

PRIVATE

HIA REF: 346

Witness Name [REDACTED] HIA 346

**THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1992 TO 1995**

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**WITNESS STATEMENT [REDACTED] HIA 346**

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[REDACTED] HIA 346

will say the following:-

**Personal details**

1. I was born on [REDACTED] in Belfast. My mother was called [REDACTED] and she came from [REDACTED] in County Leitrim. When she was fourteen years old a marriage was arranged for her however she did not want to go through with it and she left [REDACTED] and moved to Belfast. My mother was twenty when I was born and she was unmarried. My mother told me that my father was called [REDACTED] and was in the British Army stationed in Belfast. He ended the relationship when my mother became pregnant. I believe she worked in a house as a nanny after I was born. When she was working she left me in the care of a person who mistreated me. She sought the advice of the local Church of Ireland Minister and he advised that I should be placed in Manor House in Lisburn until she was in a better position to look after me.

**Manor House, Lisburn (1946-1950)**

2. I was placed in Manor House when I was about four years old. It was run by the Church of Ireland. I stayed there until I was eight years old. My mother visited me regularly in the home. She used to bring me chocolate and I looked forward to her visits.

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[REDACTED]  
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3. Manor house was mixed with boys and girls of all ages. We stayed in rooms which had about four or five to each room. I was beaten a couple of times by staff. I cannot recall their names. On one occasion I was carrying a brick and I dropped it on my toe by accident. A male member of staff hit me around the head for carrying the brick. I later found out that the brick was attached to a rope that was tied to me stopping me from running away. I was also tied to my bed at night. We were beaten as a form of punishment – I think it was the staff's way of disciplining us. After being beaten we were put into cold water baths, I am assuming this was to prevent bruising. If I ever played up the staff threatened that my mother would not come to visit me.
4. I attended Lisburn Public Elementary School which was down the road from the home. We went to church every Sunday as the home was run by the Church of Ireland. In the home I felt like an ordinary child as I didn't know anything different
5. My mother married a man called [REDACTED] on [REDACTED] 1949. She told me years later that after she married she told [REDACTED] about me and they came to Manor House to take me home but she was told that I was adopted by a wealthy family in Dublin. I obtained my school records in 2000, the records show that I was taken out of school for a period of about one month. I believe that this was when my Mother [REDACTED] and his children went to the home to collect me. My mother did not have any more children, although she became step-mother to [REDACTED] two children and the family continued to live in Belfast, until [REDACTED] retirement when they moved to [REDACTED] in England.
6. I cannot remember what we were told about going to Australia. I do recall older boys in Manor House saying I would come back black because of the sun. I didn't want to go as soon as I heard this. I do not recall being asked by anyone if I wanted to go to Australia.

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7. I sailed to Australia in December 1950 on the MV Cheshire which was a former troop ship. Eight boys in total left from Manor House. I was the youngest. Two boys came from Coleraine to Manor House to make the journey with us. We left on a boat from Belfast and arrived at Liverpool. There were twenty-nine boys in total that went on the ship – eight from Ireland and twenty-one from Scotland and England. All eight boys from Ireland had to share clothes from a small suitcase and we were not allowed to wear shoes on the ship. A Minister called Boag was on the ship with us. I was starving for the first three or four days on the ship as no-one told me where we were to eat as we were not allowed in the dining room of the ship, we had to eat in a separate area, so I missed out on meals. We were allowed to run around the ship with little supervision. I think we had lessons on board.
8. My certificate of migration was signed by the Matron of Manor House **MH 1** **MH 1** on 20<sup>th</sup> July 1950. My medical examination certificate is dated 14<sup>th</sup> September 1950 however I do not recall having a medical exam. My date of birth recorded on the migration certificate was incorrect. This also I believe when I started being called **HIA 346** instead of my first name **HIA 346**

**Dhurringile Rural Training Farm (15/12/1950 – 1956)**

9. When we arrived in Melbourne on 15<sup>th</sup> December 1950 we were taken on a bus to Dhurringile which is about 100 miles from Melbourne. It was in the middle of nowhere and was used as a prison camp during the war. It was dormant for a number of years and then bought by the Presbyterian Church. It only opened in 1950 and we were the first boys that stayed in it. Boys kept coming and going and I think there may have been around one hundred boys through the home. Dhurringile was run by the Presbyterian Church of Tatura and we were sponsored by them for a supposedly better life in Australia.

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10. Upon arriving the older boys were put straight to work on the farm while the younger ones, which included myself, went to Murchison State School which was in Victoria. After school we came back to the home and did cleaning and domestic chores such as washing pots and pans and helping in the kitchen. We also had to carry buckets of sand to clear the land for the tennis courts which was being built.
11. We were always getting sunburned as we were given no protection against the sun. The windows had no fly screens on the windows and at night we were eaten by mosquitoes. There were no visits from the Welfare Department however a doctor did come occasionally to give us a check up. When I was about twelve years old a boy was too ill to get his tonsils removed and I was sent instead even though I had no problems with my tonsils.
12. Every evening we were required to complete an activity, some of which included basket weaving, band practice, religious instructions and home work. We were also told to write letters home to Ireland. I asked who I was supposed to write to as I was an orphan. The staff told me to write to Manor House.
13. The staff were strong on discipline and I was given a few whacks by AU 1 who worked in the home. He didn't have any patience with children. Some of the staff organised fight nights and matched older boys against younger boys as a form of punishment. The younger boys inevitably got beaten up.
14. AU 2 was the Superintendant in charge of the home. He was my guardian until I turned twenty one. Years later he was prosecuted for sexual offences against boys in the home. He passed away during the trial. I was not sexually abused in Dhurringile. I recall on occasions that AU 2 would take photographs of us while we were in the showers.

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15. I was told by [REDACTED] AU 2 that I was not allowed to attend school beyond fourteen and I was told I had to leave Dhurringile. In 1956 I was sent out to lodgings with no money or clothes. I got an apprenticeship as a motor mechanic and I attended Shepparton Technical School. I boarded with a Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] in Murchison until Mrs [REDACTED] passed away in 1958. I then moved around various lodgings. I completed my apprenticeship as a motor mechanic. After I qualified, I went to work at [REDACTED] in Tatura, Victoria. When I turned eighteen I received money from a savings account which was organised by the Murchison State School.

#### Life after care

16. I met my wife [REDACTED] in 1960 and we married in 1966. With the help of Minister Reverend Hadley, a local Minister, I got a copy of my birth certificate. That is when I discovered that my name was [REDACTED] HIA 346 and [REDACTED] HIA 346 was dropped. Also, my date of birth had been changed from January to April. After we were married we settled in [REDACTED]. We have two children - [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and one grandchild. I am very close to my children and we enjoy a great relationship. I am very protective of my family. I loved going on trips with my son [REDACTED] on a motorbike and sharing things with my children that I never had.

17. I didn't do anything about finding out about my family for years. I thought that they knew I was in Australia, they sent me out here so they could find me if they wanted to. In 1999 I saw a documentary called "60 minutes" about Margaret Humphreys and child migration. I decided to contact the Child Migrants Trust in Melbourne and in 2000 they contacted me to say they had found my mother living in England. The Child Migrants Trust arranged for me to travel to England to meet her and they paid for this trip. My mother's husband had passed away in 1985 and she lived alone. She was in ill health and needed a wheelchair. It was the worst day of my life when I met her. I was a stranger to her. Her house [REDACTED]

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was filthy, she was in ill health and I couldn't believe the way she was left to live without proper care. There was no hot water in the house, due the hot water system breaking down. The fridge was full of rotten food and the house hadn't been cleaned in years. I think she felt a lot of guilt when she saw me. She showed me diaries she kept which had entries marked 'HIA birthday' every year. She never told anyone of my existence except her mother who had long since passed away.

