

7:GMP

FAXED

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

13 February 1995

Brother R.J. McDonald,
Provincial
St Mary's Provincial Administration
Private Box 154
BALMAIN NSW 2041
Attention: Brother W.B. Greening

BY FACSIMILE: 810-3033

Dear Brother,

RE: TRUSTEES OF THE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS AT SLATER AND GORDON

We refer to previous correspondence herein.

After extensive consideration of the Christian Brother's archives in Australia, it is possible to draw the following conclusions:

1. One Brother against whom allegations were made, **REDACTED**, was dismissed in 1943 (however the Brothers were on notice that he was inclined to fondle boys, see scrutiny book 5.12.30).
2. Three Brothers were transferred after allegations were made. A fourth was transferred although there is no record of the reason for the transfer other than noting that he was not a part of the community the next year.
3. Two Brothers received letters requesting explanations which were responded to with denials.

- 2 -

This however seems to be in marked contrast with investigations of similar complaints which took place in the eastern states prior to the split up of the provinces in 1953.

Are there documents in existence in the Sydney archive which reveal for example any recommendations or reports concerning the split up of the Provinces in 1953? We would be interested to know whether the split up, in part came about because it was found that the Western Australian institutions were too far away to administer properly. It may be that the entire operation got so large that for administrative convenience it was decided to split into two provinces and had nothing to do with difficulty of managing the Western Australian institutions.

However, it seems that the investigations carried out from Sydney on New South Wales problems, not surprisingly seems to have been somewhat more thorough than in Western Australia. Further, there appear to be more allegations in the eastern states than in the west, although this may a product of a larger number of institutions in New South Wales.

In any event we would be grateful if you could advise us as to the existence or not of any documents in the Sydney archive which may shed light upon the thinking and/or reasons behind the 1953 division.

Should you have any questions concerning this request, please contact our Mr Gerard Phillips.

Yours faithfully
CARROLL & O'DEA
Per: