

Child Welfare

(Mr. W. Langshaw — Co-opted Member on National Executive representing Child Welfare. Mr. Langshaw is Director, Department of Youth and Community Services, N.S.W.)

As a new member of the National Executive who is attending his first meeting, I hope that I may be forgiven if this report varies from that normally required.

Representatives of the child welfare field did participate in the Ninth National Conference held in Sydney in August 77 and, in particular, I was one of the speakers in the plenary session on the topic — "The Australian Family — Criminogenic Pressures and their Reduction". This segment appeared to be well received and did provoke reasonable discussion.

It is probably true to say that the Australian Crime Prevention Council has not yet achieved its potential for the co-ordination, promotion and effective stimulation of crime prevention programmes relating to juvenile offenders. However, provision for effective co-operation does exist between the statutory authorities within Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea by virtue of the Annual Conference, along with the occasional special Conference of Social Welfare Administrators.

The most recent of these meetings in February 78 had on the agenda such topics as:—

- Long Term Secure Facilities for Dangerous Child and Adolescent Offenders, on which a paper is to be prepared.
- The Sixth United Nations Congress on Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders in which Ministers have affirmed a very real interest.

Other conferences have been concerned with delinquency amongst Aboriginal youth and alternative community placements for juvenile offenders.

All State authorities are showing a very real concern about child abuse and preventive programmes, sometimes linked with compulsory notification of cases by medical practitioners, are being implemented or planned.

All Governments and a wide variety of non-Governmental organisations are involved in preparation for International Year of the Child (IYC), 1979. The year provides a special opportunity for reviewing the needs of children and for developing new programmes on their behalf.

Religious Denominations

(The Revd. C. M. Bailey — Co-opted Member on National Executive representing Religious Denominations.)

The series of events and change in my position which has finally led to my appointment as Director of the Chaplaincy Department in the Diocese of Melbourne was under way when I had to, with regret, decline to take up the responsibility of implementing the motion passed by the National Executive at its last meetings.

My position, having now been resolved, will allow me to still be involved in the prison ministry and I hope to continue to make a contribution to the A.C.P.C. Executive.

The appointment of a prison chaplain to the Director of the Melbourne Diocese Anglican Chaplaincy Department, demonstrates the movement begun a few years ago to upgrade prison chaplaincy — the church and in the prison system.

Changes in the prison ministry in Pentridge are taking place in my movement to half-time and the Revd. Dean Brook, the Uniting Church Chaplain, going into a hospital ministry in Adelaide.

It appears as if the appointments to fill these positions will come from people who have had experience and training for prison ministry through the Clinical Pastoral Education Programme based in Pentridge. Also a future prison chaplain for a State in Australia, is at present doing a quarter of Training in Pentridge.

Churchill Fellowships ~ 1979

Added to the mounting list of Churchill Fellowships awarded to members of the Australian Crime Prevention Council during recent years we note with considerable interest and pleasure that two Q'ld Branch Members of the Council have been included in the recently announced Churchill Fellowship awards for 1979, — such members being the Honorary Secretary of the Q'ld Branch, P.C. Senior Sgt. Ron Redmond and Associate Member, Rev'd A. C. Male, B.A., B.Ed.St., Dip. R.E., J.P.



Ron Redmond, in taking up his Churchill Fellowship during 1979 will spend 13 weeks visiting the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States of America where he will study current trends applicable in training and operational spheres pertaining to scene of crime investigations as allied to forensic follow-through and expert examination; the police investigators role in such aspects to complement forensic examination.

Senior Sgt. Redmond believes that if criminal investigation is to keep pace with the complexity of modern crime, specialist police training for officers at different levels of service is essential and he expresses the further opinion that the best equipped police laboratory staffed by trained scientists is of little value unless it is supplied with evidentiary material in a proper condition for detailed analysis. This type evidence could be overlooked or damaged unless the crime scene searcher is properly trained.

We look forward to being able to publish some of Senior Sgt. Redmond's papers resulting from such studies late in 1979.