18. My mother hadn't been out of the house in years. My wife and I assisted her during our visit by cleaning, organising repairs to her house, arranging medical care and additional home help. We took her to the supermarket and on other outings and we built up a rapport. I contact a local MP called Bob Blizzard for assistance to get more care for my mother. In 2003 we visited again and this time we stayed with her. After a fall in 2005 my mother was placed in a nursing home by my stepbrother [REDACTED] who didn't allow me to have any contact with my mother. And it was only after contacting the Child Migrants Trust and them engaging solicitors on my behalf that I was able to re-establish contact with my mother.
19. My mother didn't want me to visit Ireland and my relations as no-one knew about me. However, I wanted to find out where I came from. I found out that I had an extended family in Ireland and I visited them in 2000 and 2003 also 2007. My Uncle [REDACTED] Aunt [REDACTED] and cousins welcomed me with open arms. Sadly [REDACTED] has passed away but I am in regular contact with my cousins, particularly my cousin [REDACTED] and his wife [REDACTED] who live in [REDACTED]. I visited my mother again in 2007 while she was in a nursing home.
20. In 2000 I visited Manor House and got in contact with M [REDACTED] who was the gardener at the home. He told me he thought that the home received £30 for each child they send to Australia. I don't believe any other children from Ireland went to Dhurringile other the group that I travelled with.

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21. In February 2010, I went to London and attended the apology given by the then Prime Minister Gordon Brown. My mother passed away in January 2010 just before I came over. My stepbrother did not allow me to attend the funeral or tell me where her ashes were scattered.
22. My health has suffered in recent years. I had a hip replacement in 2011. The surgeon told me that the deterioration on the right side must have been due to something that happened in my childhood. As long as I can remember I have always had a lean to one side, I cannot recall any specific incident as a child which may have damaged my right side.
23. I am still in contact with some of the boys that were with me in Dhurringile and we get together for reunions. We talk about the happy times that we had together growing up and try to forget the times that were not so good.
24. People say 'you are lucky that you are here' and to some extent I am but, I feel hurt at being taken away from my family and what I have missed out on, being told that I was an orphan, my mother being told that I had been adopted out, having my name and date of birth changed, so that she would have no way of tracing me. I missed out on 50 years of special moments that only a family can provide, I was taken away from my mother and family as a child and that loss cannot be filled.

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Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts in this witness statement are true

Signed HIA 346

Dated 28/10/13.

HIA enquiries concernin [redacted] HIA 341 [redacted] HIA 346 [redacted] HIA 354 [redacted] HIA 365 [redacted] and  
HIA 290 [redacted] in regard to Migrant schemes to Australia

1 [redacted] HIA 341 [redacted] an [redacted] HIA 346 [redacted]

These were two of seven boys from Manor House Home (MHH) who went to Australia under a Child Migrant scheme of the Presbyterian Church - see M.H.H. minute book 1945-56 (MHH. MB 45-56), p. 180 - (Appendix A)

The other five boys were [redacted] AU 78 [redacted] AU 79 [redacted] AU 80 [redacted] AU 81 [redacted] and [redacted] AU 82 [redacted] - see M.H.H. MB 1960-63, p. 108. - (Appendix B)

**Summary:** The Presbyterian church approached MHH in 1950 to ask for boys to go to Australia under their migrant scheme. The MHH committee meeting on 16th June 1950 decided to obtain further information on this scheme, asking the Matron to find out more and to refer it to the Superintendent of Irish Church Missions (ICM).

A minute of the MHH committee for 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1950 (MHH MB 45-56, p. 195 – Appendix C) tells the committee that 7 boys had been selected. MHH has no records of how the selection was made, if parental consent was sought, and if any medical examination was carried out. The minute simply states that the 7 boys would be fully cared for, educated, and given the best possible start in life under this scheme. No money was received by MHH nor is there any record in the minute books of any payment ever being received at any time then or in the future by MHH or ICM.

A minute of the MHH Committee on May 10<sup>th</sup> 1951 (MHH MB 45-56, p. 210 – Appendix D) records the receiving of a letter from the General Committee of ICM, London, expressing their pleasure that friends in Australia were giving the 7 boys such a good chance and 'wonderful opportunity'. They said that a letter received from Australia about the 7 boys would be written up in the ICM magazine, 'The Banner of the Truth in Ireland'. This was a letter from [redacted] AU 43 [redacted] (Superintendent of Social Services Melbourne) of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, Australia, writing about the 7 boys' arrival and circumstances at the Dhurringle Rural Training Farm (Appendix E)

A minute of the MHH Committee on the 16<sup>th</sup> October 1961 (MHH MB 60-63, p. 76 – see Appendix F) records a report received on 5 of the 6 boys from MHH who were still in the Dhurringle Training Farm, Murchison, Victoria. This report, from a Mr. R. J. Read, Superintendent of Dhurringle, came to the MHH committee through the 'Belfast Welfare Committee'. The minutes do not record the relationship of MHH or ICM to the Belfast Welfare Committee. On receipt of this report, the MHH committee decided to write to the boys, now in their late teens and early twenties giving them news of MHH.

A minute of the MHH Committee on the 28<sup>th</sup> May 1962 (MHH MB 60-63, p. 108 – Appendix B above) records that the secretary read out to the MHH committee members a copy of the letter they had sent to the boys and a copy of a letter, written by [redacted] AU 2, AU 45 [redacted], Acting Superintendent of Dhurringle Farm about the boys. Mr. Read's letter said that the boys were doing well and all but [redacted] AU 81 [redacted] had substantial bank accounts.

A minute of the MHH Committee in October 1963 (MHH MB 60-63, p. 162 – Appendix G) records that [redacted] HIA 341 [redacted] had written (his letter is not extant) to the MHH, saying he was anxious to trace his parents. The MHH committee were told that 'all possible enquiries had been made but without success'. So, the committee agreed to reply and inform him accordingly.

HIA 346

1/62/97

For all persons, sixteen years of age and over, and those under sixteen not accompanied by parents.

**CHILD MIGRANT**  
**COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA**  
 DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION, AUSTRALIA HOUSE,  
 LONDON, W.C.2.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

Declaration by Applicant

NAME

HIA 346

Full Name in Block Capitals

ADDRESS HANOR HOUSE HOME

1. Have you ever had any serious accident/illness or surgical operation? If so, please furnish details  
No
2. Have you or has any member of your family ever suffered from or been suspected of Tuberculosis?  
No
3. Have you ever had Enuresis or any sign of disease of the Genito Urinary Organs? NO
4. Have you or has any member of your family ever suffered from mental disease or epilepsy or been treated in an institution of any kind for these Diseases? No
5. What medical attention have you required during the last twelve months?

I hereby certify that the information supplied by me to the Medical Examiner is correct in every particular.

Signature of applicant which must be made in the presence of the Medical Referee

MH 1

Signature of Applicant

Results of Medical Examination.

AGE 8 yrs HEIGHT 3 1/2 ft WEIGHT 52 lbs

A. Heart NORMAL F. Genito Urinary Organs NORMAL

Urine No albumin No sugar

Blood Pressure NORMAL G. Sight { without glasses SE 6/6 LE 6/6  
 with glasses (if worn) SE 6/6 LE 6/6  
 (Snellen's Type)

B. Lungs NORMAL Cause of defect in sight

(Particularly Tuberculosis)

X-Ray report H. Hearing NORMAL

C. a. Nervous System NORMAL I. Physique Average

b. Mental Condition NORMAL J. Skin NORMAL

D. Intelligence NORMAL K. If pregnant, period of pregnancy

E. Digestive Organs NORMAL L. Teeth Upper 12 lower

REMARKS (include particulars of any departure from normal conditions not fully set out in above)

Apparently normal healthy child.

