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*Secretary*WELFARE OFFICER:CLERK IN CHARGE:

I inspected the Salvation Army Nedlands Boys Home on the 23rd. ~~instant.~~ *instant.*

The old Reformatory Section of the Seaforth Boys' Home, in which the elder Nedlands Home boys are housed is in need of considerable attention, but as the present arrangement is temporary I have moderated criticism. I think that the appointment of Major Parkes will result in better supervision in this Home.

Staff: Major & Mrs. Parkes.
 Adjutant & Mrs. Miller, Sub-Managers.
 Major Bogie, Matron.
 Major Jenkins (F) In charge of Toddlers.
 Adjutant Burr (F) Laundry
 Lieut. Tonkin (F) Kitchen
 Lieut — (F) "
 Captain & Mrs. Francis - Assistants.
 Lieut. Hillman (M) Assistant.
 Sergt. Robertson (M)
 There is also a full time gardener who is not a member of the Salvation Army.

INSTITUTION BOOKS:

Journal of Important Events is kept up to date.
Punishment Register has not been written up since 1.12.41.
Medical Report Book could not be located.

BOYS:

There are 41 wards and about the same number of private cases. All boys I saw looked in very good condition and were adequately clad. Each boy has a new blue jersey bought a few days before my visit. The boys' health has been uniformly good

Twelve boys absconded on the 14th instant. Four returned in the evening and the others were found by the Police at Thomas Duckett's home that night and brought back to the Home. Each boy received three strokes on the hand from the Manager.

DORMITORIES:

The plaster board walls are very dirty and have holes in them. The wooden dado should be increased in height to stop the boys from marking and breaking the walls. The wire on a man-hole in the roof of a small dormitory was broken. Floors were clean and polished but strips of lino down the centre of the floors is necessary. Major Parkes thinks he may be able to buy some lino and cut it to size. Beds were satisfactory and bedding clean and sufficient, but many beds were badly made up. Each boy makes his own and the Manager agreed that supervision in this respect was lacking. Steps will be taken to rectify the fault.

A number of the boys sleep on the front verandah and are protected by strong new white duck blinds. Major Parkes hopes to extend the sleep out as the dormitories are hot and stuffy in summer. The railings of the front steps, which are by the sleepout are missing and should be replaced early as the verandah flooring is a fair height from the ground.

There is a lavatory attached to one of the dormitories from which came a disagreeable odour. There are 8 bed wetters and their mattresses are aired daily.

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DINING ROOM:

1. The smaller boys use a room that was once a dressing room between a dormitory and the lady officers dining room.
2. The main dining room, which is next to the kitchen, was light and airy; but would be improved by a floor covering. The white table cloths were very dirty. The double doors require renovating and the fly wiring is unsatisfactory. The furniture in both dining rooms was strong.

KITCHEN:

Very dingy and not properly fly-wired. There were a lot of flies and some ants in evidence. The wall above the stove badly requires attention. A new Bolton's Wonder Heater has been installed for the hot water system. The stove is not big enough but the staff contrive to manage. Sinks and cupboards were clean and food stocks were ample. There is a good supply of new crockery and cutlery. Major Parkes will submit a weekly meal list to the Department.

BATHROOM:

Facilities are poor, there being only two baths and two showers in addition to the wash basins. The floor is good but the walls are dingy and the mirror requires replacement. Each boy has a towel, toothbrush and comb. The toothbrushes are hung on hooks in a closed in cabinet which would not permit of proper drying. Major intends to alter this system and also the method of hanging the towels which are placed on a rack that is too small. Major has found a good supply of hairbrushes in stock and will equip each boy with one.

LAVATORIES:

Five cubicles, including one not in use and one with a broken pedestal, which is to be repaired or replaced as soon as possible. None of the pedestals are equipped with wooden seats. Urinals are clean and odourless, but the wall would be better if tarred.

RECREATION HALL:

The windows are being covered with Cyclone netting so that Basket Ball can be played. It is intended to have swings, see-saws and giant strides placed in the playground. Major is keen on sport and has bought a football for the boys.

CLOTHING STORE-ROOM:

There are adequate stocks of clothing. Each boy has a locker for his clothes. Coats are at present hung in the open, but authority has been given to build in a wardrobe with boot lockers underneath.

LAUNDRY:

Is at the old Girls' Home. It is too small and approval has been obtained for its extension.

VEGETABLE GARDEN:

Is on the river bank by the Girls' Home. 3 bags of seed potatoes and 5,000 onions have been planted and there is an excellent growth of peas, beans, cauliflowers cabbages and spinach.

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MISCELLANEOUS:

1. The entire ^{premises} were fumigated since last Xmas against Vermin, and since then none has been seen. The work was done by Perth Contractors.
2. Since Xmas 20 boys have been attending Kelmscott School every Wednesday afternoon for manual training. They travel under an officer's escort.
3. Scheme water is now laid on.
4. The proposed swimming pool between the Nedlands and Seaforth Sections was not completed and appears a likely breeding ground for mosquitoes.
5. Fire extinguishers were in position and ready for use.
6. The Medicine Chest was fully equipped and there is sufficient reserve stock.

GR
3-1-43.
GWG.DL
3.7.43

G. Gill

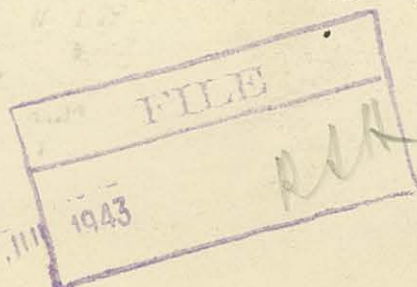
NOTE:

I have visited the Nedlands Home at Seaforth on several occasions, the last visit being paid on the 17th ultimo. The boys seem to be progressing very well under Mr. Gill, the Head Teacher, who seems to have a special aptitude for handling youthful delinquents of school age. There are some boys in the Home who have absconded from other institutions who are doing quite well under Mr. Gill. I do not say that Mr. Gill can prevent all boys from absconding. This would be almost an impossibility, but he has a wonderful influence over the boys and seems to be able to obtain their confidence. One boy who had been a chronic absconder was shown to me and Mr. Gill stated in the present of this boy "He won't abscond again". This lad is still at the institution.

2. Mr. Gill is very well thought of by the Education Department. Mr. Box, the Inspector for the district, informed me of this.

FEM/B
16/7/43.

Immanuel
SECRETARY.



CLOSED SEE VOLUME 2.