alterations and repairs at the Lodge. The Grant would be made under Section 118 (1) of the Children and Young Persons Act (N.I.) 1950. The amount of the grant would be between £4,000 and £5,000 and would represent a first grant. Further grants would be made at some future time.

(2) COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT: Brother Stephen suggested that it would be most advisable to set up such a Committee. The functions of the Committee would be:-

(1) To advise the Sisters on the question of repairs and alterations and generally on re-construction.

(2) To advise the Sisters on their responsibilities under relevant Statutes and Statutory Rules and Orders.

If such a Committee was set up the Government would view with much greater favour any application for a grant if the application was supported by the Committee and the necessity for the alterations etc. vouched for by it.

(3) VISITOR: The Committee of Management would be required to provide a visitor to carry out an inspection of the Lodge each month.

(4) AFTER-CARE: Brother Stephen suggested that the Committee should not limit the payment of subsidies to boys who came to Kircubbin from Nazareth Lodge. He was of opinion that the subsidies should be paid to all the boys leaving Kircubbin (other than those who are under the care of State Welfare Authorities). He made the case that by reason of the present arrangement boys who would formerly have gone to Nazareth Lodge, now go direct to Kircubbin (i.e. boys over the age of eleven years). He had no doubt that, but for the present arrangement, these boys would be subsidised by the Welfare Committee.

WELFARE OFFICER: Brother Stephen discussed this matter at some length with the Ministry and the conclusions arrived at were as follows:-

(1) The Ministry would be prepared (subject to conditions set out below) to pay one half of this Officer's salary and to allow £150 per annum Travelling Expenses.

(2) The conditions attaching to the grant are as follows:-

- (a) The Welfare Officer must be attached to the staff of a Voluntary Organisation. The Grant could only be made under Section 118 (1).
- (b) The Welfare Officer must undertake the responsibility for all the boys leaving Rubane House and for the past boys of the Nazareth Home in Londonderry.
- (c) The Salary would have to be paid by the Home to which he is attached and the Government grant and Travelling Expenses received by that Home.

Brother Stephen suggested that as there are no children now leaving Nazareth Lodge (other than those going to Kircubbin), the necessity for a Welfare Officer does not arise. He further suggests that he (the Welfare Officer) be attached to Rubane House as a member of the staff. The Brother in charge would be responsible for paying him. The Committee would re-imburse Rubane House to the extent of its share. The House in Derry would be required to pay a portion of the Welfare Officer's salary.

The Scale of salary payable to Welfare Officers is as follows:-

£540	x	£15	-	£600	Plus	£150	Travelling Expenses
£600	x	£20	-	£700	"	£150	" "

In the event of the Committee refusing to agree with his suggestions, he (Brother Stephen) would have to appoint a Welfare Officer.

NOTE: Provisions of Section 118 (1) of the Children & Young Persons Act.

The Ministry may pay Grants of such amounts and subject to such conditions as it may with the consent of the Ministry of Finance determine towards expenses incurred or to be incurred by any Voluntary Organisation, in circumstances such that it appears to the Ministry requisite that the grants should be made for improving premises in which Voluntary Homes are being carried on, or the equipment of Voluntary Homes, or for securing that Voluntary Homes will be better provided with Qualified staff.

NAZARETH LODGE WELFARE COMMITTEE

President :
P. J. McDONNELL

Chairman :
GABRIEL CAIRNS

Treasurer:
J. CONNOLLY

Secretary :
Miss E. KINDER
25 Ardmore Avenue,
Ormeau Road,
Belfast.

29th November, 1954.

Most Rev. D. Mageean, D.D.,
Lord Bishop of Down & Connor,
Lisbreen,
Somerton Road,
BELFAST.

My Lord,

At the request of the Committee I enclose herewith a Memorandum of a Meeting between Brother Stephen, the President and myself.

As the matters discussed by us entail the acceptance of financial aid from the Government, the Committee, though welcoming any measure which would be in ease of its financial burden, do not wish to proceed further with the matter without first ascertaining your Lordship's wishes.

The Welfare Officer referred to in the Memorandum was appointed by the Committee - on a part time basis - at the beginning of this year at a salary of £5 per week. As the experiment proved most successful, and as by that time it had become evident that the position was one which required a full-time officer, the Committee, in June - after consultation with the members of the Rubane General Purposes Committee - enlarged the appointment into a full-time one and increased the salary to £10. per week.