In cases where the Medical Examiner is unable to describe the applicant as being in perfect health, he should state under "REMARKS" the exact nature of the defect which he finds and whether it is of temporary or permanent nature. The presence of Pediculi should be noted.

Any disablement received on Active Service or otherwise should also be noted and commented on, and if a Pension is received the amount of it should be stated.

I certify that I have this day examined the above-named and am of opinion that the applicant is/ ~~is not~~ in good health and of sound constitution, and ~~is~~ is not suffering from any mental or bodily defect which would cause inability to earn a living as in Civil Service

Date 14 SEP 1950

Signature and Qualifications

State Occupation

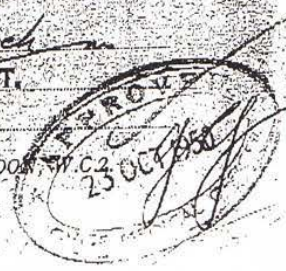
Address 446 LISBURN ROAD, BELFAST.

TO —

CHIEF MIGRATION OFFICER, AUSTRALIA HOUSE, STRAND, LONDON W.C.2.

(FORM K.)

PLEASE TURN OVER.



TO BE COMPLETED  
IN DUPLICATE

L.E.M. 3.

Ref. No. ....

Group Nomination No. ....

## Commonwealth of Australia

DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION, AUSTRALIA HOUSE, LONDON.

### Child Migration.

Sections A and C of this form are to be completed by the approved voluntary organisation in the United Kingdom. Section B to be completed by the parent or guardian of the child.

#### SECTION A.

1. Name in full **HIA 346**  
(in block capitals, surname first)
2. Full Postal Address **MANOR HOUSE HOME DUBLIN ROAD LISTOWN**  
(in block capitals)  
**CO. DUBLIN, NW IRELAND.**
3. Age **8 yrs** Date and Year of Birth **[REDACTED]** Place of Birth **Belfast Nth. Ireland**
4. Sex **MALE** Weight **[REDACTED]** Church Denomination **Church of Ireland**
5. Furnish name and address of parent, guardian or next of kin **MH 1**  
(If father is living his name must be given)  
**Manor House Home Dublin Rd Listown Co. Dublin**
6. Is there any record of mental disease in the child? **No**
7. Has he or she at any time been subject to fits? **No**
8. Educational standard **GOOD SLIGHT WEAKNESS IN ARITHMETIC**

Signed ...

**MH 1**For and on behalf of **Commonwealth of Australia** **Manor House Home Listown**  
(Name of Sponsoring Organisation)Date **20 July 1950**

#### SECTION B.

#### PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S CONSENT (FATHER IF LIVING)

- I, **MH 1** **Manor House Home Listown Co. Dublin Nth. Ireland**  
(Insert full name, occupation and address)  
of **Manor House Home Listown Co. Dublin Nth. Ireland**  
the **father** **MH 1** **HIA 346**  
**mother** of **[REDACTED]**  
**guardian**  
hereby consent to my child/ward proceeding to Australia under the Commonwealth Child Migration Scheme.

Dated this **20th** day of **July** 19**50**

Signature...

**MH 1**

\*Witness

Address

**J. J. [REDACTED] 13 Belair Rd**

Qualification

Department of Immigration

**London**

\*The witness to the parent's or guardian's consent must be one of the following :-

A Mayor, Magistrate, Provost or Justice of the Peace.

A Barrister, Advocate, Solicitor or Notary Public.

A Minister of Religion.

A Registered Medical Practitioner.

An Officer on the active or half-pay or pension lists of any of His Majesty's Naval, Military or Air Forces.

A person on the active or pension list of the permanent Civil Service of the Crown, who is, or was at the date of retirement, in receipt of a salary of not less than £450 a year.

A Manager, Chief Cashier, or Accountant of a Bank.

A Teacher at a school recognised by the Ministry of Education or the Scottish Education Department.

A Police Officer not below the rank of Sergeant.

Approved Assisted Passage

Chief Selection Officer

(PLEASE TURN OVER)

Irish Church Missions (ICM) welcomes and supports the work of the HIA Inquiry and utterly condemns all and any kind of child abuse. It is also the firm view of ICM that the Manor House Home (MHH), Lisburn, which closed in 1984 endeavoured to nurture and protect the children under its care over the fifty-five years of its existence. It is our contention in relation to the applicants of the Australian module that this was indeed the case.

In regard to the claims of [HIA 341], we find these impossible to reconcile against his previous claim in the documents he submitted to the Inquiry. On page AUS 11049, he is quoted in the newspaper article: “I have no memory of my life before I was 10”, says [HIA 341], 56...’ He left MHH for Australia when he was 9. This is consistent with all the newspaper articles that [HIA 341] has submitted to the HIA Inquiry. In all of them, he makes no mention whatsoever of abuse in the MHH, let alone the kind of abuse he is now submitting to the Inquiry as having experienced.

Furthermore, in the claims he is making about MHH, the only name he mentions in the alleged abuse is of an older boy, who ‘might have been an altar boy at the church’. MHH was a Protestant home attached to a Church of Ireland church, Christ Church, Lisburn, where there were no such things as ‘altar boys.’ Such abuse could not therefore have happened in the MHH. [HIA 341] recent recollections are therefore not accurate.

In regard to [HIA 346], the tenor of the claims are vague with no staff named in the ‘couple of times’, he says he was beaten by staff. Certainly, corporeal punishment was administered in the 1940’s by institutions and MHH was no exception. However, the MHH noted and took seriously any such punishment and indeed investigated any claim of excessive punishment. In the minutes of the MHH committee of 9<sup>th</sup> August 1946, the alleged excessive physical punishment of two boys by the assistant- Matron was immediately investigated by the Committee, who sent for the local doctor to examine the boys. The doctor’s report is quoted dismissing any claims of excessive punishment; the assistant-Matron was brought before the MHH committee and questioned why she administered physical punishment. Because of the Doctor’s report, her description of what had happened was accepted. Furthermore, the committee was reminded of the policy of the ICM on the matter of physical punishment, which was that ‘punishment with a cane was only to be given on the hands and that the open hand may be used on the buttocks.’ All this shows that any report of excessive punishment was taken seriously by the MHH committee and that children then were not permitted to be subjected to the kind of harsh treatment alleged by [HIA 346] and [HIA 341].

Not only that, children were free to question the administration of physical punishment. A minute of the MHH committee meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> July 1947 shows that the Matron, [MH 1], reported that she had to administer punishment to one boy and that some of the boys questioned her on this. They went before the MHH committee where the chairman explained to them that the Matron had their support! The fact that the MHH committee even talked to the boys is indicative that they took the administration of physical punishment seriously and that children certainly could complain to the highest level, contrary to the claims of the applicants.

In regard to the 7 boys from MHH sent on the Presbyterian Church scheme to Australia in 1950, the records of the MHH (pp.11057-11071) clearly show that this was regarded as a great opportunity for them by the MHH and ICM. Indeed, the correspondence surrounding the emigration of [HIA 354] from Tyrone (pp. 11259-11264), indicates that the Ministry of Home Affairs at Stormont also thought that this scheme of the Presbyterian church of Victoria was in the best interests of the children and that the Presbyterian church was regarded as a responsible body.

