

## GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

P.M.H.

In reply please quote

No. 665/52

All communications to be addressed to the Secretary

When telephoning or calling with reference to this office please ask for

CHILD WELFARE DEPARTMENT  
508 HAY STREET, PERTH.

133 3 13

18th March, 1955.

AIR MAIL.The Secretary,  
Department of Immigration,  
CANBERRA. A. C. T.

Dear Sir,

Re John Moss Report on Child Migration:  
Para. 17-19. Case Histories: Your No. 133/3/13.

I regret the delay in replying to your communications on the above subject. This was due to my inability to obtain from the various institutions replies to my enquiries.

The position briefly is:-

Anglican Homes:

I understand that only sketchy information is supplied by the Church Office in London concerning migrant children who come to this State. The Director of the Anglican Homes would appreciate more detailed information concerning the family background of the children, their scholastic attainments and their health histories.

Methodist Homes for Children:

A report from the Secretary indicates that the records sent from England in connection with migrant children entering Methodist Homes are very inadequate. Such papers as are received are kept at their Head Office, but no school reports were forwarded for any of the girls and the medical histories were extremely sketchy and unhelpful. The organisation strongly supports Mr. Moss' comments on these points.

Fairbridge Farm School:

The Principal advises that the case histories of children coming to Fairbridge are as full as could reasonably be expected and cover family history, personal history, medical history and past educational attainments. These case histories usually reach the Society before the child arrives and are treated as confidential.

Catholic Institutions:

Information from the Director of the Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association indicates that ample information about migrant children has been sent to them latterly.

It would appear that case histories are compiled by the Head Offices of the various institutions and not by government authority.

In view of the fact that consideration is being

Apparently he  
refers to  
proposed system  
of U.S. of London

Given to the screening by government officials of all migrant children who are likely to arrive in this State in future, it will be appreciated if full case histories could be supplied to this Department prior to the arrival of such children in Western Australia. These would be very helpful to the medical officers, vocational guidance officers and others who in all probability will examine the children in future.

Yours faithfully,

*A. L. Young*  
SECRETARY,  
CHILD WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

*Miss M<sup>rs</sup> Auld*

*Please refer to London & explain that  
last have apparently refers to recruitment  
proposals but in any case would appreciate  
their comments and suggestion that case  
histories be filed "prior to the arrival of such  
children"*

*EB*  
25/3