Subject to the following qualifications the Committee would be prepared to implement the proposals contained in the Memorandum:-

WELFARE OFFICER:

(1) The sole right of dispensing with the services of the present holder of this office (should circumstances so require) to remain vested in the Committee.

(2) the sole right of appointing future officers to remain vested in the Committee.

NOTE: These rights would be exercised only after consultation with the Rubane General Purposes Committee, the Brother in charge of Rubane, and the Sisters of Nazareth House, Londonderry.

(2)

(3) The Committee will require the Brother in charge to furnish to it an annual statement showing the amounts received from the Government (a) by way of contribution towards salary and (b) by way of travelling expenses, and amounts received from Nazareth House, Londonderry.

(4) The Committee will reserve the right to set off against any payment due to the Brother in charge, any expenses of the Welfare Officer incurred by him in connection with Nazareth House, Londonderry and paid by the Committee.

(5) Any surplus of the travelling expense allowance remaining at the end of each year to be credited to the Committee.

(6) The Committee will require the payment of £1. per annum for the use of its office in Berry Street in connection with the boys from the Nazareth House, Londonderry.

AFTER-CARE:

(1) The Welfare Officer must continue to be responsible for the boys at present under his care.

(2) The Committee will extend the payment of subsidies to include all boys leaving Rubane (other than State Welfare children) provided that the Committee is satisfied that but for the arrangement by which children leave Nazareth Lodge at the age of eleven years, the boys concerned would have been pupils of Nazareth Lodge.

(3) No responsibility for the boys of Nazareth House, Londonderry can be accepted by the Committee.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT:

The setting up of this Committee is primarily a matter for the Nuns. The Committee, however, to facilitate the Reverend Mother, propose to submit a list of the names of members who would be prepared to act on a Committee of Management, from which a selection can be made. The submission of this list is not intended in any way to bind the Nuns to appoint all or indeed any of the named persons, nor to interfere with their right to appoint persons not members of the Committee.

There is one difficulty which would arise if the proposals as to the Welfare Officer were put into effect and to which I have not as yet adverted. It has been my hope that if the policy of Boarding out was expanded, the Welfare Officer would have acted as a Boarding out officer to Nazareth Lodge. If, however, he is to undertake the responsibility for the boys from Nazareth House,

(3)

Londonderry and presumably for the children (if any) boarded out from Rubane, I have no doubt that he would not have any time in which to devote his attention to children boarded out from Nazareth Lodge. As there is only one child boarded out from the Lodge at the moment the matter is not a pressing one, but it occurs to me that if the policy of Boarding out is put fully into effect the problem would then become acute. Indeed I feel that before a success can be made of boarding out it would be necessary to appoint a Boarding out Officer to Nazareth Lodge.

I understand that the Welfare Authorities carry out periodic visits to the homes at which children are boarded, but I feel that in a matter of such great importance there should be a permanent officer attached to the staff of Nazareth Lodge whose full time would be devoted to the Boarding out of the children. I am sure that the Committee would be prepared to devote the money which we would save as a result of the Government contribution towards the Welfare Officer's salary, towards the payment of a full time Boarding out Officer.

Such an officer would be in a position and would have sufficient time to act in a similar capacity to St. Joseph's Babies Home, both as regards boarding out and adoptions. It might be possible to arrange with the Diocesan Orphan Society for a joint appointment, the Society to be responsible for payment of portion of the Officer's salary.

It occurs to me, my Lord, that if children were Boarded out from Nazareth Lodge or indeed from the Babies Home, and if upon the visit of the State Welfare Officer it was found that the Home, or the people living therein, was, or were, not suitable, there is nothing to prevent the State from placing the children in Glendhu Home. If, however, there was a Boarding out Officer we would become aware of the unsuitability of the home, or the persons living therein, before the State, and could take action accordingly.

I would be most grateful, my Lord, to know your Lordship's views on these matters.

I have the honour to be, my Lord,

Yours obedient servant,

For NAZARETH LODGE WELFARE COMMITTEE.


Chairman.

WELFARE
NAZARETH LODGE COMMITTEE

President—~~XXX KENNEDY XXX~~ M. Rogan.
Chairman—~~XXXXXXXX~~ P. McDonnell
Hon. Treasurer—A. HAMILL.
Hon. Secretary—~~XXXXXXXX~~ Miss E. Kinder.

516 RAVENHILL ROAD,
BELFAST.

27th February, 1952

My Lord Bishop,

As Secretary of the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee, I have been instructed to give you a brief account of our activities during the year 1951. They are as follows:-

FUNCTIONS IN AID OF OUR OWN WELFARE ACCOUNT:

Annual Excursion to Douglas on 12th July	Realised	£861
Harvest Moon Dance in Orpheus in September	"	71
		<u>£932</u>
		=====

FUNCTIONS RUN BY US IN AID OF NAZARETH LODGE:

Concert in St. Mary's Hall in March	Realised	£101
Whist Drive in Whitehall Restaurant	"	35
Christmas Shop & Fun Fair in November	"	864
		<u>£1000</u>
		=====

Out of the funds of the Welfare Committee we are at present subsidising 12 boys to the extent of £10 per week, and to this must be added a substantial amount by way of grants for clothes etc. for boys from the Lodge who are attending outside schools. After paying all expenses we had a credit balance in Bank at the end of the year of £2,753:0:0.

All monies collected on behalf of the Lodge have been handed over to the Mother Superior to be used by her at her own discretion.

The Committee wish me to express their deep appreciation of your paternal interest in their work and to thank you for your generous patronage.

We/

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We humbly beg your blessing on our work
for the present year.

I remain, my Lord Bishop,
Your obedient servant,



Hon. Secretary.

Most Rev. D. Mageean, D.D.,
Lord Bishop of Down & Connor,
"Lisbreen",
Somerton Road,
BELFAST.

June 8th., 1963.

Most Rev. William J. Philbin, D.D.,
Lord Bishop of Down and Connor.

My Lord Bishop,

Although the constitution of the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee includes many names on its list of officers, I thought best to inform Your Lordship of the names of those who would be present at the meeting tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. I have reduced the number to five "key" office-bearers.

NL 40 He is now in his second year in the chair and his services have been with the Committee since its foundation.

Mr John McMullan, secretary. He has served the Committee for many years and is a very quiet man. He has been secretary for only the past six months.

Mr George Kennedy, treasurer. This is in fact my uncle, a teller in the Provincial Bank of Ireland Ltd. He was elected treasurer during my absence in January last and therefore has been treasurer for but six months.

Mr William Staunton, barrister at Law. Mr Staunton is also a new recruit to the Committee and is chairman of the sub-committee which is concerned with the direct and intimate problems of welfare of the boys as well as the section of the main committee which issues instructions to the Welfare Officer every week.

Mr Peter Sheil, Vice Chairman. He is a son of Mr Justice Sheil and is also employed in the Northern Bank, High Street, Belfast. Peter is a zealous young man and has many associations with the National Association

of Boys Clubs. He is very interested in the "Youth Problem" of to-day, the means of helping youth by establishment of Clubs etc..

There are assistant secretary and treasurer but I thought in all humility that it was unnecessary that they come.

Our President, Mr J. B. Kennedy, I have seen to day and told him about the Committee's meeting with Your Lordship. I felt that it would too much to burden Mr Kennedy with these Committee problems and have promised to tell him about the interview with Your Lordship afterwards. He has asked me to convey to Your Lordship his willingness to help in every way he possibly can to further the welfare of the past pupils of Nazareth Lodge and Rubane House, Kircubbin. Mr Kennedy has been always one of our most faithful and helpful members and I do feel very grateful to him for all his help in the past. Even to day, when unable to take part in Committee activities as he did in former years, he is still so very anxious to further the boys' welfare.

Finally, may I say just this, that although the officers who will be present to-morrow, are yet "raw" in their posts as office bearers, I believe they should be quite capable of discussing these problems on the behalf of the whole Committee and receiving Your Lordship's direction on them.

With my very sincere thanks both on behalf of the Committee and on my own behalf for granting us the previlige of this meeting ,

I remain,

Your Lordship's obedient servant.

