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VICTORIA

CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1957

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REPORT FOR 1957

CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Melbourne,

30th June, 1958.

The Honorable the Chief Secretary.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the following report as to proceedings under the Children's Welfare Act during the year 1957.

In my report last year I referred to the advance being made in child welfare in this State and to the quickening of interest generally in this field of social work. During 1957 this very desirable state of affairs continued. It has been very well said that nothing so becomes a community as its regard for its little folk. That there is strong community regard in this State is true. That there are very many community organizations very actively engaged in child welfare is also true, and it is indeed a most wholesome state of affairs, with statutory and voluntary folk each complementary to each other and teamed up in overall effort. How does this system work?

On the statutory side, there is the Children's Welfare Department, which receives into care children either in need of care and protection or offenders or without means of support. It conducts three institutions and ten "family group" homes. It also assists, but does not take into care, children where there is either no breadwinner or an incapacitated breadwinner. It supervises private placements of infants.

On the voluntary side, there are all the organizations and institutions conducted by the churches and charitable bodies. There are 69 institutions—babies' homes, children's homes, juvenile schools—carried on by the voluntary organizations. They accommodate about 4,334 children. Of these there are nearly 2,700 children privately admitted and 1,640 are wards of the Department. It will be seen therefore what a tremendous job of child care the voluntary organizations are doing in this State. In other States and in other parts of the world the extent of participation by voluntary organizations is relatively small: in those places the statutory bodies function to a far greater proportionate extent.

Naturally, team work between statutory and voluntary organizations is vitally necessary. As regards this aspect, we are very well served in Victoria by the Children's Welfare Advisory Council.

CHILDREN'S WELFARE ADVISORY COUNCIL.

This Council was set up in 1955. It consists of ten members, two representing the Victorian Council of Social Service, two representing the Children's Welfare Association and six members appointed by the Government. All have been chosen because of their particular experience in and knowledge of the field of social or child welfare. The function of the Council is to advise the Minister regarding the welfare of children under the Children's Welfare Act, and to report on matters either referred to it by the Minister or authorized by the Act. One of the matters so authorized by the Act is that of reporting upon the rates paid for wards of the Department boarded out in private homes and for those placed in approved children's homes and approved juvenile schools conducted by the voluntary organizations. It will be seen, therefore, that in constitution and functions the Advisory Council has a very important role in the child welfare field and, being substantially representative of the voluntary denominational and charitable organizations, it makes a very great contribution to overall team work,

TRAINING COURSES FOR STAFFS IN CHILDREN'S INSTITUTIONS.

A very important matter to which the Advisory Committee has given a great deal of attention is that of training of staff employed in institutions accommodating dependent children. In September, 1956, the Minister, upon the recommendation of the Advisory Council, authorized a survey to be made of the need for courses of training for staffs employed in children's institutions. Mr. David R. Merritt, B.A., B.Ed., B.D., Dip. R.E., was appointed to conduct this survey, and in August, 1957, he submitted his report. This report covered a very comprehensive survey made of the needs of children deprived of a normal home life and the existing situation in this State regarding institutional child care. No less than 71 institutions were visited by Mr. Merritt—most of them at least twice. They included both voluntary and statutory children's homes, juvenile schools, babies' homes, homes for handicapped children, child migration homes, and also hostels. Mr. Merritt discussed in his report the attitudes of institutional staff in relation to training, the existing facilities for child care training in Victoria, and the position regarding such training in the United Kingdom, United States of America, Netherlands, and New South Wales.

Mr. Merritt outlined the pattern of child care training considered desirable to meet the need in Victoria and, in deeming the matter of establishment of courses of training for staffs employed in institutions accommodating dependent children as one of urgent necessity, he made a number of very important recommendations. Among them was a recommendation for the appointment of a suitable and qualified full-time Superintendent of Training who, under a Training Council consisting of representatives of all organizations and agencies (including the Children's Welfare Department and the Department of Social Studies of Melbourne University) operating in the child care field, would be responsible for the co-ordination of courses and the supervision of trainees.

The Minister approved of the appointment of such a Superintendent of Training, who will be stationed in the Children's Welfare Department but who, as stated above, will work under a Training Council when such is set up. Meantime, a sub-committee of the Advisory Council is functioning in this regard.

The importance of this development need hardly be emphasized. The needs of children deprived of natural and normal parental care and affection, and in particular the emotional and social needs resulting from such deprivation, are not easy to understand and remedy without special training. The availability of special courses of training in child care—full-time, part-time, correspondence and "refresher" courses—should prove of inestimable value.

The staff, with special training grafted on to already fine qualities of heart and mind, will be helped with added equipment for their work, and the children will greatly benefit.

TRENDS IN ADMISSION OF CHILDREN TO THE DEPARTMENT'S CARE.

Table 5 shows statistics over the decade 1947-57 of children coming into the care of the Department. It also shows population figures, including the under 17 years and under 13 years groups.

In 1947 the number of children who came into the care of the Department was 375. In 1957 the number was 901. There was rather a gradual upward swing in numbers from 375 to 566 over the years 1947 to 1955. In 1956, however, there was a steep increase to 725 and in 1957 a further sharp increase to 901.

The figures in 1956 and 1957, whilst reflecting to some extent the general population increase, were largely the effect of the coming into operation on the 1st September, 1955, of the *Children's Welfare Act 1954*. Section 16 of the new Act widened the scope of admission on Children's Court orders of children in need of care and protection. For instance, one of the descriptions of circumstances of children who could be so admitted was "no visible means *and* no settled place of abode". In the new Act the word "and" was replaced by "or". This made it possible for more applications to be made to a

Children's Court. Section 20 (10) of the new Act was a quite new provision that enables a non-governmental institution to apply to the Department to have a child admitted as a ward (and paid for as such by the Department) when the parent had defaulted for six months or more in his undertaking to the institution to pay for such child.

The number of children "admitted" on Children's Court orders rose from 176 in 1955 to 358 in 1957. The number of children admitted on applications direct to the Department (not the Children's Court) under Section 20 (insufficient means of support) and Section 66 (default in payment under Infant Life Protection provisions) of the *Children's Welfare Act* 1954 increased from 164 in 1955 to 260 in 1957.

As regards committal of offenders to the Department by Children's Courts, the number in 1947 was 135. This number increased more or less steadily to 226 in 1955. However, there was a sharp decline to 138 in 1956, but this was followed in 1957 by a very steep rise to 283. The drop in 1956 figures is accountable to the operation of the new Act which provided for "admission" on Children's Court orders of non-offender children. These children had previously been "committed" by the Children's Courts.

It will be observed also from Table 5 that at the end of 1955 there were 3,037 wards, at 1956 there were 3,204 wards, and at the end of 1957 the number was 3,590. It will also be seen that as far back as 1947 the number was 3,777, and that there was decline from then to 1955 when the figure was 3,037. This decline in numbers of wards over the years 1947 to 1955, accompanied as it was over those years by gradual increases in rates of admissions, was the result of more positive policy in returning children to the care of their parents and relatives and, in due course, discharging them from departmental guardianship; a policy that is of course being continued.

The really significant figures for planning purposes are, of course, those showing the trend from 1955 in both "admissions" and "committals" under the operation since the 1st September, 1955, of the *Children's Welfare Act* 1954 and, in particular, the number of those "admitted" and "committed" for whom residential accommodation has to be provided.

ACCOMMODATION OF WARDS.

Young persons "committed" by Children's Courts on offences have to be accommodated. Children "admitted" on Children's Court orders as in need of care and protection have also to be accommodated. Children otherwise "admitted", i.e., by application direct to the Department (Section 20, sub-sections (1) and (10)) on ground of insufficient means of support, and by default in payment by parent for child under Infant Life Protection provisions (Section 60) of the Act, are usually in the care of custodians or institutions who wish to continue to accommodate them on the basis of the Department paying the boarding-out allowance.

The children and young persons for whom the Department has to provide or arrange accommodation are therefore those who come on Children's Court orders—both "care and protection" children and offenders. In 1955 there were 176 of the former and 226 of the latter—a total of 402. In 1956 the respective figures were 426 and 138—a total of 564 and an increase of 162. In 1957 the numbers were 358 and 283—making a total of 641 and an increase of 77.

Separating the Court admission figures (care and protection) from Court committal figures (offenders), it will be noticed that in 1957 there was a decline in the former but a sharp increase in numbers of offenders. With these figures in a growing community much additional accommodation for children and young persons will be necessary. The three sources from which this additional accommodation could come are governmental establishments, institutions of the voluntary organizations and private foster homes.

The voluntary organizations are already doing a remarkable job in the institutional care of children and young persons. As stated earlier, they are accommodating 4,334 children, of whom 1,640 are wards of the Department. With some few exceptions, they can hardly be expected in these days of very high capital and operating costs to extend their activities. As regards private foster homes, the number of children suitable and

available for such placement is restricted on account of certain factors. One is that most of the children admitted as in need of "care and protection" are in family groups of brothers and sisters. The children in such family groups represent about 90 per cent. of "care and protection" wards. It is desirable of course that wherever possible brothers and sisters be not separated and there are not many foster-parents who are able and willing to care for more than one child. Naturally, also, foster-parents prefer a young child rather than one of, say, late school age.

With these limitations on the voluntary child-care organizations and on private foster homes, it will therefore be necessary to have additional governmental establishments to accommodate the increasing numbers of children and young persons coming into care. In this there should of course be no duplication whatever of any existing or projected facilities of the voluntary child-care organizations or of any provision in private foster homes. Any additional governmental accommodation should only fill gaps left by such voluntary organizations and private people.

As regards such gaps, governmental establishments provided since late in 1956 have been the Winlaton juvenile school for teenage problem girls (45) at Nunawading, the Sutton Grange home for boys and girls (25) at Mornington, and the ten family group homes (80) in the suburbs of Heidelberg, Preston, Northcote, and Coburg. Three additional establishments will be set up during 1958—a reception centre for girls, a girls' hostel and a school-age boys' home. All these additional establishments—both existing and projected—were designed to give some relief to over-crowded Turana at Royal Park, and they fill gaps in residential provision for certain groups of children and young persons.