The material submitted by [HIA 346] clearly shows that the proper procedures concerning the certificates of migration and medical examinations were followed by MHH. Furthermore, MHH minutes (p.11064) show that the MHH committee took the initiative to write to the boys and when one of them, [HIA 341] later wrote looking for information on his parents, the MHH committee enthusiastically endeavoured to help him (p.11065), which is immediately apparent in their warm and sympathetic reply (p.11046).

In summary, the claims of the applicants do not show systemic abuse on the part of the MHH, firstly, because the claims are contradictory to earlier claims made by one applicant, [HIA 341], and secondly, the records of the MHH show that they consistently had the best interests of the children at heart in dealing with matters of discipline and also in the matter of emigration.

**30 MAY 2014**

Mr Patrick Butler  
HIA Historical Abuse Inquiry  
PO Box 2080  
Belfast BT1 9QA

Church House  
61/67 Donegall Street  
Belfast  
BT1 2QH

28<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Dear Mr Butler

**The Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry and Manor House Home, Lisburn****The Child Migrant Schemes****ANSWERS TO HIA QUERIES - 11<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

a) Irish Church Missions (ICM) was not involved in the Australian Migrant Schemes except for the one-off sending of 7 boys in 1950.

This was in response to a request from The Presbyterian Church in Australia and Ireland.  
(Appendix A + C)

b) The Presbyterian officials explained about the Training Farm the boys were going to. The initial request was followed by a few months of referral to the Superintendent and the Trustees before the decision was given. The Trustees seemed satisfied that this was a good opportunity for them. (See Appendix D)

c) There is no extant record of how the particular 7 boys in the one-off scheme of 1950 were selected.

There is no extant record from the 1950 period as to whether the parents of the 7 boys were contacted.

There is no extant record of the 1950 period on the basis of their selection.

d) No record exists of this regarding the 1950 one-off event.

e) No record exists of this regarding the 1950 one-off event.

i) In the one-off event of 1950, the ICM did receive information about the 7 boys after their arrival. (see Appendix E)

No other record exists until 1961 when Manor House Home (MHH) received a letter from The Belfast Welfare concerning the boys. (see Appendix F) However we have a record of the MHH committee writing to the boys.

There is more correspondence in 1962. (see Appendix B)

- j) There is no extant record concerning this in regard to the 7 boys of 1950.
- k) No extant record on this.
- l) No extant record on this.
- m) We have no record about the Presbyterian Scheme and its relationship with the Northern Ireland government.
- n) Not known.
- o) Not known.

I, Reverend Edmond Coulter, Superintendent of ICM have made a complete search of the records in our custody and to the best of my knowledge, the enclosed response is the extent of our information in the boys named. I have come across no other names of children involved in an Australian migrant scheme with ICM.

Yours sincerely



Revd Edmond Coulter  
Superintendent Irish Church Missions

Dublin

## Appendix A

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Manor House Home. 16<sup>th</sup> June 1950. Continued.

Registration as a Voluntary Home

In connection with the Adoption of Children Act, Mr Merrick who was present recommended that the Manor House Home, instead of being registered as an "Adoption Society" should be registered as a "Voluntary Home" pursuant to the Children and Young Persons Act (N.I.) 1950 and it was proposed <sup>by</sup> Mr Gird. Seconded by Mrs. Baunister, and agreed unanimously to comply with Mr Merrick's recommendation and have this Home registered as a Voluntary Home.

It was reported that the cement in Mrs Dickson's yard was broken. Mr Gird suggested that a Contractor be asked to make an examination and estimate cost of repairs.

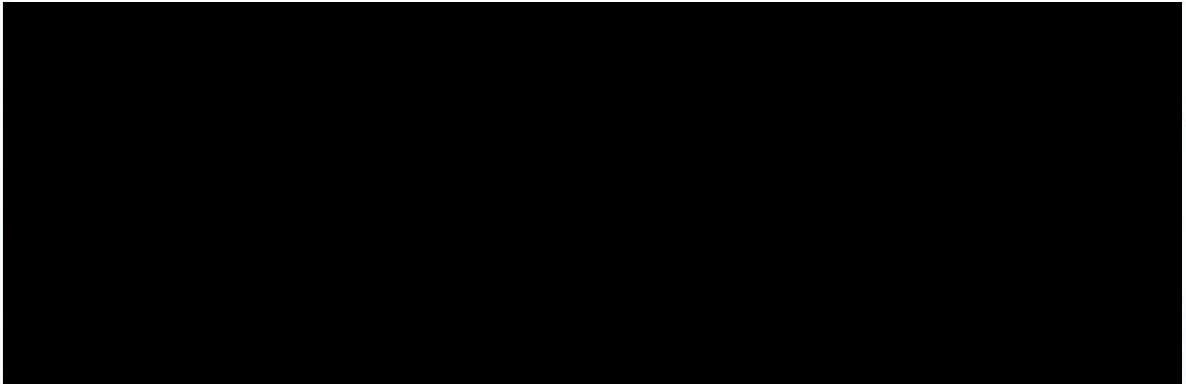
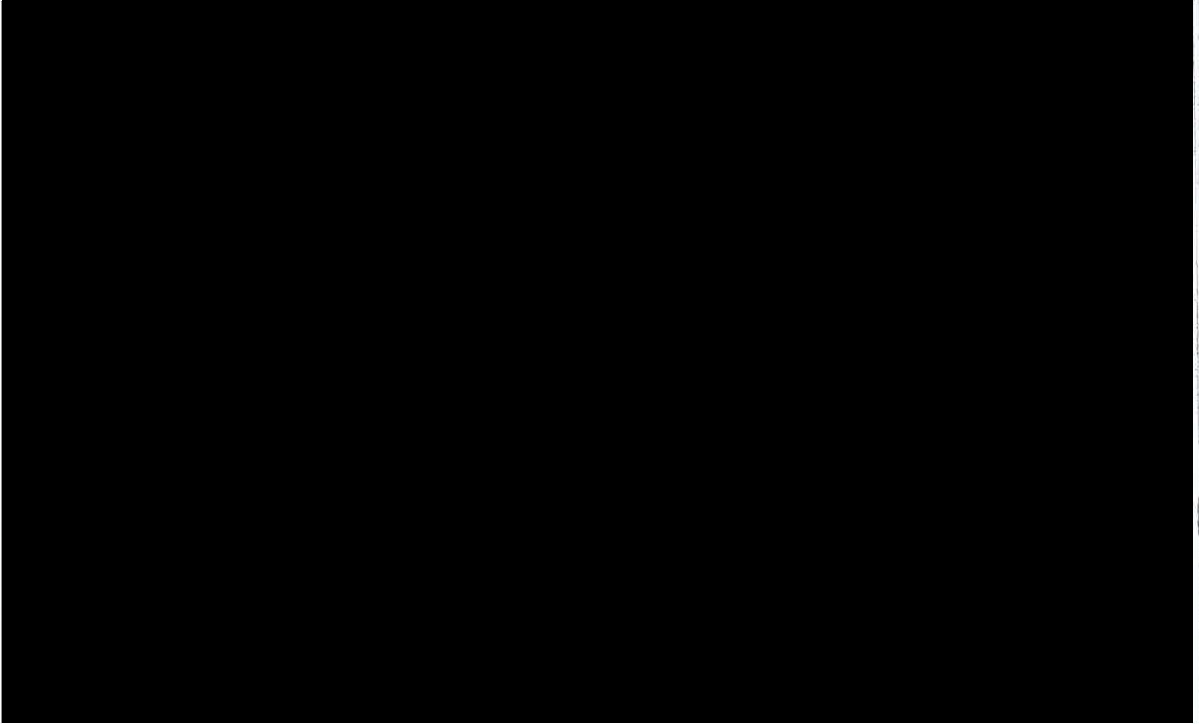
Matron reported that the Presbyterian Authorities in Belfast had been in communication with her and wished to introduce one of the representatives of that Church who were at present on a visit to Ireland from Australia and Canada, for the purpose of procuring boys as Emigrants. Miss Scott to obtain further information and submit to Mr Giff for his suggestions.