Rev. Francis X. Kennedy

Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee

Material	Dated	Signed
Talk given by Fr Thomas Gibbons, Administrator Catholic Child Care Office (Glasgow), to St Patricks Orphan Society	12 th June 1975	-
Letter to Dr Philbin	27 th July 1976	Thomas Brown
Letter to Rev Edward O'Donnell	8 th May 1978	Unsigned
Letter to Rev W Philbin	6 th May 1978	Rev Edward O'Donnell
Letter to Sir Thomas Brown	23 rd July 1976	Bishop of Down & Connor
Letter to Rev W Philbin	22 nd April 1969	Fr Sean Lowry
Letter to Rev W Philbin	3 rd October 1968	Rev Sean Lowry
St. Augustine's Youth Club – Shop Trading Account, Income & Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet	31 st July 1966	D Leddy
St. Augustine's Youth Club – Shop Trading Account, Income & Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet	30 th November 1966	D Leddy
Letter to Rev W Philbin	13 th April 1967	Rev Sean Lowry
Letter to Rev W Philbin	11 th October 1966	Rev Sean Lowry
Letter to Fr Lowry	12 th October 1966	Unsigned
Letter to My Lord Bishop	30 th April 1966	Rev Sean Lowry
Letter to Aidan	Undated	Thomas
Letter to Your Dear Lordship	14 th September	Aidan Austin
Letter to Aidan Austin	21 st September 1963	Bishop of Down & Connor
Letter to Rev W Philbin	30 th April 1965	Francis X Kennedy
Letter to Rev W Philbin	17 th July 1965	Francis X Kennedy
Letter to Rev F.X Kennedy	4 th June 1965	Unsigned
Letter to Rev W Philbin	13 th May 1965	Unsigned
Letter to My Lord Bishop	13 th May 1965	Francis X Kennedy
Letter to Rev W Philbin	28 th May 1965	Francis X Kennedy
Letter to Rev W Philbin	28 th May 1965	Francis X Kennedy
Summary of Committee's Interview with Your Lordship	1963	-
Letter to Rev W Philbin	5 th June 1965	Francis X Kennedy
Letter to GJ Cairns	25 th February 1965	Bishop of Down & Connor
Letter to Rev W Philbin	23 rd July 1962	James Digney
Letter to Gabriel Cairns	7 th September 1964	Bishop of Down & Connor
Agenda to be discussed with Rev W Philbin	27 th May 1963	-
Letter to Rev W Philbin	8 th May 1964	Francis X Kennedy
Letter to Rev W Philbin	3 rd May 1964	Francis X Kennedy
Annual Report of Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee	1963/1964	-
Letter to Rev W Philbin	5 th May 1964	Francis X Kennedy
NLWC Charity Club Membership	-	-

Structure of Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee	-	-
Nazareth Lodge Old Boys Association	1963	Seamus Digney Francis X Kennedy
Aims of Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee	-	-
Summary of Interview with Rev W Philbin & Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee	8 th June 1963	-
Annual Report and Commentary of the Progress & Policies of the NLWC	May 1963 to May 1964	-
Letter to Rev W Philbin	6 th May 1964	Francis X Kennedy
Letter to Rev W Philbin	16 th December 1963	Francis X Kennedy
Letter to James Digney	4 th August 1962	Unsigned
Letter to Rev W Philbin	29 th August 1964	Francis X Kennedy
Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee Constitution	-	-
Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee Constitution	-	-
Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee – County Welfare Authority	-	-
Letter to Rev W Philbin	17 th January 1965	Desmond Woods
Letter to Rev W Philbin	26 th March 1965	Francis X Kennedy
Letter to Secretary of Rag Committee	20 th March 1965	G J Cairns
Letter to GJ Cairns	22 nd March 1965	Peter Smith
Letter to My Lord Bishop	29 th March 1965	Gabriel Cairns
Letter to Rev W Philbin	Undated	Francis X Kennedy
Letter to Gabriel Cairns	7 th September 1964	Bishop of Down & Connor
Letter to My Lord Bishop	11 th September 1964	Gabriel Cairns
Letter to Gabriel Cairns	12 th September 1964	Diocesan Secretary
Chairman's address to the Annual General Meeting	16 th January 1966	G J Cairns
Secretary's Report to the Annual General Meeting	16 th January 1966	Desmond Woods
Club Leaders Report	1965/1966	James Kelters
Welfare Officers Report to the Annual General Meeting of the Nazareth Lodge Welfare Committee dated 31 st December 1965	1 st January 1966	James Digney
NLWC Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet	30 th November 1965	D Leddy
St Augustine's Youth Club - Shop Trading Account, Income	31 st July 1965	D Leddy

and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet		
St Augustine's Youth Club - Shop Trading Account, Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet	31 st July 1964	D Leddy
Welfare Officers Report	-	F Kennedy
NLWC Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet	30 th November 1964	D Leddy
Letter to Rev W Philbin	5 th October 1981	Brian Gibson

TALK GIVEN BY:-

FATHER THOMAS GIBBONS

ADMINISTRATOR CATHOLIC CHILD CARE OFFICE (GLASGOW)

TO

SAINT PATRICK'S ORPHAN SOCIETY

12th JUNE, 1975.