However, the sharply rising numbers of children and young persons coming into care at Turana has more than offset the outflow to the voluntary child-care organizations, private foster homes, and to the additional governmental establishments mentioned. Much more governmental provision of accommodation will be necessary if smaller-sized and more homogeneous groupings are to be achieved and if rising rate of inflow is to be coped with. Indeed, it is estimated that during the next five years, and having regard to plans of some of the voluntary organizations to slightly increase their accommodation, and also having regard to the intensification of efforts to place children in private foster homes, there will be need for nearly 550 beds to be provided governmentally.

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY.

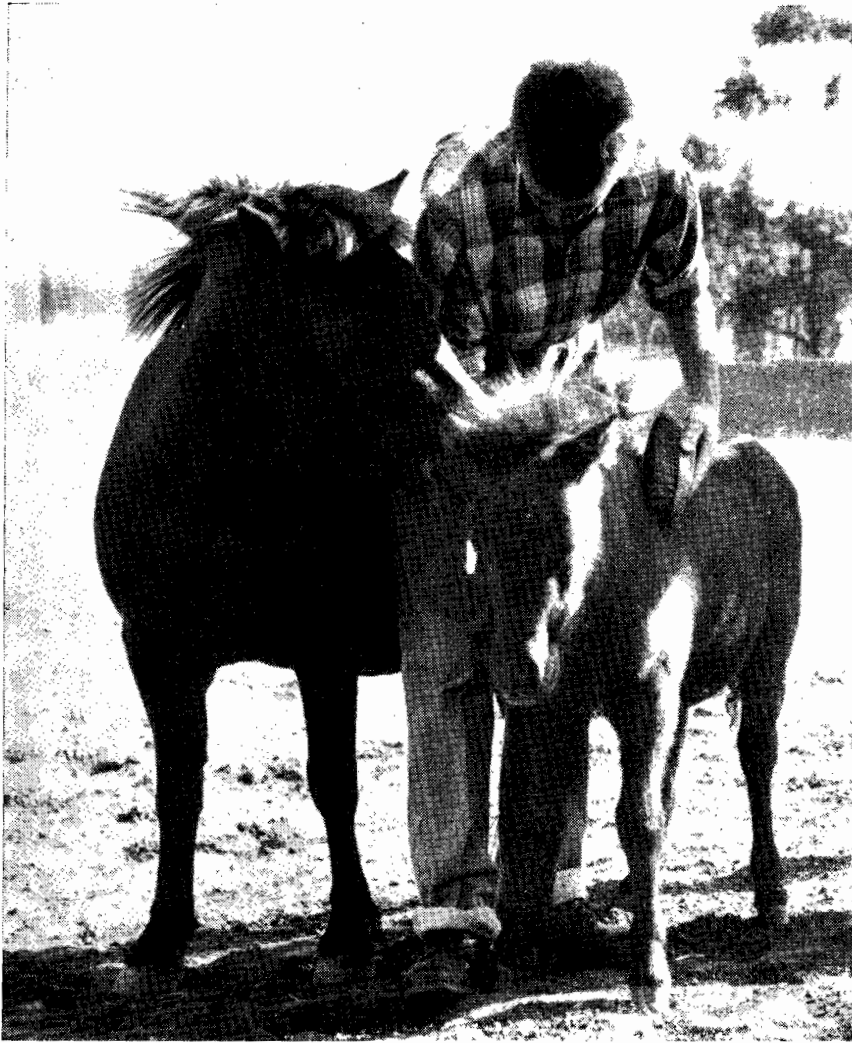
Figures quoted in Table 2 do not give other than a part of the picture on the extent of juvenile delinquency. The figures in this report are those merely of the young people who have been committed to this Department by Children's Courts: they do not include the lads and girls who are dealt with otherwise by the Courts, e.g., placed on probation.

However, taking those offenders who have been committed to the Department, it will be seen from Table 2 that, whilst there were the same total number (136) in 1957 as in 1956, offences of illegally using increased from 19 in 1956 to 38 in 1957. At the same time, offences of larceny, stealing, breaking and entering were less in 1957 than in 1956.

A sharp increase occurred, however, in cases of "lapsing or likely to lapse into a career of vice or crime". On this ground Children's Courts make orders of "admission" to the care of the Department, and not orders of "committal" as in the case of the delinquent brought before the Court on a precise offence. In 1956 there were 92 young persons admitted on court orders as lapsing or likely to lapse into a career of vice or crime. In 1957 the number rose to 130.

The number of uncontrollable children admitted to the care of the Department by Children's Courts rose from 10 in 1956 to 17 in 1957.

Of the 136 young persons committed to the Department on offences for fixed terms under Section 28 (1) (f) of the *Children's Court Act* 1956, it will be observed from Table 3 that the bulk of them (84) were committed for a period of twelve months.



At "Poplar House",
← Turana.

T.V. in a Foster Home,
where three of our wards
| are sharing in a very happy
family life.
↓



Figures to date this year show a sharp upward trend in delinquents coming to the Department from Children's Courts. This of course points as mentioned earlier to the urgent need for additional accommodation facilities.

In the work of the juvenile schools, increasing attention is being paid to improving training programmes. More attention is being paid to fill gaps in the basic education of lads and girls. Trade training programmes are being gradually expanded and more is being done on the social side. For instance, at Morning Star Juvenile School for Roman Catholic lads, the Chelsea Y.C.W. group organize dancing classes and arrange dances at the institution. Their football team play in the district junior league. Similarly at Bayswater Juvenile School for Protestant lads, their team plays in the district competition, and the lads attend outside functions. The choir has participated in musical festivals. A display of the lads' woodwork is being included in the next Australian Industries Fair.

PRIVATE FOSTER HOMES.

There is no doubt that the carefully selected foster home is, for the normal child, the best substitute for the natural home. Legal adoption, a permanent form of foster-parenthood, is of course the ideal solution for a child who is orphaned or in respect of whom parental consent to adoption is either forthcoming or can be dispensed with.

Placement of wards in foster homes for legal adoption is of course limited by such legal requirements as regards consent. The demand, which naturally is for infants, very greatly exceeds the supply which, as indicated, cannot be expanded at will.

The matter of boarding-out of wards in foster homes is of course a different matter from placement for adoption, as there is no legal difficulty. However, there are difficulties in other ways which limit boarding-out placements in foster homes.

Children for foster home placement come from among those admitted to the care of the Department as in need of care and protection. The number suitable and available for such placement is however restricted, as stated earlier, on account of certain factors. One factor is that most of the children admitted as in need of care and protection (not offenders) are in family groups of brothers and sisters. They represent about 90 per cent. of "care and protection" wards. Not only is it rare that foster parents are able to take more than one child, but few parents can be won over to acquiescence in their children being in the care of other private people. Again, there are the children who, because of emotional maladjustment or handicap or habits requiring medical or psychological care and treatment, are not suitable for private foster homes.

Mention has been made of the acquiescence of parents in their children being placed in private foster homes, and it may be wondered why there should be such tender regard for them when they have, generally speaking, fallen down on their job as parents. The position of course is that the tender regard is not for the parents but for the child to whom the parents, whatever we think of their shortcomings, are still "Mum" and "Dad" to him. His feelings for his parents, to whom hope of return some day under reasonably decent conditions should never be abandoned, should be respected and regard should be had to the confusion of his feelings of loyalty in transferring his affections from his own parents to his foster-parents.

This means more case work with children, parents, and prospective foster parents to enable more children to be boarded-out in foster homes. Two additional trained social workers are being sought in this work.

At the end of 1957 there were 492 children boarded-out in foster homes (43 more than at 1956): 116 children were placed in such homes without payment and there were 67 children placed preparatory to legal adoptions—a total of 675 wards. The total at the end of 1956 was 638.

During 1957, adoption orders in respect of 81 wards were granted by the Court.

ALLOWANCES FOR CHILDREN IN NECESSITOUS CIRCUMSTANCES.

Under Part V. of the Children's Welfare Act any parent or other individual person having the care and custody of any child, who is without sufficient means of support for such child, and who is unable by any available legal means to obtain sufficient means of support for such child, may apply to the Department for a weekly sum towards the child's maintenance.

The children assisted under this Part are mainly those of widows, deserted wives, wives of invalids, wives of prisoners, and also wives of men receiving Unemployment Benefit. The children do not come under the legal guardianship of the Department. Medical, pharmaceutical, and dental service is given, except of course in those cases where the Commonwealth Pensioner Medical Scheme operates. School requisites are also supplied by the Department.

Tables 7A and 7B set out the statistics of this part of the Department's activities. It will be seen that there was in 1957 a sharp increase in the number of children assisted, and a consequent rise in the total amount paid out.

The number of children rose from 3,177 at the end of 1956 to 3,659 at 31st December, 1957—an increase of 482 children. The total amount paid in 1956 was £153,229, but in 1957 the amount was £161,608—an increase of £8,379. In a rising population increases are of course to be expected but, as will be seen from Table 5, the number of assisted children per 1,000 of the under 14 years population group has steadily increased during the past five years. In 1953 the number per 1,000 was 3·6, whilst in 1957, it had increased to 5·07.

A factor in this is the sharply rising number of cases of deserting fathers. In 1953 there were 337 such cases assisted: in 1957 there were 594. The desertion rate is increasing in greater proportion than the population. Apart from the financial burden, it is a situation of growing seriousness in its social implications. The stresses and strains resulting from the father's desertion affect, of course, the children adversely not only in the short term but also tend to handicap them when as adults they enter into their own family relationships. The need for the utmost support to bring as much stability as possible to a broken family is therefore very important, and in this connexion it is very gratifying to note the efforts that are made by organizations, including the National Council of Women, Marriage Guidance Councils and the Victorian Council of Social Service, to focus attention upon the extremely high importance of the "family" in community life, and upon the need to bring to bear all possible help to prevent the break-up of families and to avoid the social and emotional upsets from which juvenile delinquency so often develops. This Department has taken the opportunity to participate in conferences with interested organizations on this important subject.

The number of cases assisted at 31st December, 1957, on account of the father's unemployment was only 23, but of course any recession in the national economy involving substantial increase in unemployment could mean very heavy additional State expenditure for children of men receiving Commonwealth Unemployment Benefit. Meantime, attention and study is being given to this class of assistance which for the sake of the children is good but which could tend to encourage fecklessness and laziness on the part of the father. A point for particular attention is that this Department's allowances should be used entirely for the benefit of the children and not for the father.

In November the basis for this Department's allowances in cases assisted under Part V. was lifted by 7s. 6d. per week, following the pension increase granted in October by the Commonwealth.

