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His Honour the Administrator
of the Northern Territory,
DARWIN, N.T.

Corporal Punishment in Institutions
Under the Welfare Ordinance and the
Child Welfare Bill.

Reference is made to your memorandum
56/1919/220 of 14th August, 1958.

2. Your recommendations were placed before the
Minister with the comment :

"Nevertheless I feel that, despite that
great wisdom and patience may develop
in those charged with the care of the
young (whether native or non-native),
instances will occur which can only
be met by the infliction of corporal
punishment. It is true that, in general,
corporal punishment is undesirable, and
degrading not only to those upon whom it
is inflicted, but also on those who inflict
it - but I feel that, in proper cases it
can produce a result which is capable of
being produced in no other way."

3. As it was obvious that you had given very close
thought indeed to the problem it was recommended that your
recommendations for the infliction of corporal punishment,
under strict control, be approved.

4. In giving his approval on 10th September, 1958,
the Minister wrote:

"The statements in paragraph 4, (quoted in
paragraph 2 above), (the second sentence
especially) are close to my own views and
the Administrator should be informed that,
in giving approval, my view is that in
general corporal punishment is undesirable;
it is to be regarded only as a last resort."



C. E. Lambert
(C. E. Lambert)
Secretary.

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