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THE SECRETARY:

1. On the 21st. instant, accompanied by the Under Secretary for Lands and Immigration, Mr. H.E. Smith, and the Assistant Under Secretary for Lands, Mr. Carlton Smith, I visited St. Joseph's Farm and Trades School at Bindoon.
2. As the visit was made unannounced it was unfortunate that the Manager, Brother McGee, was absent on business. We were greeted by Brother O'Sullivan and every facility extended to us to make an inspection of the buildings.
3. I am pleased to report that since my last visit there has been visible signs of improvement in the standard of cleanliness, both in the dormitories and dining room, and more particularly in the appearance both physically and the clothing of the boys.
4. Friday had been declared a half-holiday from school to celebrate the occasion of the Royal Wedding and the boys had changed from their school to playing clothes. On our inspection through the dormitories it was noted that each boy had obviously changed from a clean pair of khaki shorts and shirt and that they had all been issued with a new pair of sandals. The absence of lockers was noted and commented upon and Brother O'Sullivan informed us that although they had expected lockers to arrive with last group of migrants they had been put off the boat at the last moment. Lockers for each boy are urgently required and it is hoped that some action will be taken in this regard.
5. The ablution facilities are as when reported on my last visit.
6. The Dining Room was inspected when the boys were partaking of their lunch, which consisted of Pea Soup, Curried Eggs and Mashed Potatoes, and ample supplies of bread, butter and jam, with milk as required. There is no shortage of butter at this institution as all the milk from the 21 cows now being milked is used for domestic purposes. The tablecloths and serviettes were in a reasonable condition.
7. Brother O'Sullivan informed me that it is now the intention to obtain a number of Sisters for this institution. It is anticipated that they will be housed in the old Bakery-Laundry building which is now not used, and as far as Brother O'Sullivan was aware they would be in residence in the near future. This is a most pleasing aspect and I have no doubt that when the Sisters take charge of the domestic work Bindoon will automatically come up to standard.
8. The Classrooms were seen and with the exception of an improvised blackboard, are as previously reported. However as school will be breaking up for the Christmas holidays in the near future it is hoped that the facilities necessary to carry out education will be installed.
9. It was unfortunate that Brother McGee was absent as I would like to have discussed these various aspects with him. The main points now to be followed up are -
 1. Provision of facilities for education.
 2. The advent of Sisters for domestic duties.
 3. The completion of the Ablution Block.
 4. The provision of lockers.


 INSTITUTION OFFICER.
24.11.47
PM. BT