DEPARTMENTAL ESTABLISHMENTS FOR CHILDREN.

"TURANA", ROYAL PARK.

"Turana" is the Department's reception, treatment, classification and transit centre. It accommodates both boys and girls from infants onwards—girls to early teenage and boys to late teenage. The establishment has fourteen sections for the various groupings of children and lads. The normal capacity of these sections is 265. On the score of both numbers and heterogeneity of groups, the drive to reduce numbers and to achieve reasonable homogeneity of groups must continue.



Section of the new Kindergarten, Turana.



Hobbies at "Billabong", Turana.



Play time, "Sutton Grange".

Since late 1956, as stated earlier, accommodation has been provided elsewhere for no less than 150 "Turana" children. This has been by way of "Winlato" (45), "Sutton Grange" (25) and ten suburban family group homes (80). However, the inflow of children to "Turana" has been so great that "Turana" remains seriously overcrowded, the average number during the first three months of this year being no less than 305.3, that is, 40 more than the normal capacity of 265.

An establishment at Wheeler's Hill has been acquired for 30 school age boys but, whilst this will give some relief to "Turana", it is not enough, and further "drain-off" of both numbers and groups is urgently necessary.

Despite the difficulties on account of overcrowding and diversity of groups "Turana", under Dr. Phyllis Tewsley as Medical Superintendent, has managed to maintain an excellent child-care tone and atmosphere.

During the year an in-service training course for male Attendant officers was conducted. This proved of great value and the staff warmly appreciated the opportunity to further their knowledge in the field in which they are working. The Department is very grateful to the lecturers who participated in this project. During the year, also, many groups and individual people took a very warm interest in "Turana" children, and the Department has greatly appreciated this. The Auxiliary headed by Mr. John Downey, has continued to be most active and generous with many treats, picnics and concerts and gifts of equipment and amenity items. A particularly happy gift of two ponies was made by the staff of Turana's next door neighbours—the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories. Two other much appreciated gifts were television sets—one for the girls' section by Australian Paper Mills Ltd., and the other for boys' sections by Steedman Bros., Star Haulage Pty. Ltd.

"WINLATO", NUNAWADING.

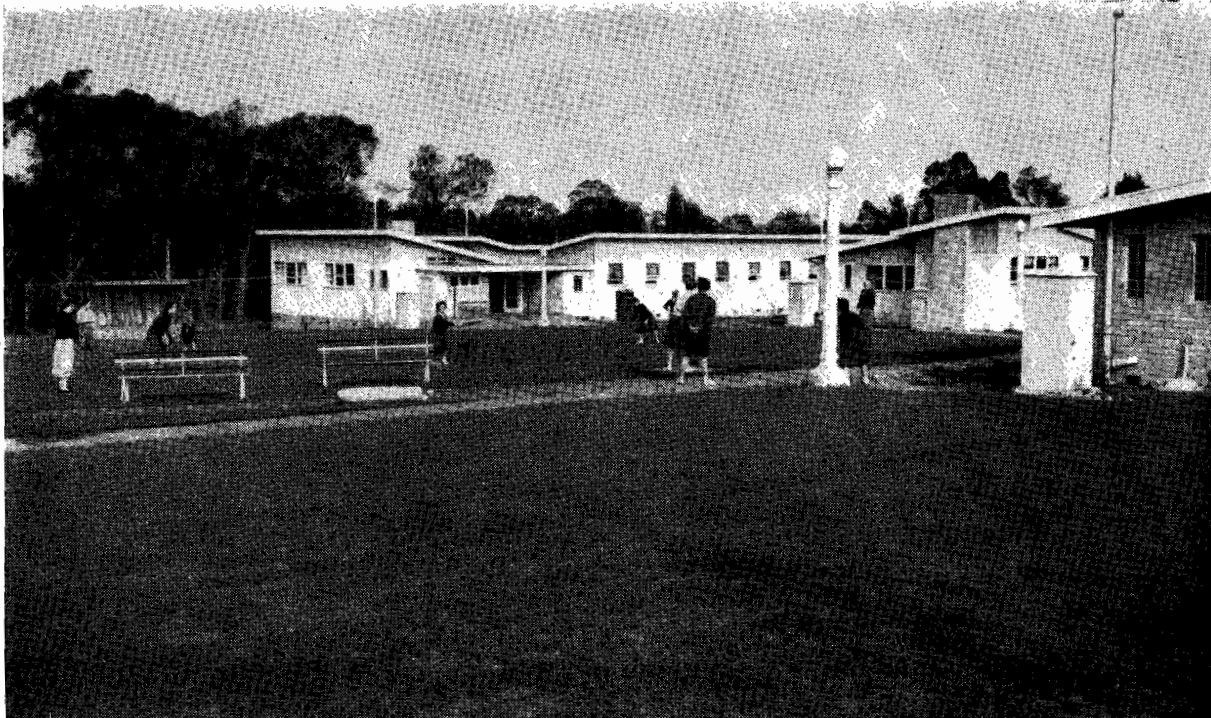
"Winlato", a juvenile school for girls, has suffered like "Turana" from overcrowding. The normal accommodation capacity is for 45 girls. There are three sections—Goonyah, Warrina, and Karingal—each with a capacity for 15 girls. However, the influx of girls has been so high that on occasions there have been almost 60 girls there. This overcrowding has of course put particular strain on staff and programme. Two additional sections are being provided in the area this year and these will give much needed relief. One section, separate from the existing establishment, will serve as a reception centre and the other, also separate from the main establishment, as a hostel—each with a capacity for fourteen girls.

The lack in adequate facilities at present for appropriate training courses for child-care staff affects, of course, the "Winlato" programme for the rehabilitation of girls. As stated earlier in this report, this shortcoming will be remedied, but naturally some time must elapse before the courses can be got under way. Meantime, a part-time in-service training course has been arranged this year for "Winlato" staff.

A series of lectures and discussion groups will be held and the aim of the training course will be to give staff members a better understanding of problems associated with their work—the growth and development of personality, emotional needs and their satisfaction, behaviour problems and their causes and treatment, the functions of psychiatric clinics, police and children's courts, dietetics, physical recreation and group activities. The Department is very grateful to various organizations and agencies for making specialists available in an honorary capacity as lecturers and as leaders of discussion groups.

"SUTTON GRANGE", MORNINGTON.

At "Sutton Grange" there are 25 boys and girls from "Turana", Royal Park. In the very pleasant "family" atmosphere created there by Matron Rolls, the children have done extremely well—both at home and at school. Mornington folk have been extraordinarily kind to "Sutton Grange" and the children are very much a part of the local community. Local folk have shown their interest in very many ways, one of which, in particular, was the gift of a television set by the Rotary Club.



Softball, "Winlaton".



At "Sutton Grange", Mornington.



The Premier, The Hon. H. E. Bolte, discusses "Moonya" Family Group Home at Coburg with Cottage Mother, Catherine Kurth.

FAMILY GROUP HOMES.

The Department launched out last year with a new type of child-care arrangement for children for whom it had to provide accommodation. In speaking of the project as new, it is new in Australia although it has been in operation for the past four or five years in the United Kingdom.

The idea behind it is that children who have to be taken into care by an organization such as this Department can be cared for in a very much better way in a small family group in an ordinary house in an ordinary residential area rather than in a large institution. It does not cut off the children from community life; they can be "mothered" and receive love and close individual attention from the cottage mother with whom they can feel they belong and be secure; they can attend an ordinary and not an institutional school, church and Sunday school; they can participate in the same way as all other district children in local community activities and entertainments; brothers and sisters can be cared for together and emotionally disturbed and handicapped children can have their individual needs met.

For this scheme the Concrete House Project erected ten dwellings—two in Heidelberg, four in Preston, two in Northcote, and two in Coburg. Each is in the charge of an experienced cottage mother and, indeed, in seven of the homes there is also a "cottage father" who of course goes out to his ordinary work and is not employed by the Department.

These "family group" homes are in the nature of an adjunct of "Turana", Royal Park, and fill a gap in outlets for "Turana" children. The Supervisor of the family group homes is a trained Social Worker with considerable experience both here and overseas.

The scheme is working extremely well, and the children are progressing splendidly. Local community organizations and neighbours are co-operating in notable fashion, particularly the local Councils, the Junior Chambers of Commerce, and Rotary.

FIELD WORK.

At present there are eight trained Social Workers employed by the Department in field and special project work. Two more are being appointed and a further three are being sought. There are also twelve trained nurses and two male officers engaged in field work. Specializing teams of field staff are being formed for foster-home finding and assessment; for case work with foster-parents, foster children and also the parents of children placed in foster homes; for children in institutions and for case work with parents and relatives regarding the children's return to them; and for work with families of widows, deserted wives and others who are without a breadwinner for their children and who are receiving assistance from the Department for them.

The Department has field officers stationed at Geelong, Ballarat and Bendigo. Office accommodation has now become available at Morwell to enable a member of the field staff to be stationed there and to serve the needs in the very important Latrobe Valley area.

Under the *Adoption of Children (Amendment) Act 1954*, officers of this Department were authorized, among others, to act as guardian, *ad litem*, of infants (not wards of the Department) in respect of whom application is made to the Court for an adoption order. The effect is that many solicitors now seek the service of the Department in this way. The number of such cases dealt with in 1957 was 82.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

PART VII. OF THE CHILDREN'S WELFARE ACT 1954.

Table No. 8 shows the operations in 1957 of the Infant Life Protection provisions of the Act. Such provisions require, *inter alia*, that no person shall for payment or reward have charge in any house of an infant under five years, apart from its parents,

unless such person and such house are registered. The purpose of this requirement is, of course, to ensure that the welfare of infants placed for payment apart from their parents is safeguarded. Registration of persons, and houses, is made only on favourable reports on investigations. Upon registration, departmental field staff keep in close touch with the homes and with the infants placed there.

Where the proposed rate of payment for an infant is not greater than that for wards boarded out in children's homes, section 66 provides that the application to board out an infant with a registered person be made to the Department, and that payment be made by the parent through the Department. If the parent's payments fall into arrears for four weeks, the infant becomes a ward of the Department. In that way, the registered persons, who are mostly the persons in charge of institutions for young children, are protected financially by the State against default by the parents, and they are relieved by the Department of the unpleasant task of taking court action against the parent for maintenance of the infant.