Appendix B

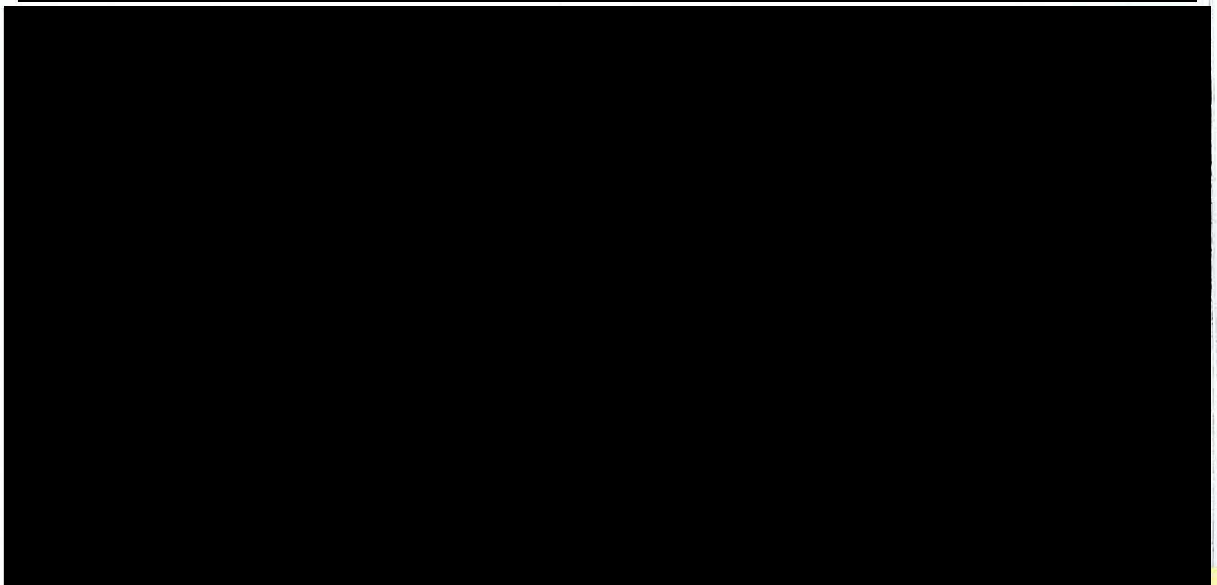
108.

-5-

SECRETARY'S  
HOUSE



MOORE'S  
BUILDING



CORRESPONDENCE:

DHURRINGILE  
TRAINING  
FARM,  
VICTORIA

The Secretary read a copy of a letter which had been sent to the boys whose addresses could be obtained in Australia and a letter which had been received from AU 45 AU 45 Acting Superintendent, Dhurringile Rural Training Farm, giving accounts of AU 78 AU 79 HIA 346 AU 80 AU 81 AU 82 and HIA 341 who (all around 20 - 21 years old) seemed to be doing very well. One boy had "got himself into a spot of trouble" but was understood to be doing better now and all except AU 81 seemed to have substantial bank balances.

## Appendix C

2. R

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Manor House Home

2<sup>nd</sup> November 1950 Contd.

Mr Gird called the attention of the Committee to the payment of accounts, and was not satisfied that these should be discharged without being examined by the Committee and initiated by the Chairmen.

Matron reported that the seven boys selected for migration to Australia under the Sherringtons Rural Training Farm scheme, in connection with the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, would shortly be leaving and will travel via Liverpool to Tahara, about 1000 miles from Melbourne in the beautiful district of the Goulburn Valley. They will be educated at a local State School, high schools, and Technical <sup>Schools</sup> and be trained in farming; and if any boy desires to enter a trade or profession, the Church will provide him with every facility to do so and will sponsor him through his apprenticeship or course.

G. S. Baunister.

T/12/50.

## Append. x D

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10<sup>th</sup> May 1951 - Continued.

We began would fully understand, the Committee agreed that he should be consulted, before further action should be taken.

A letter from Mrs. Weir was read thanking the Committee on behalf of her husband and herself for their presentation of a nest of tables made on the occasion of her marriage.

Letters were read from the Society for Irish Church Missions, London, intimating their pleasure that the friends in Australia had taken such a keen interest in the boys from this home, and the wonderful opportunity to start in a new country. Information had been given to the Editors of "The Banner of the Truth in Ireland" and would likely appear in the forthcoming issue.

Mr. Karren reported that Dr. Johnston had requested that a baby named [redacted] whose mother was a Roman Catholic and father a Protestant, should be received into the home on a temporary basis. Payment at the rate of 10/- per week, would be made.

The Committee agreed to Dr. Johnston's request.

Regarding the 3 children from County Fermanagh, one had been sent to Enniskillen

3 children from  
Fermanagh.

## Appendix E

2

## THE BANNER OF THE TRUTH IN IRELAND

Catholics (which is an important link leading to the Enquirers' Classes) will go on. The vital Scriptural instruction and general education for the children will be maintained by I.C.M. teachers as formerly. Colportage work in the country and the witness of the Society in Dublin will bring the message of the Gospel to many needy hearts.

That is the intention of the Committee, because it believes it is the purpose of God. It is hoped also that it will be possible to continue the Babies' Nursery, which is contained in the modern building erected in the grounds of Boley House, at Monkstown, Co. Dublin.

## Tokens Already

These important decisions have been made after much consideration and prayer. Far-reaching changes now follow them. It has been a source of great encouragement to the Committee to see already manifest tokens of God's blessing outpoured upon the Society. We know that supporters will rejoice with us that these evidences of the Lord's favour have already marked the difficult path we must tread in the present reorganization.

We invite all friends to special waiting upon God, whose promise is:

"Call upon Me in the day of trouble:  
I will deliver thee,  
And thou shalt glorify Me."

—Psalm 50, v. 15.

## MANOR HOUSE HOME, LISBURN

The following are some notes concerning our children's home in the North of Ireland.

First of all we send our prayerful good wishes and congratulations to Mrs. Weir (whom we have formerly known as Miss Scott, the Matron of the Home). She was married on January 13. As she is to live at Finaghy, only four miles away she hopes to keep in touch with the children still.

At the beginning of the autumn Canon J. S. Taylor was compelled through ill-health to resign the chairmanship of the local Committee which he has guided so ably since the Home

## THE BANNER OF THE TRUTH IN IRELAND

3

was opened in 1927. A successor to him has been found in the person of Canon Henry O'Connor.

Early in November seven of our boys sailed away to Australia. They are going to a training school from which there will be opportunities for them to enter secondary schools and the universities. Writing from Port Said, they were evidently enjoying the trip. But they were missed very much at the Manor House.

News of the arrival of the seven boys in Australia has reached us and we have been asked to include the letter which has been received at the Manor House Home. It was written from Melbourne on January 12 last, and comes from **AU 43** of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria. He says:

"On behalf of our 'Dhurringile Rural Training Farm' Committee, I have to thank you for your co-operation and help in arranging for the migrants from the Manor House Home to come to Australia with our representative, the Rev. A. Boag.

"The boys arrived safely and are settling down to Australian conditions. Arrangements are being made for their Primary, Secondary or Technical education for 1951 according to each boy's inclination.