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Could I say something about the philosophy of Child Care - this is important when we start talking about the provision of the services which you're offering and how they should be geared for the needs of the people for whom you're trying to cater. The work I'm in and the work many of you are in - the Brothers might particularly know this - was comparatively simple up to about 25 years ago. Twenty-five years ago Child Care, as far as I'm concerned, was an easy matter. If for some particular reason a child has to be removed from its natural environment - mother, father, family - and given some other form of substitute care, the substitute care wasn't particularly sophisticated or refined. What they used to do in Scotland in those days was to take the children out of the community into which they had been born, deposit them in a large institutional building miles out in the country away from where the children had actually lived. They used euphemisms at the time to justify this - the children needed loads of fresh air so they were given fresh air. What they really were trying to do was to banish them from people's sight so they could be brought up in a peaceful climate and people could forget all about them. Twenty-five years ago - in Scotland, and I imagine in Ireland, this is the way children who were in need of substitute care were treated - whipped away from the local community, put into a large institution where they were brought up more or less as Army Cadets - they slept in large dormitories, they ate in large refectories, they dressed alike and very often badly and so on. It's not all that far off in terms of 25 years or 30 years ago. If there was any question of adoption or fostering it was done very badly and unscientifically. Nowadays such treatment of children could lead to a criminal prosecution by the police. The main reason why our attitudes and our way of treating children who need care have changed is because of the under-

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standing of child development now, especially the findings in the field of child psychology and, if you like, the allied science of sociology and human growth and development. Psychologists are now telling us what all your mothers and fathers and any reasonable parent knew for years. The most important factor in a child's development is normal family life. Where the child is brought up in a caring and stable family, then the chances are that he will be a mature adult, socially accepted and adjusted. If he is brought up in a very inadequate back-ground, without a stable parent or parents and the usual environment of home life, without affection and care being given to him, then the chances are that he will grow up to be probably socially isolate, badly adjusted or unadjustable, isolated from other people, affectionless or even, going to extremes, the psychopaths of the future - the people without any consciences, the people who can't make relationships, except the shallowest, with any other individual. Your own parents knew that, I hope, otherwise you people are in serious trouble; I'm sure they didn't know it scientifically when they put it into practice. But psychologists have now told us that if a child isn't given family life then the child is going to be trouble for society later on. Society is now taking cognisance of this and trying to prevent these children who are taken into care being deprived completely of family life. So this means that if a child is brought into care any professional social worker would first of all try to ensure that the child's own family was made capable enough of giving that child the standard of care to enable the child to grow and develop properly. If it was decided that a child was to be taken away from the family the Social Worker wouldn't work on the child, he would work on the family and try to improve the family so that the child could be re-introduced to that family and be capable of bringing up the child properly. If

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the social worker couldn't re-introduce immediately or at any time the child back into the family, he would look for an alternative method of treating that child within a family context and in social work terms that means that he would look at three alternatives; he would look at either adoption for the child by which he would go to another family and become legally a member of that family. If adoption wasn't possible he would look at fostering as an alternative whereby the child would go and live with a family but not become a legal member of it. Finally if the child's own family wasn't available and adoption or fostering wasn't the answer the Social Worker would look at Residential Care as a possible treatment for this particular child. But Residential Care would have to be modelled as closely as possible on family life. In other words the children would no longer live in large institutions or be treated as if they had been born out of egg shells with no family, no beginning, no end. The children should live in family groups normally means that the children should live in mixed sexes and mixed ages. In those family groups the children should be looked after by at least one stable character who would be called the House Mother, with ancillary staff, but there would be one central character in each residential establishment who would act as the mother or the focal point for the child and be the one stable central figure in the child's development and life. If you follow me through that you could become Social Workers to-morrow. If you decide that a child needs substitute care you take a child away for a while during which time you try to improve the child's family life so that they can take the child. If that's not available you try either to have the child adopted, fostered or to be given residential treatment. Those are four major areas of Social Work which are going on in Britain at the moment and which I suppose, are going on in Ireland - family rehabilitation and family casework, adoption service, fostering service and residential

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provisions for the needs of children in Care. If we could say something about each of them as they operate in Britain and then about your own particular service which I think you operate here.

