

14

Twenty-Third

# Year Book

Of the

# Diocese of Grafton

N.S.W.

For the Year 1937



Together With  
Presidential Address at the Second  
Session of the Ninth Synod, 1937

14a

As a consequence, the Assessments of all the Parishes were reduced by sums varying from 5 to 10 pounds, but the Parishes of Casino, Grafton and Lismore agreed to forego this reduction and the amount thus saved was distributed amongst the smaller Parishes.

A circular letter was sent to all Parishes seriously in arrears of Assessment, asking what steps they could take to reduce their indebtedness. Twenty-five letters were sent out, but only ten Parishes replied. Consideration was given to these replies and all other cases and it was found on careful investigation of the payments made to Diocesan Funds for some years past by a number of these Parishes that the position was so unsatisfactory and showed such unwillingness or inability to bear a fair share of Diocesan responsibility that it was felt necessary to submit a general report thereon to the Bishop-in-Council, and ask that body to decide what action should be taken.

**A RECOMMENDATION.**

It was felt that it would be advisable to reduce the Diocesan Budget still further, by removing the amount allocated to C.E.F., and making it a Voluntary appeal, to be dealt with on the same lines as the appeal to the Diocese for Missions abroad, and a recommendation was made to the Bishop-in-Council that an amending Ordinance be brought before Synod to give effect to this. Such Ordinance will be presented to Synod.

The "North Coast Churchman" debt was written off by the Bishop-in-Council on the recommendation of this Committee.

JOHN WILLIAM GRAFTON,  
Chairman.

**Annual Report of Board of Education,  
1936-37.**

Four regular and one special meetings of the Board of Education were held during the year under review.

The Advent Religious Instruction examination again failed to make its appeal. Only 71 scholars entered, representing four Parishes.

The examination was set on the "Trowel" course of lessons, which was again adopted as the syllabus of the year.

The Church Mail Bag School correspondence system of imparting religious instruction, principally in the outlying parts of the Diocese, is doing splendid work. In some 16 instances, these lessons are in use in Sunday Schools, besides

which 120 scholars are using the postal course. Some six grades are in use, ranging from beginners to a special set of lessons in preparation for confirmation.

Of the 25 candidates who entered in the yearly examination, 19 gained 1st class and six 2nd class honors. The cost of running this school amounted to £34 for the year, toward which the users contributed £14.

The success of the system is in a large measure due to the examiners, who voluntarily mark the scholars' papers each month as well as the yearly examination papers.

St. George's Hostel, Kempsey, has carried on the splendid work of past years, thanks to the excellent management of the Matron and those associated with her. The Hostel is more than paying its way, and is in every respect, an asset to the Diocese.

The North Coast Children's Home is well established in its new position. The Committee of Management, under the Presidency of the Rector of Lismore, is doing a truly remarkable work in financing the Home. Help is drawn from surrounding Parishes to supplement the efforts of the Committee in raising funds and securing contributions in kind, to enable the work to be carried on.

As in past years signal help has been given by members of the several professions concerned, to the Home, and its inmates. This voluntary service contributes in no small way to the success of the institution.

JOHN WILLIAM GRAFTON,  
President.

C. ROWE,  
Hon. Secretary.

**Mother's Union Report for 1936-37.**

This year has been more eventful than usual, much has happened to promote growth and enthusiasm in our Mother's Union work.

The reports from branches are very encouraging, showing an increase in membership and breathing a spirit of life and keenness.

The increase in membership is actually 29, but we have lost ten members through removal.

There is also an increase in the number of copies of M.I.A.N.Z.; 200 being ordered, also seven copies of the "workers' Paper" and "Mothers in Council."