Hospitals and educational establishments are, of course, exempted from the operation of the Act. Where the infant is in the care of a relative, exemption may also be made by the Minister, if he is satisfied that the circumstances are such that it is unnecessary or undesirable that the provisions of the Act should apply.

GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIZED HOSTELS.

Details of the hostels operating under this scheme and of the inmates whose earnings were subsidized in 1957 are set out in Table No. 9.

The subsidy of earnings during the initial employment stage of ex-institutional boys and girls, who have no folk to privately accommodate them and help them financially, meets a very important need. It facilitates the employment—in most cases as apprentices—of an otherwise homeless lad or girl in the particular trade or occupation for which he or she has precise aptitude and liking. In other words, the lad or girl has not to go into an other than first-preference job simply because of the wages.

The number of ex-institutional lads and girls subsidized at 31st December, 1957, was 90.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN IN STREET TRADING AND IN PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS.

The *Street Trading Act* 1928 is administered by this Department, and for the purpose of the Act there is appointed a Street Traders Licences Board, consisting of an officer of this Department as Chairman, and three other members representing the City Newsboys' Society, Education Department, and Authorized Newsagents' Association, respectively.

The Act applies only to the City of Melbourne. No male over the age of twelve years and under the age of fourteen years who is not licensed under the Act may engage in street trading. Males under the age of twelve years, and females under the age of 21 years are prohibited from street trading. This prohibition, as stated above, does not apply outside the boundaries of the City of Melbourne.

An application by a boy between the ages of twelve and fourteen years must bear the consent of the parent or guardian, a certificate as to school attendance from the teacher, evidence as to age, and a reference as to character. The Board will not approve of such application unless satisfied that the boy has been regular in his school attendance, and that such would not be likely to be adversely affected by engaging in street trading during the prescribed hours. The Board may, at any time, cancel or suspend a street trader's licence if it considers it desirable to do so. An inspector is employed to supervise the licensed street traders, and in the detection of breaches of the Act and Regulations.

During the year 1957, 111 licences were issued and 33 were renewed. In each instance the licence was for news vending.

Part VIII. of the *Children's Welfare Act* 1954, provides that no child, unless the holder of a permit, shall be employed, whether for reward or not, in places of public entertainment or amusement, circus, broadcasting, and the like. There is exemption, of course, for occasional entertainments, the net proceeds of which are wholly devoted for the benefit of any school or to any charitable object.

An application for a permit, which must be accompanied by a school report, cannot be granted for any child under seven years of age. The Department must be satisfied that the child is fit for the proposed employment and no permit can be granted for employment between the hours of ten o'clock at night and six o'clock in the morning or on any Sunday.

The number of permits issued during 1956 was 115.

CHILD MIGRATION.

By delegation from the Commonwealth Minister for Immigration under the *Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act* 1946-52, the Director of the Department exercises legal guardianship over children and young people up to 21 years of age who come from overseas without their parents or relatives to reside in this State.

Most of the children from the United Kingdom come on the sponsorship of what are officially termed "Approved Voluntary Child Migration Organizations". Table No. 10A gives the figures of the children who have been received to date by such organizations. The children do not necessarily remain in the institutions until they are ready to go out to employment. On the other hand, the organizations and the Department encourage the introduction of migrant children into the private homes of suitable foster-folk. This arrangement mostly ensues from school term-holiday visits and the development of interest and affection between holiday host and the child. At the end of the year, there were 56 of such children placed in private homes, apart from those who were in live-in employment. Five of the children were legally adopted last year by their foster-parents, and there are ten others in respect of whom application to the Court for an adoption order will be made in due course.

In addition to British children introduced by the approved voluntary child migration organizations, the Department is concerned with children and young people—British and non-British—who come here without parents or relatives and who are personally nominated by individuals. When such a nomination is made, the Department is required by the Immigration authorities to report on the proposed provision for the child or young person by the nominator—see figures in Table 10B—and upon arrival the child or young person comes under guardianship, unless specially exempted.

EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS (TABLE No. 12).

Expenditure rose from £682,183 in 1956 to £807,609 in 1957. Revenue rose from £32,751 in 1956 to £39,626 in 1957. The net cost of £767,983 in 1957 was therefore an increase of £118,552 over that in 1956.

The main elements in this rise in expenditure were the increase in numbers of children and in the rates of payment for wards in institutions and for children in necessitous circumstances whose mothers were assisted under Part V. of the Act.

Wards increased from 3,204 in 1956 to 3,590 in 1957. The number of children assisted under Part V. at the end of 1956 was 3,177, and by the end of 1957 the number had increased to 3,659. The amount paid for wards in non-governmental children's homes and juvenile schools in 1956 was £176,625, whereas in 1957 the amount was £231,286.

From the 1st October, 1957, the boarding-out rate for wards up to five years of age in children's homes was increased from £3 to £4 per week; for wards over five years from £2 per week to £2 15s. per week; and for wards in juvenile schools from £2 10s. per week to £3 5s. per week.

The amount spent in allowances for children (not wards) in necessitous circumstances (Part V.) was £153,229 in 1956, whereas in 1957 the amount was £161,608.

As regards receipts, collections of maintenance from parents of wards increased from £25,676 in 1956 to £33,472 in 1957.

The cost of operating the large multi-purpose "Turana" establishment is heavy. Hospital-like in many ways, it requires a very big staff for its many sections and wide range of children—from infants to delinquent youths of eighteen years. As a reception centres its many sections, with section staff covering 24 hours a day 7 days a week, must be ready to admit children and young persons at all hours, as well as provide night care for children, many in a sickly condition and most of them in a seriously disturbed state emotionally. In the sections for delinquent lads, close custodial arrangements are necessary throughout the night as well as the day. A very great deal of escorting of children to hospitals, clinics and children's homes has to be done. For these purposes, and of course on the basis of the 40-hour week, a very large staff has to be maintained. Indeed the cost per week per child for staff salaries, plus penalty rates and overtime, amounted to no less than £10 6s. 3d. during the financial year 1956-57. During that year provisions, clothing, fuel and light, stores and stocks, bedding, transport, &c., cost per capita £3 15s. 1d. per week—making a total *per capita* cost of £14 1s. 4d. per week.

From figures for the same period furnished to the Hospitals and Charities Commission in connexion with grants by the Commission, by managements of children's homes, the average *per capita* cost has been computed to be £5 7s. 7d. per week. In the case of infants' homes, the cost was £8 16s. per week.

From the financial statements furnished by Bayswater and Morning Star juvenile schools for the year 1956-57, the average per capita cost of maintaining young persons in those schools was £5 18s. per week. Government grants of £2,903 in respect of Bayswater juvenile school and £4,852 in the case of Morning Star juvenile school, were made to offset the respective deficiencies in meeting costs of operating those establishments which are conducted exclusively for wards of the Department.

GENERAL.

Among matters of general nature, it is desired to refer to psychiatric and psychological service, statistical data, library service and public relations. Psychiatric service at "Turana" on two half-days per week and at "Winlaton" on one half-day per week is quite inadequate for the needs at those establishments. Psychological service at "Turana" on three full days and two half-days per week at "Turana" and two days per week at "Winlaton" is also quite inadequate. The Department badly needs a full scale and full time psychiatric clinic at its disposal. It is realized of course that there is a shortage of such professional staff, but the need must continue to receive the closest attention. Similarly the need for special institutional provision for the psychiatric treatment of children and young persons who are seriously disturbed emotionally must continue to receive the closest attention.

The gathering of proper statistical and other relevant data by this Department and other agencies which handle juvenile delinquents was a recommendation of the Juvenile Delinquency Advisory Committee. This Department's Research Officer has given particular attention to this matter, and as a result a new system of collating and recording data has been put into operation in the State Wards section. The new system is not only more efficient, but is also time-saving. Approach has been made to the Children's Courts Office and to the Police Department regarding the standardizing and co-ordination generally in all relevant statistical data gathering.

The Research Officer, as well as conducting short surveys to assist in planning, has also been required to give a good deal of attention to library service and to public relations work. A staff library of technical books and magazines is being built up, together with a children's library. To further develop the service, to foster staff interest and to supply information generally to all inquirers, the services of a full-time librarian will be necessary.