Adoption, first of all, is in the throes of great changes in Britain. I don't know how up to date you are in the legislation in Britain and just how applicable it will be to Ulster when it comes through, but there's a new Children's Bill in front of Parliament in Britain at the moment which will completely re-organize the adoption laws so that the whole basis of adoption will now be the welfare of the child who is being placed for adoption; the unmarried mother, the mother will still be given some consideration, the new adoptive parents will be given some consideration but the criterion to be applied in the placement of any child for adoption will be the welfare of the child who is being placed and this is the whole basis of the new legislation. Now, to make sure that that is properly fulfilled there's going to be very strict criteria laid down in any adoption service. We're going to demand that the adoption service should not be a mere placement agency. In other words that the adoption agency just shouldn't put a child with a particular family then walk out and not give a back up service to the child and to the family they should be able to give ancillary services similar to a child Guidance Clinic, social work back-up to the unmarried mothers from now on you shouldn't be able to operate an adoption service on a shoe string. So that's the new thinking about adoption.

The new thinking about fostering in Britain is that fostering up to nowadays, especially in Scotland, has been a very unscientific service and very often foster parents have been chosen without any adequate education of the family. Very often people have thought that fostering, because it is a very cheap way of getting children substitute care, is the best way, it's not. The best form of care

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for any particular child depends on the child and not on any theory you might have about adoption or fostering. So at the moment fostering is going through a re-think where people are appreciating just how difficult it is and we must give to adoptive parents.

The last one - Residential Care - in Britain has made an awful lot of advances in recent years especially in England. Scotland is very backward in most regards; our city Glasgow has even greater problems than Belfast, especially in terms of broken families and single parents. To give you an instance - between the 24th December last year and the 2nd January our office was asked to provide accommodation for over 200 children - within a week 200 children had been abandoned by their parents. People think that because of improved social conditions in the form of housing and grants and so on that those problems facing families would have disappeared. Anything but, they are increasing daily. One of the factors that is increasing them - I don't know if it is the same in Belfast - is the young age of marriage. People getting married at 16 and 17 can hardly look after themselves let alone children. Three or four years later the parents make another marriage a reasonably good second marriage. So Residential Care is improving in Britain but in Scotland it is a wee bit backward.

I would think that's a sufficient preamble - the Church's obligation towards social problems and Child Care regarding supportive work in families, adoption, fostering and Residential Care.

Could I say what I feel about the Service which you offer in Down and Connor, from what I've learned from Father McCartney, Sisters Emmanuel and Mary and from what I've seen in the various offices and institutions. You know I'm saying in many ways it is inferior. If I'm going to be helpful to you, obviously I've got to

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be a bit critical; it would be a waste of time me coming over here to tell you everything's fine. I hope you will realize that any criticism is offered not in a spirit of running you down or complaining about any form of work being performed by workers; it's done in a spirit of charity and with the realization that you want to improve your service.

So the good things first. I was very impressed by the facilities you have, especially being a Scotsman, by the money you seem to have available. This is half the battle, if you have the money you can get the knowledge to put the money to good use. You have very, very good plant. I was most impressed by the Children's Homes - all of them - excellent plant which can easily be adapted to offer the best type of Child Care practice and policy. I don't know just how much you know of the plant yourselves. I imagine you should go round it fairly regularly just to see what is going on. Some of you, I would imagine, might be critical of the material standard of the places. I find in Scotland that people can be very critical. I feel this is very important that when you're dealing with deprived kids you give them the highest standards of material care you possibly can because very often these children have been badly abused or badly let down by adults and to win their confidence you can't do it immediately through your own personality so there's a phrase in social workers psychology which says you try to speak to them through their environment.

In other words you make their environment so good that the kids can appreciate that you're doing this for them because you really care for them as individuals and you're concerned about their development and what happens to them. What I have seen of what you have going in Belfast is excellent - it's first class. I wish to