



9-6-64

May 6th

1964.

Visitation Report of CASTLEDARE.

COMMUNITY : Brs. Salesius Foley (Superior), Cyprian Hanley (Sub-Superior and Bursar), Salvator Dick (Non-teacher), Malachy Fitzgerald.

OBSERVANCE : Observance of Rule in this small, hard-working community appears to be very satisfactory indeed. Some re-arrangement of time table is necessary by reason of the Brothers' duties with the boys, but all the exercises are performed faithfully and attended punctually.

The daily horarium is as follows :

5-45	Rise.
6-00	Morning prayers, Lecture, Meditation.
7-00	Mass, Litany. Followed by breakfast.
12-30	Particular Examen.
12-40	Dinner. Followed by Lecture, Beads, Visit, Office.
6-00	Tea.
8-10	Conference.
8-30	Recreation.
9-00	Night Prayers.

PERSONNEL: The Br. Superior is in the final year of his period of office. He is a very good religious with a sound appreciation of his duties and obligations to community and boys. His quiet, gentlemanly approach seems to win ready co-operation, and is no doubt a factor in the considerable improvement to be noted in the general spirit of the establishment. There was some mild criticism of him within the community that he is not definite enough in his organizing for special duties - charges, supervision etc. Nevertheless the establishment seems to run very smoothly under his direction.

He has done much to lift the general morale of the boys. As a group they make an excellent impression, giving every evidence of a very sound training in many directions - religion, discipline, manners, cleanliness etc.

Br. Cyprian Hanley is a devoted and conscientious Brother whose duties with the boys are very constant. He has charge of a dormitory and shares most of the outside activities. His bursaring is discharged satisfactorily.

Br. Salvator Dick, although a non-teacher, is responsible for the second dormitory and much supervision work. All of which he performs very well. His control of the boys is good and he appears to have overcome earlier difficulties he experienced in that regard. In community he is genial and obliging.

Br. Malachy Fitzgerald is on Annual Vows, being due for Final Profession in 1965. He is an excellent young Brother who has settled into the busy routine of institution life admirably. He is exact in his religious life and in community is always bright and cheerful. Although limited in ability scholastically, he has proved a very capable teacher of small boys, readily winning their co-operation and exciting their enthusiasm. He is very faithful to his work as sacristan which involves the regular cleaning etc of the large chapel.



Visitation Report of

SCHOOL : There are 150 boys in the school and they are classified as follows - Wards of State 17, Migrants 7, Private cases 87, Day boys 39. Classes are arranged as below :-

Grade II	22 boys	Mrs Frankiewicz.
" III	34 "	Br. M. Fitzgerald.
" IV	52 "	Br. C. Hanley.
" V	42 "	Br. Superior.

There would appear to be a better all-round classification in the school, where work in basic subjects is more uniform and satisfactory. In each Grade, however, there are still several sub-standard boys, who create a problem for their teacher. If possible some special provision should be made for them.

The increase in the number of day boys has had a beneficial effect on the institution and had been partly responsible, at least, for the steady improvement in general class work. However, their number must be restricted if overcrowding is to be avoided in future.

The Brothers are to be commended for the very fine work they have done in the religious training of the boys, whose knowledge of prayers and essential doctrine is very creditable. The general tone and spirit of the Home create a pleasing impression, too. The boys are bright and cheerful, and obviously happy in the place. They are well-mannered, respectful to the Brothers, and friendly without being unduly forward. Their clothing is neat and clean, a tribute to the excellent matron; and in matters of personal cleanliness they are trained carefully.

FARM: Farming activities have been reduced to the milking of some twelve cows and the work is shared by Br. Salvator and a farm-hand. Pastures are poor and very limited, now that playgrounds have been extended; feed has to be purchased, and conditions generally are such that I would strongly recommend the closing of the dairy next year. The land could be used more profitably for simple grazing.

The farm-hand, McAllister, could be usefully employed in the grounds, thus relieving the small boys of much work which is clearly beyond them.

PREMISES: The buildings, grounds etc are in good order. Some painting may be necessary in the near future (e.g. interior of dormitories), but generally the state of repair is very good.

The piggery is being demolished and a similar fate awaits the fowl pens.

FINANCE: In 1963 Expenditure totalled £18,998-18-2.

Receipts were £18,160-2-7.

Leaving a deficit of £838-15-7 on the year's activities.

Cash in Bank on 30/4/64 amounted to £552-II-6, and this together with a loan of £1500 to Trinity College, leaves a Credit of £2052-II-6.

Weekly wages amount to £91-5-0.

Fees are : Private cases 45/- weekly; State Wards 45/- weekly.

Day boys £5 per term .

J. Barry