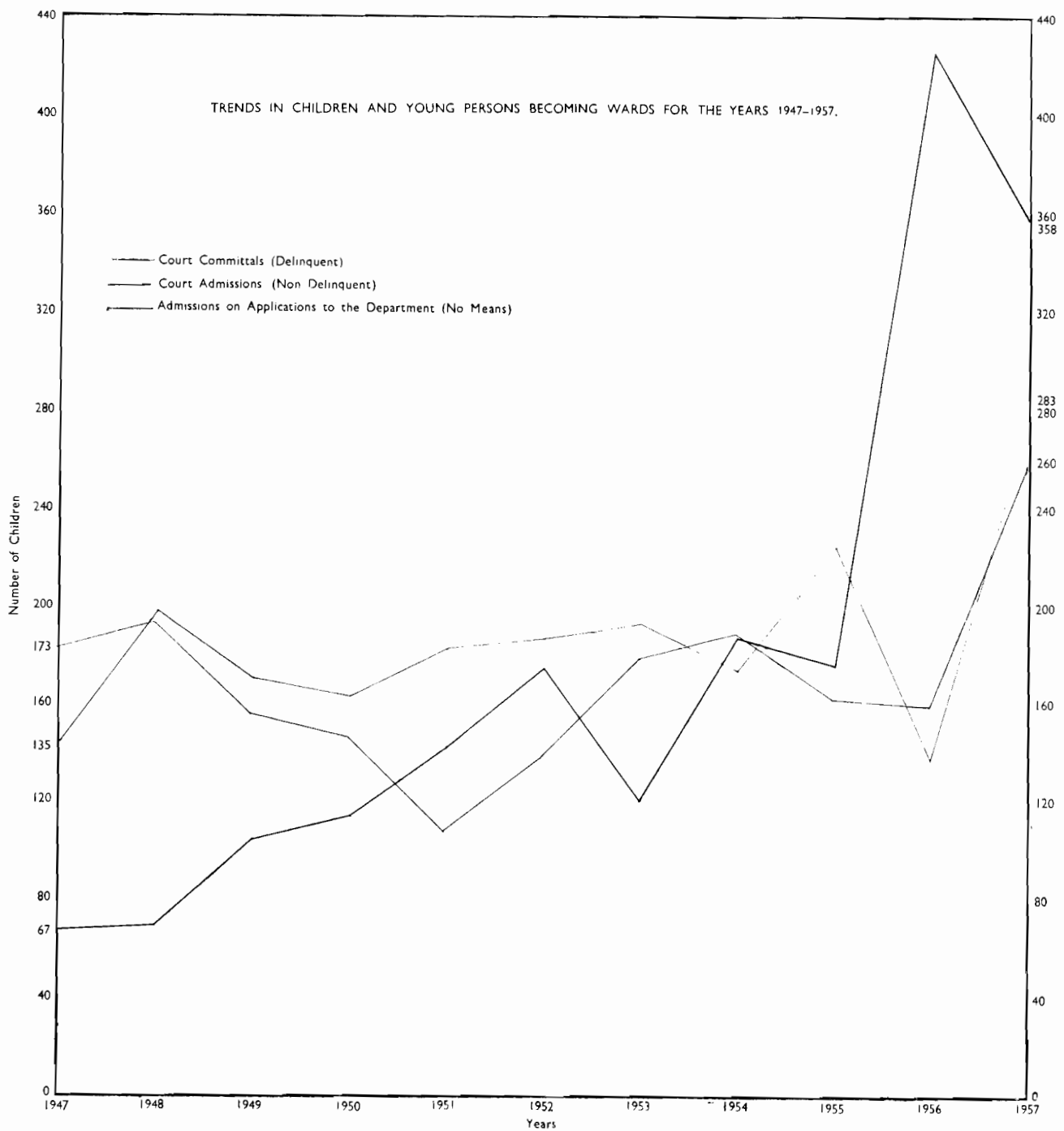
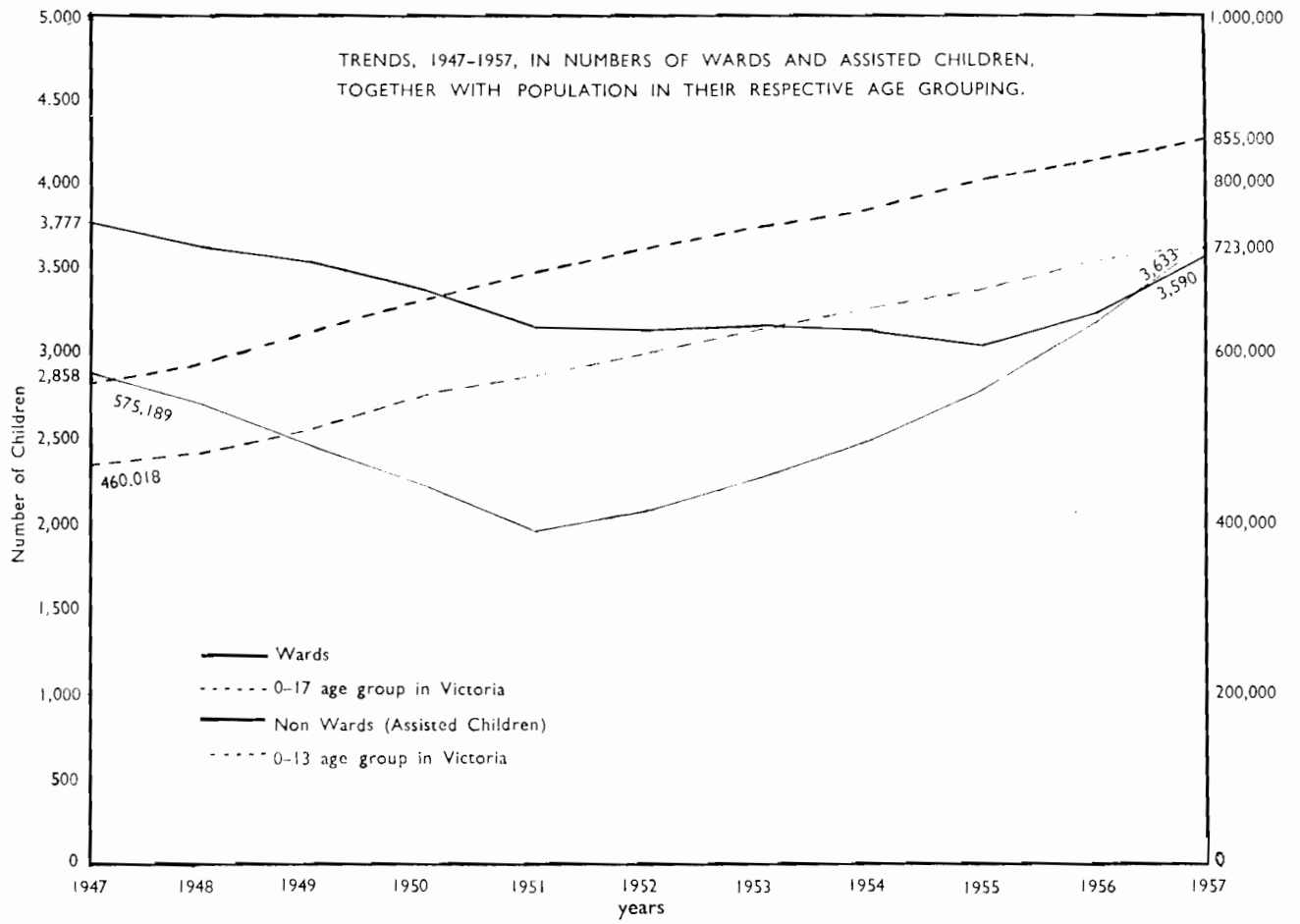
Needs in public relations work are growing. There is an increasing demand for material for distribution and publication. Very many students seek information in connexion with their social studies. There is also very much call for guest speakers, and there are various conferences in which the Department must participate, as well as committee work. Arrangements for and conduct of study programmes for United Nations and Colombo Plan Fellows, as well as other overseas visitors, have also assumed sizable proportions. These growing needs are very important and will call for an additional staff appointment.

CONCLUSION.

In its activities, the Department receives much co-operation and help from many people—the voluntary child-care organizations, the Children's Courts, the Police, the social welfare agencies, the hospitals and the clinics. To all of them, the Department extends its grateful thanks. It has appreciated not only the co-operation as such but also, and in particular, the warm and friendly spirit in which it has been given.

To the Department's staff, at Head Office and at its establishments, I wish to say a very sincere "Thank you" for their devoted service during the year to the children in the care of the Department.

J. V. NELSON,
Director.



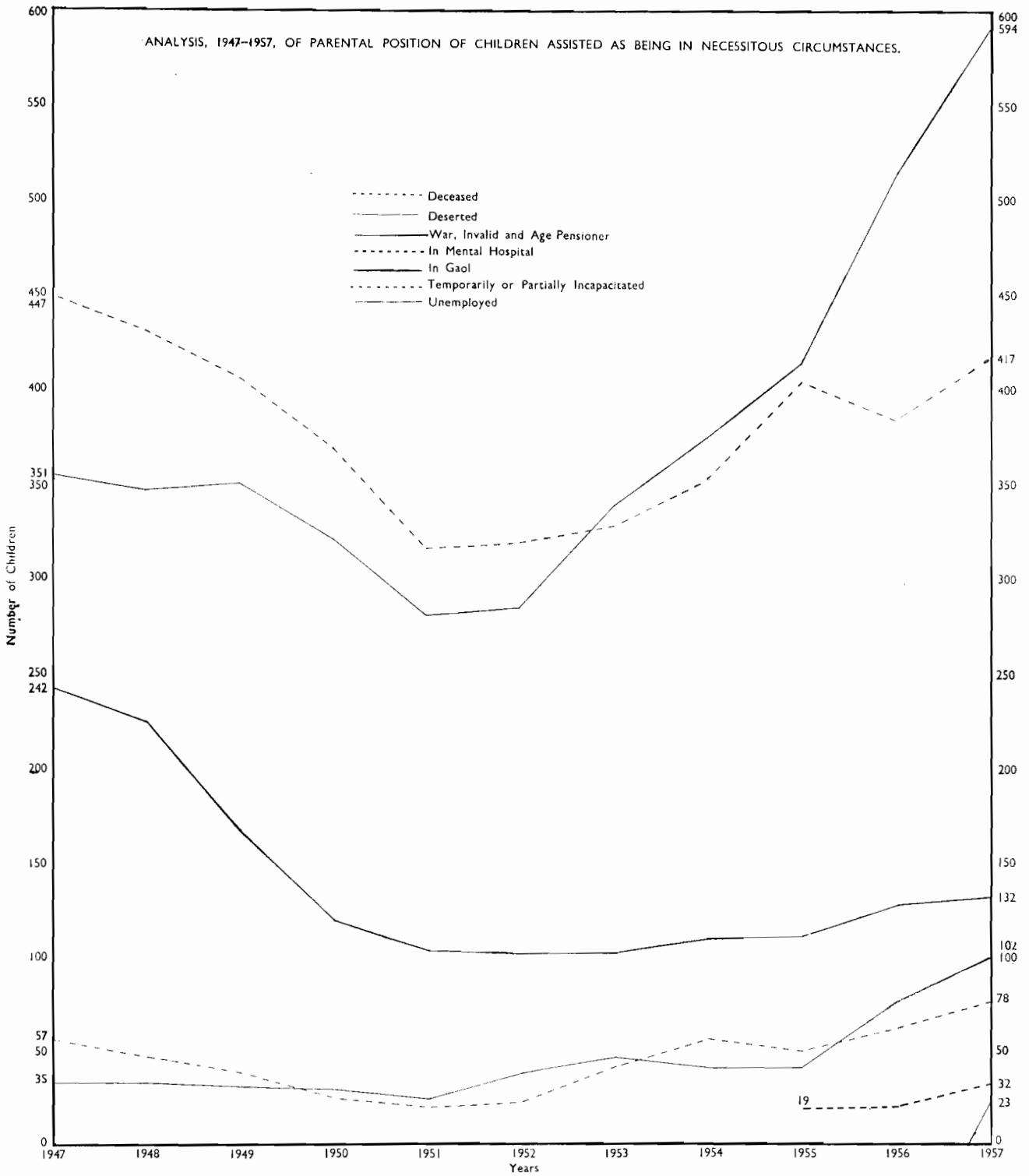


TABLE NO. 1.

ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES OF WARDS FOR THE YEAR 1957.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Wards under care at the commencement of the year	1,918	1,286	3,204
<i>Admissions.</i>			
Court Committals (<i>Children's Court Act 1956</i>)—Section 28—Offences—			
(a) Children's Welfare Department	42	3	} 136
(b) Juvenile school	90	1	
Court Admissions (<i>Children's Welfare Act 1954</i>)—			
Section 16—Protection applications	260	228	488
Section 19—Uncontrollable applications	10	7	17
Admissions on application to Department (<i>Children's Welfare Act 1954</i>)—			
Section 20 (1)—No means	58	34	92
Section 20 (10)—No means	34	20	54
Section 66 (d)—Default in payment by parent	65	49	114
Total Admissions	559	342	901
<i>Discharges.</i>			
By direction of the Minister	98	56	154
Death .. .. .	..	1	1
Legal adoption	45	36	81
Effluxion of time :—			
(a) <i>Children's Welfare Act 1954</i> , Section 21 (1)	174	78	252
(b) <i>Children's Court Act 1956</i> , Section 28 (1) (f)	15	3	18
Court Review— <i>Children's Court Act 1956</i> , Section 28 (4)	9	..	9
Total Discharges	341	174	515
Total wards under care at the end of the year	2,136	1,454	3,590

TABLE No. 2.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF ADMISSION AND COMMITTAL OF BOYS AND GIRLS BY THE CHILDREN'S COURTS DURING THE YEARS 1955-57.

Causes of Admission and Committal.	1955.			1956.			1957.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Committals pursuant to Section 28, <i>Children's Court Act 1956</i> —									
Larceny, stealing	54	..	54	34	3	37	24	2	26
Breaking and entering (shops, houses, factories, &c.)	55	..	55	68	3	71	52	2	54
Illegally using	23	1	24	19	..	19	38	..	38
Robbery with violence	4	..	4	1	..	1	7	..	7
Assault	1	..	1	2	..	2	2	..	2
Indecent and unnatural offences	3	..	3	1	..	1	4	..	4
Receiving	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1
Arson .. .. .	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..
Living immoral life .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Breach of Probation .. .. .	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..
Malicious damage .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Miscellaneous	6	1	7	1	..	1	3	..	3
Sub-totals	147	2	149	130	6	136	132	4	136
Admissions—(i) pursuant to Section 16 of the <i>Children's Welfare Act 1954</i> —									
(a) Found begging .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Found wandering or abandoned	5	4	9	5	5	10	6	4	10
(c) No means of support or no settled place of abode	43	32	75	49	59	108	68	77	145
(d) In a brothel or associating with known thieves, prostitutes, &c. .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(e) Not licensed to engage in street trading .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(f) Not provided with proper food, nursing, clothing or medical aid	9	10	19	11	7	18	28	29	57
(g) Takes part in any public performance, endangering life or limb .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(h) In care and custody of persons who are unfit guardians	42	31	73	95	84	179	52	59	111
(i) Lapsing or likely to lapse into a career of vice or crime	44	26	70	55	37	92	97	33	130
(j) Exposed to moral danger .. .. .	..	..	..	..	10	10	2	25	27
(k) Truancy .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	1	7	1	8
(ii) pursuant to Section 19 of the <i>Children's Welfare Act 1954</i> —									
Uncontrollable	6	1	7	6	4	10	10	7	17
Sub-totals	149	104	253	222	206	428	270	235	505
Total number of children made wards of State through Victorian Children's Courts	296	106	402	352	212	564	402	239	641

TABLE No. 3.

ANALYSIS OF "FIXED TERM" COMMITTALS—SECTION 28 (1) (f) OF THE CHILDREN'S COURT ACT 1956—DURING 1957.

Term.									Boys.	Girls.	Total.
1 month	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	6
2 months	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	5
3 "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	8
6 "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	3	21
9 "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
12 "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	83	1	84
2 years	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	..	10
Totals									132	4	136

TABLE No. 4.

LOCATION OF WARDS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1955, 1956 AND 1957.

Location.	1955.			1956.			1957.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Boarded out in foster homes	185	222	407	200	249	449	220	272	492
Placed without payment in foster homes ..	99	49	148	67	62	129	51	65	116
Placed with relatives	186	103	289	213	91	304	304	107	411
Placed in foster homes with view to legal adoption	47	24	71	43	17	60	45	22	67
Boarded out in children's homes	973	520	1,493	968	532	1,500	989	651	1,640
Placed in juvenile schools	47	46	93	92	15	107	94	21	115
Placed in special schools (Mental Hygiene) ..	41	42	83	57	47	104	62	56	118
Placed in mental hospitals .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	4	15
Placed in live-in employment	71	35	106	72	70	142	63	72	135
Placed in open employment .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	..	10
Placed in hostels (in employment)	74	13	87	86	2	88	89	1	90
Placed in hospitals	3	1	4	2	2	4	1	4	5
Absconders	13	12	25	18	5	23	16	19	35
Placed at "Turana", Royal Park	97	134	231	97	167	264	162	80	242
Placed at "Winlato", Nunawading .. ..	..	..	..	..	13	13	..	55	55
Placed at "Sutton Grange", Morningside ..	..	..	..	7	10	17	4	16	20
Placed in suburban family group homes ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	9	24
Totals	1,836	1,201	3,037	1,922	1,282	3,204	2,136	1,454	3,590

TABLE No. 5.

STATEMENT SHOWING TRENDS IN POPULATION AND IN NUMBERS OF CHILDREN—(A) COMING UNDER THE CARE OF THE DEPARTMENT;
AND (B) ASSISTED OWING TO NECESSITOUS CIRCUMSTANCES—OVER THE YEARS 1947-57.

Year	Total Population of Australia.	Total Population of Victoria.	0-17 Age Group for Australia.	0-17 Age Group for Victoria.	Yearly Admissions to Children's Welfare Department.	Analysis of Yearly Admissions.			Total No. of Wards under guardianship at end of each year.	No. of Wards per 1,000 of 0-17 Age Group in Victoria.	Children (non-wards) in Necessitous Circumstances for whom Allowances are paid.		
						Court Commitments.	Court Admissions.	Applications.			0-13 Age Group for Victoria.	No. of Children assisted at end of each year.	No. per 1,000 of 0-13 Age Group in Victoria.
1947	7,579,358	2,054,701	2,251,400	575,189	375	135	67	173	3,777	6.57	460,018	2,858	6.21
1948	7,709,559	2,108,125	2,320,000	596,000	464	197	73	194	3,609	6.06	479,000	2,670	5.57
1949	7,908,890	2,168,884	2,412,000	622,000	429	169	104	156	3,517	5.65	503,000	2,403	4.77
1950	8,307,481	2,237,182	2,568,000	666,000	422	162	113	147	3,388	5.2	543,000	2,119	3.87
1951	8,527,907	2,299,538	2,670,000	694,000	432	182	142	108	3,148	4.53	569,000	1,919	3.37
1952	8,739,569	2,366,719	2,772,000	723,000	500	187	174	139	3,159	4.37	597,000	2,048	3.43
1953	8,902,686	2,416,035	2,860,000	749,000	493	193	120	180	3,166	4.22	622,000	2,238	3.6
1954	8,986,530	2,452,341	2,928,000	772,000	552	174	187	191	3,121	4.05	645,948	2,478	3.84
1955	9,200,691	2,555,021	3,038,000	801,000	566	226	176	164	3,037	3.79	675,000	2,759	4.08
1956	9,533,334	2,632,623	3,187,000	828,000	725	138	426	161	3,204	3.87	702,000	3,177	4.53
1957	9,689,939	2,700,635	3,228,000	855,000	901	283	358	260	3,590	4.2	723,000	3,659	5.07
1960	10,292,756	..	3,480,000	929,000	..	..	..	..	*3,900	..	792,000	†4,000	..
1965	11,400,000	..	3,850,000	1,030,000	..	..	..	..	*4,300	..	877,000	†4,450	..

Notes:—

Population.—

The figures given for the years 1947-1957 are taken from those compiled by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, Canberra. The census years 1947 and 1954 are actual figures, the others being estimates only from the Commonwealth Bureau.

The figures for 1960 and 1965 are taken from projections for the population of Australia prepared for the Inter-departmental Committee on the Retiring Age by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics. These projections are not to be taken in any way as official estimates or forecasts and are purely Commonwealth Bureau hypothetical calculations of levels of population.

* Estimated on the 1957 figure of 4.2 wards per 1,000 0-17 age group in the Victorian population. This may possibly prove an under-estimate because since the operation of the 1954 Children's Welfare Act, the trend shows an increasing ratio with a consequent increase in number of wards. At the same time, some levelling out can now be expected.

† Estimated on the 1957 figure of 5.07 assisted children per 1,000 of 0-13 age group in the Victorian population. This estimate is conservative. Trend over past 4 years has been upwards and may continue, particularly if any recession in national economy occurs.

TABLE No. 6.

ANALYSIS OF AGES AND RELIGIONS OF CHILDREN ADMITTED OR COMMITTED TO THE CARE OF THE CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEARS 1953-57.

	1953.	1954.	1955.			1956.			1957.		
	Boys and Girls.	Boys and Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Age Ranges—											
Up to 3 years ..	..	..	..	..	..	87	78	165	113	97	210
3 to 6 years ..	187	220	117	87	204	52	62	114	72	72	144
6 to 14 years ..	192	234	155	64	219	168	103	271	196	125	321
14 years and over	94	74	118	25	143	130	45	175	178	48	226
Totals ..	473	528	390	176	566	437	288	725	559	342	901
Religions—											
Protestant ..	288	318	213	116	329	260	186	446	308	199	507
Roman Catholic ..	182	202	177	60	237	171	91	262	242	138	380
Jewish ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	1
Others ..	3	8	..	..	..	5	11	16	8	5	13
Totals ..	473	528	390	176	566	437	288	725	559	342	901

TABLE No. 7A.

DETAILS OF ALLOWANCES PAID FOR CHILDREN IN NECESSITOUS CIRCUMSTANCES—
PART V. OF CHILDREN'S WELFARE ACT 1954.

ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN.

	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
Applications received ..	703	720	777	956	1,103
Number of children ..	1,574	1,794	2,021	2,536	3,021
Applications approved ..	575	584	613	687	763
Number of children ..	1,284	1,456	1,604	1,872	2,226
Applications refused ..	21	31	24	52	82
Number of children ..	44	71	65	110	181
Applications withdrawn ..	107	105	140	215	253
Number of children ..	246	267	352	551	596
Applications not finalized (at end of year) ..	..	..	..	2	5
Number of children ..	..	..	..	3	18

TABLE No. 7B.