"Great interest has been shown in the boys throughout the whole district and there have been many offers of help in the surrounding towns and countryside that, when the boys are ready to leave the Home, many good friends will offer the lads a home and positions. Each boy will choose his own job in life.

"Meanwhile, with abundance of milk, butter, cream, fruit and meat, etc., all the boys appear to be happy and putting on weight."

We know that our friends will remember to pray for these lads as they begin life in a new land.

During last year an appeal was made over the wireless of the B.B.C. for the Home in the Week's Good Cause. The Rt. Hon. Sir J. Milne Barbour was the speaker.

In January Miss Bonyng, the new Matron, was welcomed; and we shall pray that under her direction the work of God amongst the children will go on.

The Banner of the Truth in Ireland  
April - June 1951

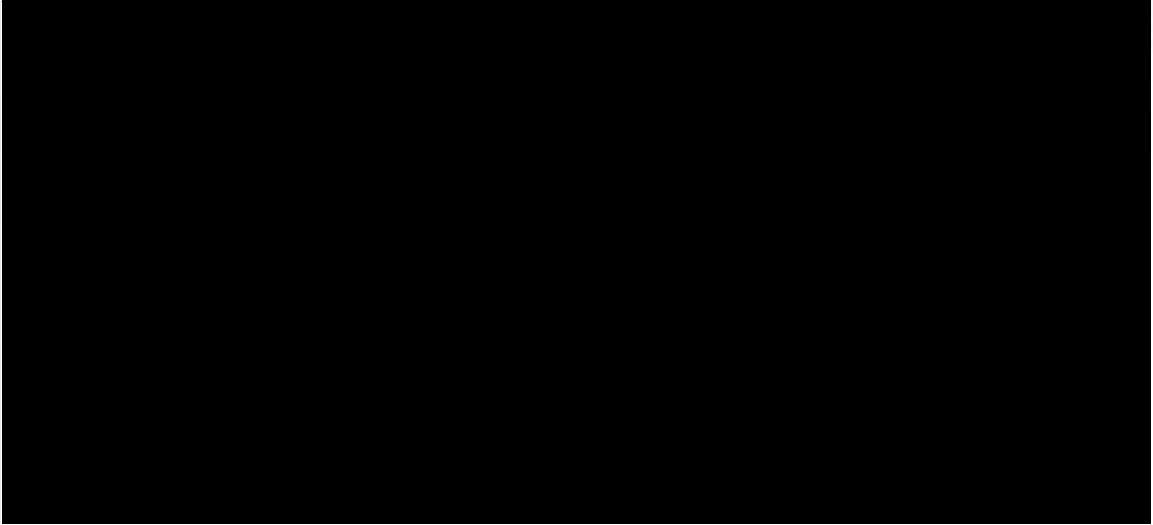
104  
P. W. H.

Appendix F

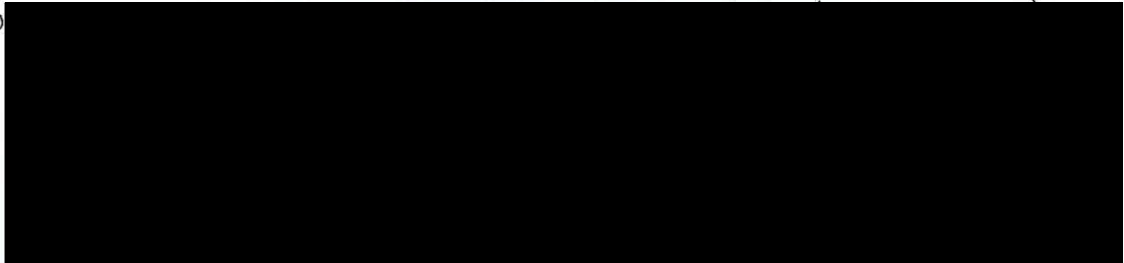
76.

-2-

SECRETARY'S  
REPORT contd.



FOOTBALL FIELD



OTHER CORRESPONDENCE:

SUNDAY PICTORIAL

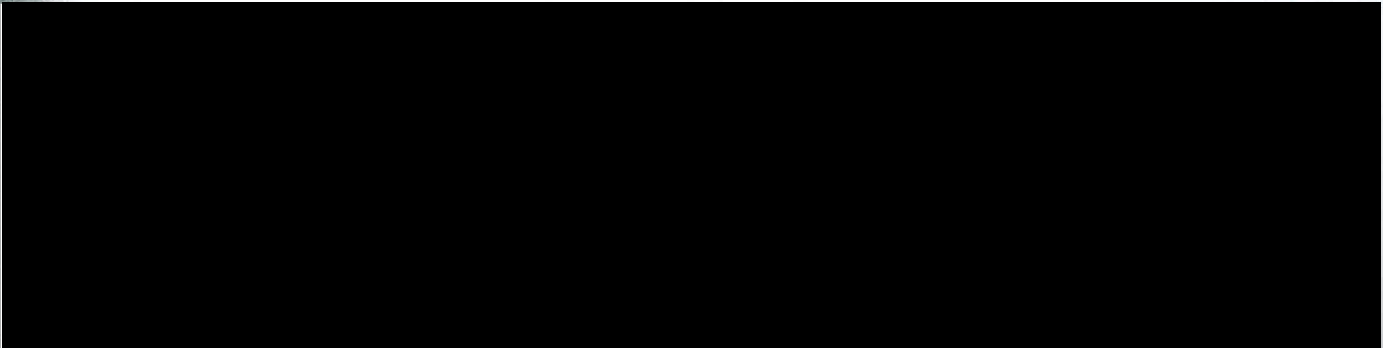


REPORT OF  
DHURRUNGILE  
TRAINING FARM,  
MURCHISON,  
VICTORIA.

This report had been received per the Belfast Welfare Committee from Mr. R. J. Read, Superintendent of "Dhurrungile Training Farm". Mentioned in this report were five of the six boys who left the Manor House Home for Australia in December, 1950.

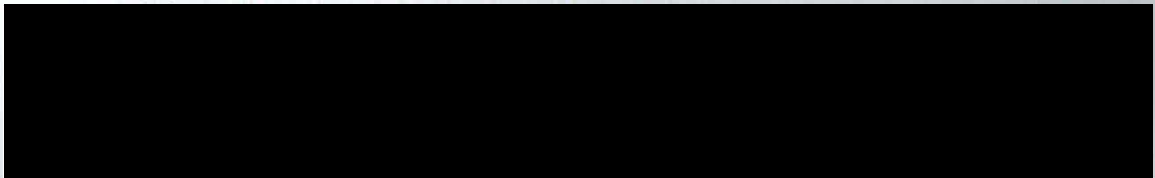
It was decided to send a circular letter to each ex-M.H.H. boy, whose address it was possible to get, giving such news of the Home as might be thought interesting.

It was suggested that a similar circular letter be sent to any ex-M.H.H. children whose addresses could be found.



OTHER BUSINESS:

HONORARY  
TREASURER'S  
REPORT



Appendix 9

162.

-2-

CORRESPONDENCE:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

HIA 341

The Secretary read a very interesting letter from (ex-M.H.H. boy) this young man giving an account of his work and activities in Australia and that as he hoped to become engaged at Christmas he was anxious to trace his parents.

All possible enquiries had been made but without success. It was agreed to reply to HIA 341 letter and inform him accordingly.

