P. We suggest that certain cases in the Home would benefit with psychiatric treatment. Pathe Soyle complained that last year, in the case of a badly disturbed boy, six months elapsed before any appointment with the Clinic was made by the Child Welfare Department.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) Ida Fairbrother
Erica Underwood
Mr. McColl,
Director of Child Welfare,
Child Welfare Department,
PERTH.

Dear Mr. McColl,

We, the undersigned, Members of the Children's Court Bench, this morning inspected Clontarf Boys' Town. No warning had been given of our visit and Father Doyle received us and put no obstacles in the way of our inspection.

We would like to draw your attention to the following points:

A. The institution.
   - 1. The dining-room, kitchens and showers-rooms were very clean. The meal in preparation looked adequate and appetising.
   - 2. The dormitories were tidy, with the beds neatly made. The blankets were adequate but the pillow slips in many cases were extremely dirty. We feel also that the larger dormitories were overcrowded, the beds being very close together.

B. In discussion with Father Doyle on the recent abscondings from Clontarf the following statements were made:
   1. Very often no prompt notification is given to the Police or Child Welfare Department.
   2. Father Doyle stated that he did not appear in the Children's Court on Wednesday, the 11th August, because he was not notified that the case would be held on that morning, and on principle he would not attend on any subsequent occasion which involved the same boys.

C. We asked if these boys had been punished for previous abscondings and Father Doyle stated that they had received four strokes on the hand with a leather strap. We asked to see the record of this in the punishment book. Father Doyle stated that it had not been entered in the book and refused to let us see the book. We understand that this contravenes Regulations 20, 21, and 22 as the case may be.

D. Inquiries were made regarding the shaving of boys' heads as a form of punishment. Father Doyle stated that he had been in trouble on the ship and had been locked up for part of the voyage and had had his head shaved on that occasion. Father Doyle stated that this practice had been discontinued at Clontarf since last year.

E. Regarding the statement that (one of the absconders) had made in Court that he had run away because he had not been allowed to write a letter home more than once a month. Father Doyle stated that the boy was in Clontarf for a period of six months before an Officer of the Child Welfare Department had supplied him with pocket money and two air letters, although his Father had arranged for a weekly allotment and a weekly air letter to be given him by the Child Welfare Department.