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Fourteenth

YEAR BOOK

OF THE

DIOCESE OF GRAFTON

N.S.W.

For the Year 1928



Together with Presidential Address at the
Second Session of the Sixth Synod 1928.

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North Coast Children's Home, while five raise funds for missionary work—in one instance sending the large sum of £50 to the New Guinea Missions.

Monthly or fortnightly meetings are held, and a monthly corporate communion arranged in some branches, a practice which may well be followed by all. At the last Diocesan Conference £5 was voted out of diocesan funds towards the memorial fund. Mrs. Tress, and Mrs. A. G. Moore, of Lismore, was elected diocesan secretary.

MAUD E. ASHTON,

Diocesan President.

NORTH COAST CHILDREN'S HOME REPORT

My Lord and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to Synod the annual report of the North Coast Children's Home.

The work has again showed its usefulness and at present there are more children beneath its roof than ever before. Limited accommodation prevents our numbers from being any larger than they are, but at the moment we have twenty boys and girls in our care.

During the year the Executive Committee has effected a number of improvements at a total cost of over £100. These included relining the Matron's room, installation of electric light and general repairs.

Several children have been placed with good families in the district, and the reports of them are all good.

The home has had another successful year financially. A pleasing factor in this is the fact that the contributions from other parishes are increasing.

Quite a number of parishes, including one from as far as Port Macquarie, have sent contributions, for which we are grateful. Of the outside parishes who have assisted in this the executive would like to mention the parish of Dungannon. Donations during the year amount to over £30, besides a quantity of groceries every month. This we consider is largely due to the whole-hearted enthusiasm of the Vicar (Rev. G. Foley).

Wherever the Vicar is keen it follows that the people respond more or less for this work. There is certainly no better for us to do as Priests than to make our people feel their responsibility towards the lambs of the fold.

A few months ago a Parliamentary party, including the Premier and the Minister for Local Government, visited the Home and showed much interest in the work being done. One of them would like to pay a tribute to the work of the honorary medical officer (Dr. F. L. Bignall), the dental surgeon (Mr. H. B. Fraser), the chemist (Mr. A. E. Brand) and the hairdresser (Mr. Fraser). Even the work of the latter entails four hours at home every Saturday afternoon. All those whose names

mentioned do their work gratuitously and willingly. Such work entails much time and care, and our thanks as a church are due to them for their splendid services.

The work brings its little cares and worries, and during the year a complete change of management became necessary through the marriage of a splendid sub-Matron and the resignation of the Matron. Our new Matron is known to many old St. John's men and I think that in Miss Scholes the committee has made a good choice from many applicants.

I need not enlarge upon the work of the past year. But in closing I desire to state that I am firmly convinced that the work is now well established and that it has come to stay. A move is on foot which, if successful, will mean further development on good lines towards that time when the church will be able to care for all its little lambs who, through no fault of their own, have no homes in which to live and no loved ones to prepare them for life's battle.

May I, on their behalf, ask the parishes which have helped in the past to continue, and if possible increase their help, and those who have overlooked the work to give the matter some consideration.

A. G. MOORE, President.

RAILWAY MISSION REPORT,

Since last Synod the tent in which services at the Main Camp were held, has been much improved. It was found to be impossible to build a permanent structure. Services have been held regularly at the Tunnel Camp, Wyangarie Camp, Milligan's Camp, Rose Camp and Mount Gipps, besides occasional services in the smaller camps. At the Tunnel Camp and Wyangarie Camp Sunday School is held every Sunday afternoon. A number of these camp services are held in boarding houses and are usually well attended. Heavy rain and bad roads have interfered with the services from time to time.

It is hoped to issue a monthly paper which will contain notes and news connected with the railway line and the construction of camps and some definite religious reading matter. This is in response to the wish often expressed in many of the homes in the various camps. A number of contributions towards the cost of this have been already received.

VISITING.

The hospitals at Kyogle and all the camps on the line have been visited once a month. There are public schools at the Tunnel Camp, at Mount Gipps and Lower Grady's Creek which are attended by the children from the camps. These have been visited regularly.

G. W. BRADLEY, Missioner.