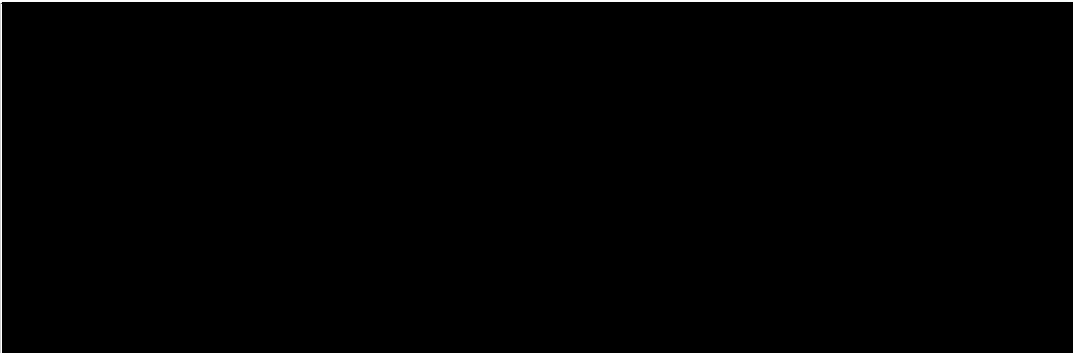
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
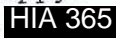




[REDACTED]

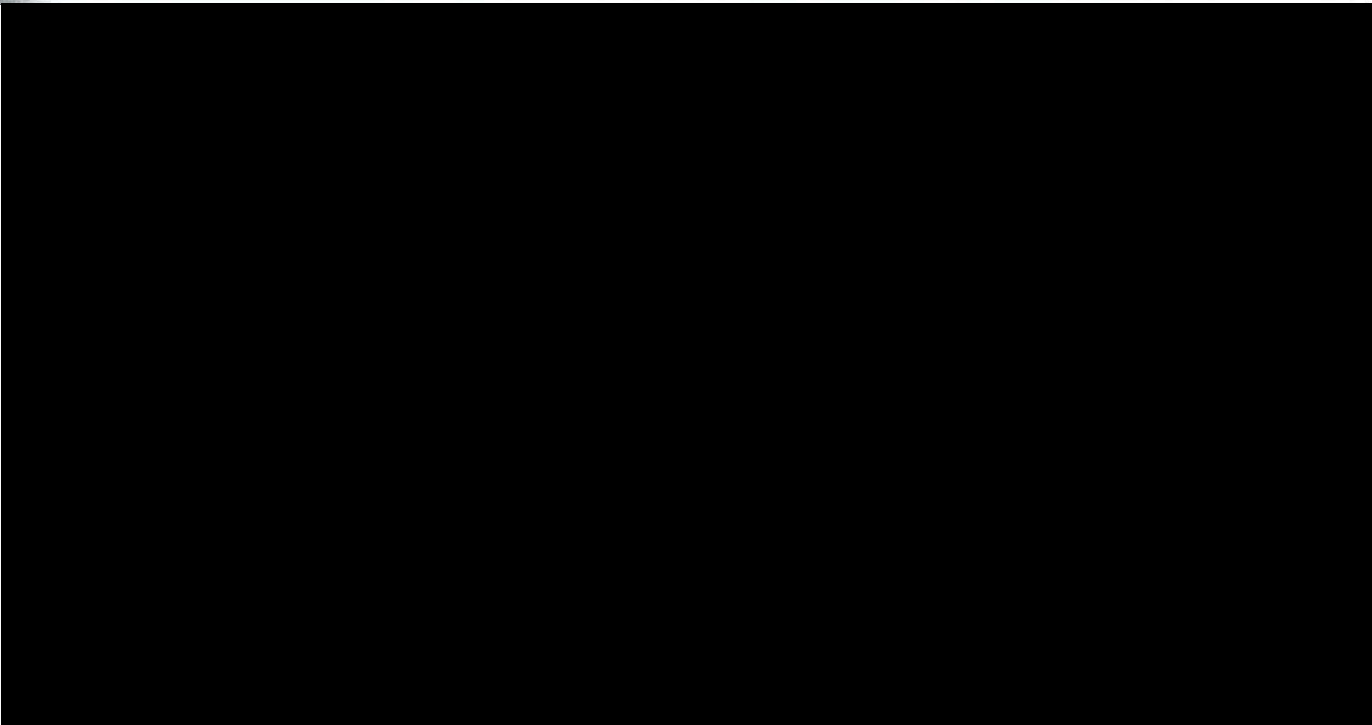
NAME	ADDRESS	DATE OF BIRTH	RELIGION	ADMITTED	DISCHARGED	REMARKS
[REDACTED]	MOTHER: [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Presb.	2.1.69	17.2.69	
[REDACTED]	FATHER [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	B.I.S.	3.1.69	4.7.71	[REDACTED]
			"	3.1.69	17.10.74	
			"	3.1.69		
			"	3.1.69		
				Returned to their		
HIA 290, HIA 365, AU 83	FATHER [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Baptist	16.1.69	11.6.69	No maintenance paid this time (Total £41). gone to Australia with their father, under Fairbridge Society Address: Cook Cottage, Fairbridge Farm, Pinjarra, W. Australia.
AU 83				11.1.69	11.6.69	
HIA 290				9.1.69	11.6.69	
HIA 365	Address of Fairbridge Society, Inc., 119-126, N.E. Wharf, Bush House, Aldwych, LONDON, W.C.2. Gen. Sec., Maj.-Gen. D.P. Hawthorne, C.B., D.S.O.					

Appendix I

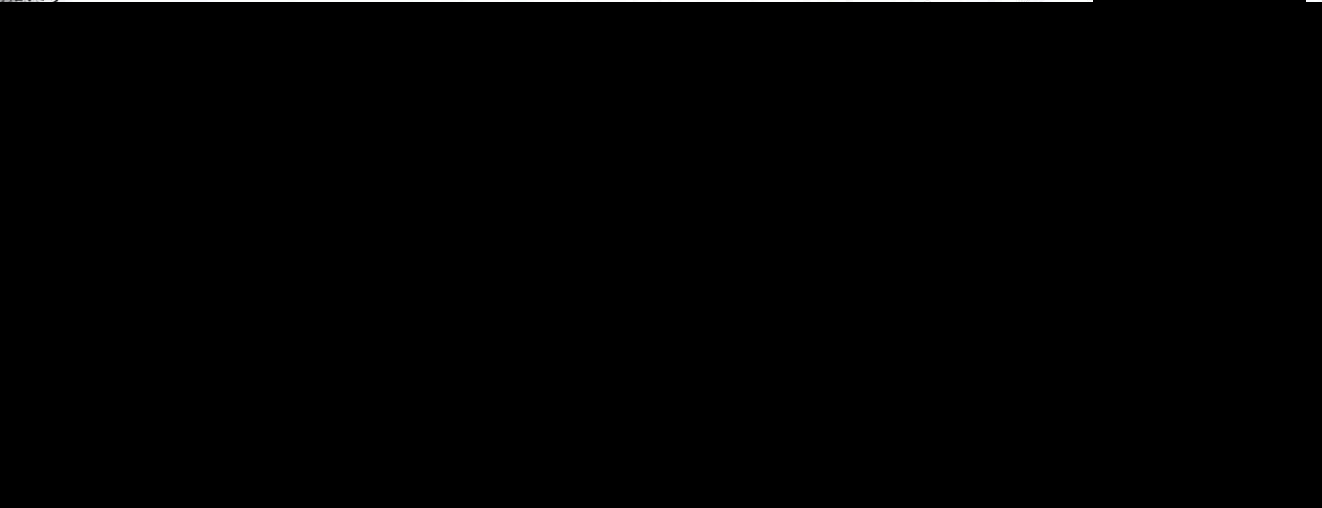
379

LIRON'S REPORT  
contd.