NUMBER OF PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF AID FOR THEIR CHILDREN AND THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN ASSISTED AS AT 31st DECEMBER IN EACH YEAR, TOGETHER WITH THE TOTAL ANNUAL COST OF MAINTENANCE.

	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
Number of parents as at 31st December ..	828	904	992	1,116	1,248
Number of non-parents as at 31st December ..	..	..	9	36	76
Number of children as at 31st December ..	2,238	2,478	2,759	3,177	3,659
Total cost of maintenance for year (exclusive of medical attendance and school requisites) ..	£86,789	£105,181	£124,374	£153,229	£161,608

TABLE No. 7c.

CLASSIFICATION OF PARENTS OF CHILDREN ON ACCOUNT OF WHOM ASSISTANCE WAS BEING PAID AT 31ST DECEMBER IN EACH YEAR.

	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
Deceased	326	352	404	384	417
Deserters	337	374	413	515	594
Temporarily or partially incapacitated	44	57	51	64	78
War service, invalid, and age-pensioners	102	110	111	128	131
Gaol.. .. .	49	43	43	78	102
Deported aliens	1	1	..	..	..
Mental Hospital .. .. .	..	..	19	20	32
Unemployment .. .. .	..	..	..	..	23
Superannuation .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1
Totals	859	937	1,041	1,189	1,378

TABLE No. 8.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.—PART VII., CHILDREN'S WELFARE ACT 1954.

Number at 1st January 1957	236
New placements during year	576
Number supervised during year	812
Discharged during year—	
To parents	398
On reaching age of five years	55
On becoming wards of Department	114
On death	1
<i>De facto</i> adoption	28
On discharge to the Department, Section 20 (10)—Section 66D not applicable	1
Total discharges	597
Number at 31st December, 1957	215

LOCATION OF INFANTS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1957.

In Registered Institutions.

Abbotsford Convent	Nil
Alexandra Babies' Home	5
Ballarat Orphanage	Nil
Berry-street Foundling Hospital	3
Bethany Babies' Home, Geelong	1
Church of England Home for Little Children, Darling	16
Gordon Boys' Home, Highett	Nil
Kardinia Home, Geelong	2
Kildonan Home, Burwood.. .. .	9
Lutheran Peace Memorial Children's Home, Kew	1
Melbourne City Mission	25
Melbourne Orphanage, Brighton	3
Methodist Babies' Home, South Yarra	6
Methodist Peace Memorial, Burwood	1
Presbyterian Babies' Home, East Camberwell	22
Salvation Army Girls' Home, East Kew	1
Salvation Army Girls' Home, Camberwell	Nil
St. Aidan's Home, Bendigo	3
St. Anthony's Orphanage, Kew	15
St. Catherine's Orphanage, Geelong	1
St. Gabriel's Home, Balwyn	14
St. Luke's Toddlers' Home, Bendigo	8
St. Mary's School for the Deaf, Portsea	6
St. Joseph's Home, Broadmeadows.. .. .	34
St. Joseph's Home, Carlton	1
St. Joseph's Home, Sebastopol	6
The Haven, North Fitzroy	11
Victorian Children's Aid	3
<i>In Registered Private Homes</i>	18
Total	215

NEW REGISTRATIONS.

The following are details of applications received for the registration of new homes during the year shown, and the manner in which such applications were dealt with:—

Applications received	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Applications withdrawn	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Applications refused	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Applications granted	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Applications pending	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

(These totals include applications from certain private homes and establishments whose admissions of infants aged under five years were previously exempted under the *Children's Welfare Act 1928*, but required registration from the commencement of the 1954 Act on the 1st September, 1955).

A total of 357 infants were accommodated for varying periods during the year by registered persons whose fees are over the rate of £3 per week, as determined under section 29 of the 1954 Act.

NOTIFICATION OF DE FACTO ADOPTIONS, SECTION 67 OF THE CHILDREN'S WELFARE ACT 1954.

Notifications in respect of 506 infants were received during the year, pursuant to section 67, from persons who had taken over the entire care and charge of an infant under the age of five years from its parents or guardians.

While it does not necessarily follow that the infants represented in these notifications are forthwith, or subsequently, legally adopted, it is known that in most cases the notifications are a prelude to applications for legal adoptions. Some of the infants, however, remain with their new custodians merely on a *de facto* adoption basis.

TABLE No. 9.
SUBSIDIZED HOSTELS.

Name of Hostel.	Number of Inmates Approved for Subsidy as at 31st December—					Government Contributions to—	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.						
Boys.							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Lyndon Lodge	24	20	20	24	23	157 18 0	627 12 11	312 19 2	343 12 7	569 8 3
Padua Hall	20	13	15	18	5	Total	2,116 2 11	560 1 10	382 1 8	1,613 10 5	424 10 5
						Subsidy of Earnings	171 9 7	210 0 0	60 0 0	60 0 0	60 0 0
St. Martin's House	4	4	3	3	2	Clothing Grants	*6,727 0 1	40 9 2	†576 10 6
						Upkeep of Property, &c.	9,014 12 7	770 1 10	442 1 8	1,713 19 7	1,001 0 11
Ballarat Boys	9	8	13	7	7	Total	8 6 0	146 16 9	216 1 1	92 14 9	86 3 0
						Subsidy of Earnings	45 0 0
St. Vincent's Boys	18	30	14	9	27	Clothing Grants
						Upkeep of Property, &c.	53 6 0	146 16 9	271 1 1	112 14 9	86 3 0
Young Christian Workers' Movement	6	12	12	8	9	Total	58 8 7	358 18 9	101 3 3	13 3 11	187 11 4
						Subsidy of Earnings	75 0 0	85 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0
The Pabns (Burwood Boys)	3	3	2	8	7	Clothing Grants	99 17 1	127 17 4	103 6 8
						Upkeep of Property, &c.	233 5 8	486 16 1	186 3 3	131 10 7	267 11 4
Menzies Boys' Home	84	90	79	86	89	Total	76 14 6	392 5 8	100 7 4	57 16 0	461 6 2
						Subsidy of Earnings	218 0 2	216 10 1	210 0 0	180 0 0	180 0 0
Total Boys						Clothing Grants	577 1 5
						Upkeep of Property, &c.	871 16 1	608 15 9	310 7 4	237 16 0	641 6 2
						Total	92 6 4	393 5 3	281 6 6	23 5 7	112 18 11
						Subsidy of Earnings	15 0 0	15 0 0	40 0 0	20 0 0
						Clothing Grants	†380 8 0
						Upkeep of Property, &c.	107 6 4	408 5 3	321 6 6	23 5 7	513 6 11
						Total	22 4 4	182 7 4	90 10 3	95 10 6	78 1 2
						Subsidy of Earnings	15 0 0	45 0 0	40 0 0	60 0 0
						Clothing Grants
						Upkeep of Property, &c.	37 4 4	227 7 4	130 10 3	155 10 6	78 1 2
						Total	4 12 0	234 1 10
						Subsidy of Earnings	20 0 0
						Clothing Grants
						Upkeep of Property, &c.
						Total
						Subsidy of Earnings
						Clothing Grants
						Upkeep of Property, &c.
						Total
						Subsidy of Earnings
						Clothing Grants
						Upkeep of Property, &c.
						Total
						Subsidy of Earnings
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						Upkeep of Property, &c.
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						Subsidy of Earnings
						Clothing Grants
						Upkeep of Property, &c.
						Total
						Subsidy of Earnings
						Clothing Grants
						Upkeep of Property, &c.
						Total
						Subsidy of Earnings
				</							

TABLE NO. 9—continued.
SUBSIDIZED HOSTELS—continued.

Name of Hostel.	Number of Inmates Approved for Subsidy as at 31st December—					Government Contributions to—	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.
	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.						
						£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
* Church of England Girls	8	2	10	..	..	88 11 4 25 0 0 ..	401 8 9	218 15 6 47 0 0 57 2 8	67 15 7 24 4 6 ..	.. .. ..
						Total	401 8 9	233 18 2	92 0 1	..	
McAuley House	7	7	3	3	1	26 19 9 37 0 0 ..	99 0 11 15 0 0 ..	.. 29 0 0 ..	56 19 3 49 10 0 ..	20 17 4
						Total	114 0 11	29 0 0	106 9 3	20 17 4	
Total Girls	15	9	13	3	1	10,653 0 1	3,790 5 7	2,346 7 5	6,275 10 11	3,411 16 11	
Totals	99	99	92	89	90						

* Since November, 1956 this hostel has ceased to participate in the hostel scheme.

TABLE No. 10A.
APPROVED VOLUNTARY CHILD MIGRATION ORGANIZATIONS.

Organization.	Accommodation Capacity for Migrant Children.	Total Number Received from Inception of post- war Scheme to 31st December, 1957.		Number in Residence at 31st December, 1957.	
		Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Northcote School, Bacchus Marsh	72 boys and girls of school age	76	33	35	15
Methodist Peace Memorial Homes, Burwood ..	48 boys and girls of school age	24	16	1	1
Presbyterian Board of Social Services, "Dhurringile," c/o Murchison Rural Delivery	50 boys of school age ..	72	..	15	..
St. John's Homes for Boys, Canterbury ..	24 boys of school age ..	50	..	9	..
Church of England Boys' Society, Burton Hall, Tatura	5 boys over school age ..	22	..	4	..
Nazareth House, East Camberwell	150 girls of school age ..	..	53	..	36
*Young Christian Workers' Movement, Haw- thorn	60 boys over school age ..	125	..	..	..
		369	102	64	52

* Hostel closed as from the 31st December, 1954.

TABLE No. 10B.
NOMINATION OF MIGRANTS BY PRIVATE PERSONS DURING THE PERIOD 1st JANUARY,
1957, TO 31st DECEMBER, 1957.

Place of Origin of Nominee.	Recommended.	Deferred, Cancelled or Rejected.	Total.
United Kingdom	95	11	106
Other British—			
Malta .. .. .	..	..	..
Cyprus	1	..	1
Non-British—			
Italy	153	46	199
Greece	138	35	173
Germany	8	1	9
Yugoslavia	15	5	20
Other Countries	18	4	22
Total	428	102	530

TABLE No. 11.

