Visitation Report of CASTLEDARE

COMMUNITY LIST:
Br. K. Salesius Foley (Superior)  Br. J. Gregory Hyland
Br. J. Vivian Murray (SS & B)  Br. G. Salvatore Dick
Br. G. Owen Whitely

HORARIUM:  Monday to Friday
5-45 a.m.  Rise
6-00  Morning Prayers, Spiritual Lecture, Meditation, Mass.
7-30  Breakfast (first sitting) for those not supervising charges.
8-00  Breakfast (second sitting); Boys' breakfast.
9-00  School.
12-35 p.m.  Particular Examen, followed by dinner.
1-15  Beads, Visit (Office).
5-45  Tea (Lecture at the end). (5-30 at the week-end)
6-40  Night Prayers with the boys; Conference when convenient.
8-30  Recreation and Supper.
9-15  Final Night Prayers.

Mass on Saturday: 7-30 a.m.; Mass on Sunday: 8-00 a.m.
The above Horarium is then adjusted to suit these times. The Horarium is very suitable for this establishment where the supervision is more or less continuous because of the age of the boys.

OBSERVANCE: The standard of observance is good, particularly in the morning. Throughout the day, arrangements are such as to enable the Brothers to make their Exercises in common with but one on Supervision duty.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND CHARITY: The Brothers get on well together, giving way a little to the Sub-Superior for the sake of peace and harmony. There is a just disposition of the work of the day; all are generous, willing and self-sacrificing.

PERSONNEL: Br. Salesius Foley, the Superior gives a good lead to the community. He is mild and calm in manner, firm when necessary, but often too shy to correct the Brothers or offer worthwhile timely suggestions. He has obtained a good discipline and spirit among the boys without resorting to harshness. He is a good manager of finance and had gained the goodwill of the many friends of Castledare. In a quiet, unobtrusive way he is giving "a new look" to Castledare.

Br. Vivian Murray has been here over five years. He is an unusual type, even somewhat odd. He is very versatile and willing in effect the key man. He knows this and is inclined to use it as a lever to get his own way. He has a quick and fluent tongue and can be devastating if policy does not meet with his approval. The Annals are an over-detailed account of his contribution to the life of the place - they are written by him! A great deal of time and labour goes into the annual Gilbert & Sullivan Operetta; it takes a heavy toll of his physical energy towards the end of the year when the season is on. It makes one question its worth for such small boys who barely understand what they are doing. He has good control of the boys, although somewhat inclined to favouritism. He has done his best work here; he would not be easily replaced.

Br. Gregory Hyland keeps fairly well, being helped by an occasional blood transfusion. He is retired but dissatisfied because he is not allowed to teach some secondary work at Leederville. I am convinced that his teaching days are over - his health is too uncertain.
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PERSONNEL (Continued): Br. Salvator Dick though a non-teaching Brother gives a great deal of effective help in supervision. He has a dormitory, supervises the mid-day meal, the T.V. sessions, and the little fellows' games. In addition, he visits the markets, maintains the grounds and runs a dairy herd of some twenty cows, milking eight a day. A farm hand assists him. He has good control over the boys; very pleasant in community.

Br. Owen Whitely, Dip. Agr. entered as a non-teacher, but transferred to teaching this year. Although he has had no professional training, he shows promise - he is keen, and able to control his class. His interest in singing could take precedence over essentials - I found he had put it on the Time Table first subject of the day. I was surprised to find that the Superior had not helped him with the drawing up of the Time Table and the setting-out of a Work Programme. In the playground he allows the boys to jump on his back, etc. in the mistaken idea that he should supply a home-like touch. I drew his attention to the prescriptions of the Rule in this regard and pointed out the necessity of reserve. I recommended the Superior to keep in closer contact with him & give him more help and direction.

SCHOOL:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Classes</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mrs. Frankiewicz</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>43</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Br. S. Foley</td>
<td>43</td>
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<td>Total = 117</td>
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Analysis of Enrolment:

- Day Boys: 19
- Wards: 26
- Migrants: 3
- Priv. Cases: 68
- Boarders: 1

Fees:

- Day Boys: Grades 1 & 2: £3 per term; Grades 3, 4, 5: £5 per term.
- Boarders: 35/- a week (inclusive of clothing etc.)

REPORT

The admission of nineteen day boys has been a wise move, both as a stimulus to the various classes, since these boys are reasonably keen and ambitious, and as a means of bringing to Castledare the normal atmosphere and routine of other schools. For too long has the establishment been isolated and allowed to develop a rather casual attitude to school hours, time tables, attendance registers, work programmes, etc. Even now, the school's not normal length (half hour for play and an hour and a quarter for lunch) and no homework is prescribed for any class; the youngsters view TV from after Night Prayers (finishing at 7 p.m.) to bed-time (7:30 p.m.). The memorization of the play becomes a big task for many. Yet a start in the right direction has been made by the introduction of day boys. Classification must next receive attention; the general pattern of each class runs this way: an average top-half with a steep descent among the rest. There are boys in every class with little or no knowledge of number or the alphabet.

Being men, we are not fitted by nature or training for the task of rearing very young boys - those of Grades I and II. The employment of a lady teacher is a help from the school-angle but does not solve the problem completely - the Brothers still have to care for the youngsters in out-of-school hours. Little can be done and is being done; it is impossible for the Matron to reach on it. I have never been happy with their enrolment in Castledare. They should be with the Nuns.
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SCHOOL (Continued): For the rest, one can have nothing but praise and admiration for the work being done for the less-privileged boy, who is obviously very happy at Castledare.

FINANCE:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Balance Sheet as at 30th November 1961</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Receipts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenditure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess I/E</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Receipts to the end of April 1962  £12,991.8.3.
Expenses to the end of April 1962   £11,466.1.2.

Bank Balance to the end of April 1962 £1,525.7.1. Cr.

CHAPLAIN: Father P. Gavin, Parish Priest of Wilson, resides in a cottage on Watts Road, belonging to the Institution. The Chapel is his Parish Church. He has a zealous interest in the boys' spiritual welfare, is very co-operative and enjoys living with the Brothers. His having meals with the community in no way interferes with the religious exercises. He has a Brother with us in the English Province at present teaching in Scotland.

ANNALS: All House books are written up to date.

GENERAL: So far this year no appeal has been made to the Lotteries' Commission for financial assistance. It is recommended that help be sought for the purchase of new equipment for the laundry and that in the process, provision be made for a sewing room near by, with a kitchenette and toilet attached. Some covered ways are needed; parts of the structure of the main house need renovation; the drive-in should be re-sealed. All these were recommended to the Superior. An oil-burning hot water system has recently been installed; it is proving very efficient.

The Canning Road Board refused to renew the licence to keep pigs - a fortunate occurrence, as the pig sheds were uncomfortably close to the residence. The Road Board has also intimated that a storm water drain will run along one of the gazetted roads (designed for possible sub-division) parallel to the main entrance road at a distance about midway between the priest's cottage and Bungaree Road.

J. J. Levander.