on Sunday. He seemed very happy. She was worried about Mr.  AU 83  HIA 290 and  HIA 365 seemed worried about something and  AU 83 was being asked to collect the family allowance on behalf of his father. The Secretary was asked (a) to inform Mr.  that he was not allowed to send  AU 83 to collect family allowance and (b) to contact the local welfare Committee and ask their advice about the  family.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

91.69



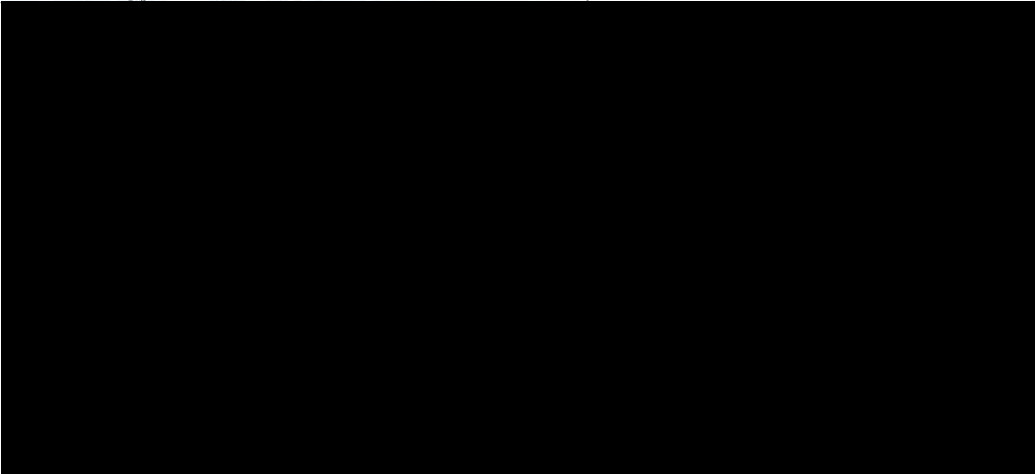
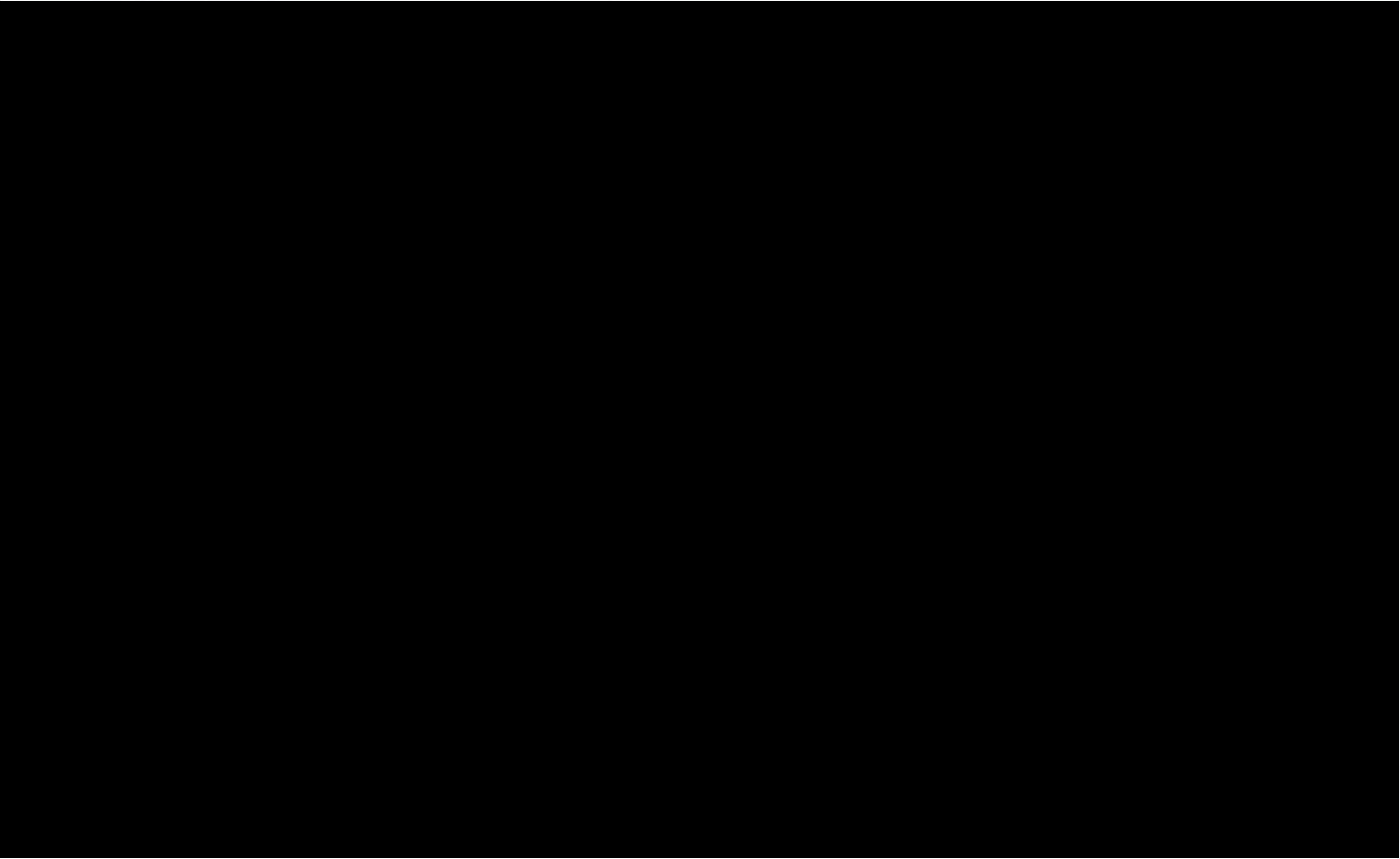

Appendix J  
-2-

388

  
538.69

## MATRON'S REPORT

Miss Silcock on being admitted reported that there were 21 children in residence, 4 of whom were under 5 years of age. All were in good health. AU 83 HIA 290 and HIA 365 would probably be going to Australia in due course (all had undergone various medical examinations and tests).

Children's Holiday  
  


Appendix K

507

549.69  
MATRON'S REPORT

Miss Silcock reported that since **AU 83** **HIA 290**  
and **HIA 365** emigrated to Western Australia  
on the 13th instant, there were 18 children in  
residence, 5 of these under 5.

HONORARY TREASURER'S  
REPORT

550 & 551.59  
Income & Expenses

552.69  
WASHING MACHINES

Appendix L

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-3-

HIA 290, HIA 365, AU 83

FAMILY

The Secretary reported that Mrs. [REDACTED] the mother of **AU 83** **HIA 290** and **HIA 365** had returned from Southern Rhodesia and had met her husband to discuss the possibility of a reunion. She and her husband had taken out the boys but it was feared that the discussions might not prove successful and it seemed likely that Mrs. [REDACTED] might return to Rhodesia after all. This had been rather an upset to the boys, especially **HIA 365** whose health had formerly improved but seemed to have deteriorated again.

65.65PURCHASE OF  
MEAT

J. B. Lowe

21-6-65.

Appendix M

212.

-2-

ACTING  
MATRON'S  
REPORT

Miss Graham reported that except in the case of  
[REDACTED] who was suffering from tonsillitis and  
HIA 365 [REDACTED] chronic asthmatic) the health of the  
children was good, similarly the staff. [REDACTED]  
had called once recently after neglect for a long  
period.

John B. Lowe.

14-12-64