PARTICULARS OF NON-DEPARTMENTAL INSTITUTIONS IN WHICH WARDS ARE LOCATED AND THE AGE RANGES OF CHILDREN ACCOMMODATED THEREIN.

Name of Institution.	Location.	Sexes.	Age Ranges.	Denomination.
Burton Hall C.E.B.S. Training Farm	Tatura ..	Boys ..	14-16 years ..	Church of England
Andrew Kerr Memorial Home	Mornington ..	Boys and girls ..	6-14 years ..	Church of England
St. Gabriel's Home	Balwyn ..	Babies ..	To 1½ years ..	Church of England
St. Luke's Toddlers' Home	Bendigo ..	Boys and girls ..	To 5 years ..	Church of England
St. Agnes' Home for Girls	Glenroy ..	Girls ..	5-14 years ..	Church of England
St. Paul's Home for Boys	Phillip Island ..	Boys ..	5-14 years ..	Church of England
St. Cuthbert's Home for Boys	Colac ..	Boys ..	5-14 years ..	Church of England
Church of England Babies' Home, Darling	Darling ..	Boys and girls ..	To 5 years ..	Church of England
Children's Home	Middle Brighton ..	Girls ..	5-14 years ..	Church of England
St. John's Home for Boys	Canterbury ..	Boys ..	5-14 years ..	Church of England
St. Joseph's Foundling Home	Broadmeadows ..	Babies ..	To 3 years ..	Roman Catholic
St. Anthony's Home	Kew ..	Boys and girls ..	3-6 years ..	Roman Catholic
St. Joseph's Home	Surrey Hills ..	Boys ..	6-9 years ..	Roman Catholic
St. Joseph's Home	Ballarat ..	Boys and girls {	Boys birth to 14 years	} Roman Catholic
		Girls {	birth to 5 years	
St. Vincent de Pauls' Boys' Orphanage	South Melbourne ..	Boys ..	9-16 years ..	Roman Catholic
St. Vincent de Paul's Girls' Orphanage	South Melbourne ..	Girls ..	5-16 years ..	Roman Catholic
St. Catherine's Orphanage	Geelong ..	Boys and girls {	Boys 3-8 years	} Roman Catholic
		Girls {	3-16 years	
St. Augustine's Orphanage	Geelong ..	Boys ..	9-15½ years ..	Roman Catholic
St. Aidan's Orphanage	Bendigo ..	Boys and girls {	Boys 3-9 years	} Roman Catholic
		Girls {	3-16 years	
Nazareth House	Ballarat ..	Girls ..	5-15 years ..	Roman Catholic
Convent of the Good Shepherd	Abbotsford ..	Girls ..	3-18 years ..	Roman Catholic
Marrilae House	Brighton ..	Girls ..	6-18 years ..	Roman Catholic (for mentally retarded)
St. John of God	Cheltenham ..	Boys ..	7-16 years ..	Roman Catholic (for mentally retarded)
"Dalgeny", St. Mary's School for Deaf	Portsea ..	Boys and girls {	Boys 3-10 years	} Roman Catholic
		Girls {	3-16 years	
"Resurrection House"	Essendon ..	Boys and girls ..	3-14 years ..	Roman Catholic
"The Haven"	North Fitzroy ..	Babies ..	To 2 years ..	Salvation Army
"Kardinia"	Geelong ..	Boys and girls {	Boys 2-5 years	} Salvation Army
		Girls {	2-10 years	
Box Hill Boys' Home	Box Hill ..	Boys ..	6-16 years ..	Salvation Army
Bayswater Boys' Home No. 2	Bayswater ..	Boys ..	8-14 years ..	Salvation Army
East Camberwell Girls' Home	East Camberwell ..	Girls ..	4-14 years ..	Salvation Army
East Kew Girls' Home	East Kew ..	Girls ..	3-16 years ..	Salvation Army
Tally Ho Boys' Village	Tally Ho ..	Boys ..	11-15 years ..	Methodist
Methodist Babies' Home	South Yarra ..	Babies ..	1-3 years ..	Methodist
Methodist Peace Memorial Homes for Children	Burwood ..	Boys and girls ..	4-14 years ..	Methodist
Presbyterian Babies' Home	Camberwell ..	Babies ..	To 3 years ..	Presbyterian
Killmany Park Farm Home for Boys	Sale ..	Boys ..	10-16 years ..	Presbyterian
Kildonau	Burwood ..	Boys and girls ..	2-15 years ..	Presbyterian
Lutheran Peace Memorial Children's Home	Kew ..	Boys and girls ..	3-14 years ..	Lutheran
Burwood Boys' Home	Burwood ..	Boys ..	3½-16 years ..	Non-denominational
Ballarat Orphanage	Ballarat ..	Boys and girls ..	5-18 years ..	Non-denominational
"Windermere" (Melbourne Orphanage)	Brighton ..	Boys and girls ..	3-16 years ..	Non-denominational
Bethany Home	Geelong ..	Boys and girls ..	To 5 years ..	Non-denominational
Berry-street Foundling Hospital	East Melbourne ..	Babies ..	To 3 years ..	Non-denominational
Gordon Boys' Cottage Homes	Highett ..	Boys ..	3-15 years ..	Non-denominational
Menzies Boys' Home	Frankston ..	Boys ..	15-18 years hostel	Non-denominational
Sutherland Homes	Diamond Creek ..	Boys and girls ..	5½-16 years ..	Non-denominational
Victorian Children's Aid Society	Parkville ..	Boys and girls {	Boys 3½ years and upwards	} Non-denominational
		Girls {	3½-14 years	
Alexandra Babies' Home	Ballarat ..	Boys and girls ..	20 months-5 years ..	Non-denominational
"Hurlingham" (Carry On Club)	Brighton ..	Boys ..	10-14 years ..	Non-denominational
Salem Spastic Centre	Box Hill ..	Boys and girls ..	From birth upwards	Inter-denominational
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	Clayton ..	Boys and girls ..	5 years onwards	Non-denominational
Stanhope Hostel	Kew ..	Girls ..	14-18 years ..	Non-denominational (Melbourne Legacy)
Blamey House	Kew ..	Boys and girls ..	9-14 years ..	Non-denominational (Melbourne Legacy)
Harelands (Hostel)	Kew ..	Boys ..	14-18 years ..	Non-denominational (Melbourne Legacy)
Melbourne City Mission	Brunswick ..	Boys and girls ..	To 8 years ..	Inter-denominational
"Glastonbury" (Geelong Protestant Orphanage)	Geelong ..	Boys and girls ..	4-14 years ..	Protestant
Travancore Special School	Flemington ..	Boys and girls ..	9-14 years ..	} Mental Hygiene Authority
Stawell Special School	Stawell ..	Boys and girls ..	9-14 years ..	
Janefield Special School	Janefield ..	Girls ..	14 years onwards	
Janefield Special School	Janefield ..	Boys ..	14 years onwards	
Bendigo Training Centre	Bendigo ..	Boys ..	16 years onwards	
JUVENILE SCHOOLS.				
Morning Star Boys' Home	Mornington ..	Boys ..	14-18 years ..	Roman Catholic
Bayswater Vocational Training Centre	Bayswater ..	Boys ..	14-18 years ..	Salvation Army
Convent of the Good Shepherd	Abbotsford ..	Girls ..	14-18 years ..	Roman Catholic
St. Margaret's Juvenile School, Convent of the Good Shepherd	Oakleigh ..	Girls ..	14-18 years ..	Roman Catholic
MATERNITY HOMES.				
"Kedesh"	Kew ..	.. ..	.. ..	Church of England
St. Joseph's Foundling Hospital	Broadmeadows ..	.. ..	.. ..	Roman Catholic
St. Joseph's Home	Carlton ..	.. ..	.. ..	Roman Catholic
"The Haven"	North Fitzroy ..	.. ..	.. ..	Salvation Army
Presbyterian Sisterhood	North Fitzroy ..	.. ..	.. ..	Presbyterian
Melbourne City Mission	Brunswick ..	.. ..	.. ..	Inter-denominational

TABLE No. 12.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1957.

1. Wards Boarded Out—

Foster Homes—											£	£
Maintenance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	51,070	
Clothing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,479	53,549
Children's Homes—												
Maintenance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	197,455	
Clothing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,363	205,818
Juvenile Schools—												
Maintenance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16,713	
Maintenance Deficiency Grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,755	
Special Grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,000	25,468
Wards outfitted for employment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,503	
Subsidies for hostel inmates	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,368	
Maintenance of migrant children	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,759	10,630

2. Children in Departmental Establishments—

Institution.	Provisions, clothing, travelling, &c.	Salaries, &c.	Gross expenditure.	Quarters, &c. rations paid by staff.	Net expenditure.
	£	£	£	£	£
"Turana"	61,885	148,994	210,879	8,852	202,027
"Winlaton"	12,050	19,622	31,672	1,954	29,718
"Sutton Grange"	3,843	5,422	9,265	783	8,482
Family Group Homes	2,391	1,602	3,993	*	3,993
	80,169	175,640	255,809	11,589	244,220

* Quarters and rations for staff of Family Group Homes are included with "Turana" figures.

3. Allowances for Children in Necessitous Circumstances—(Part V. of Children's Welfare Act) 161,608

4. General Maintenance Items—

School requisites	..	..	..	..	..	6,214	
Building grants (hostels)	..	..	..	..	..	3,379	
Travelling—wards and assisted children	..	..	..	..	..	2,191	
Maintenance incidentals	..	..	..	..	..	72	11,856

5. Administrative Expenses—

Salaries, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	79,689	
Postage and telephone	..	..	..	..	..	3,156	
Incidentals	..	..	..	..	..	3,669	
Printing and Stationery	..	..	..	..	..	3,155	
Fuel and light	..	..	..	..	..	370	
Honorary Welfare Officers' expenses	..	..	..	..	..	9	
Children's Welfare Advisory Council expenses	..	..	..	..	..	779	
Transport	..	..	..	..	..	3,633	94,460
							807,609
		Total	..	..	..	..

6. Revenue—

Maintenance Collections—											£	
Court orders	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16,285
Voluntary payments	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17,187
											33,472	
Miscellaneous Receipts—												
Appropriations of former years	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,170
Sale of Government Property	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	512
											1,682	
Child endowment for children at departmental institutions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,472
											39,626	
												767,983
												Net cost