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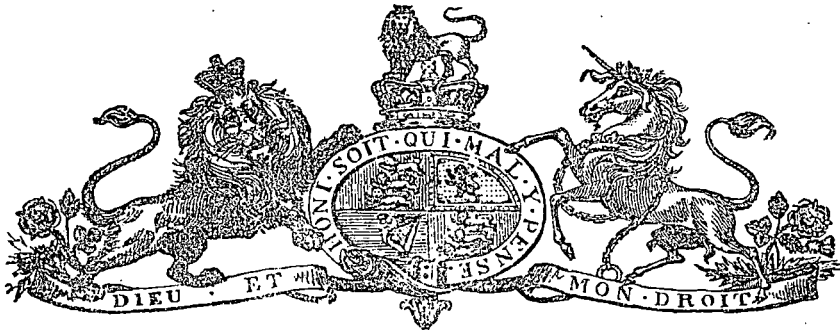


1884.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

BOARDED-OUT CHILDREN:
REGULATIONS.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.



GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

No. 192.

Chief Secretary's Office, 30th June, 1884.

IN accordance with the provisions of "The Public Charities Act, 1873," the Governor in Council has been pleased to make the following Regulations for the boarding-out of destitute and neglected children.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

1. The Central Committee for boarding-out destitute children shall consist of not less than three persons, and the Administrator of Charitable Grants shall be the Chairman of such Committee. The duty of such Committee shall be to regulate and supervise the boarding-out and apprenticing of children under "The Public Charities Act, 1873," and these Regulations.

LOCAL VISITING COMMITTEES.

2. No child to be boarded out in any district until a Visiting Committee shall have been established therein.

3. One or more Committees, to consist of two ladies and one gentleman, in Hobart and Launceston, and of two ladies and one gentleman in each district in the country, may be appointed by the Governor, and shall be called "Local Visiting Committees."

4. The duties of the Visiting Committee will be—

- a. To recommend to the Central Committee fit and proper persons to be entrusted with children within their district.
- b. To visit every child boarded out not less than once a month.
- c. To make a report in writing to the Central Committee every quarter, setting forth the apparent physical condition, the conduct, the attendance at church or chapel, Sunday and public school, the state of clothing and bedding, the nature of sleeping accommodation, the quantity and quality of food of every such child.
- d. To exercise a general supervision over the children and the persons in charge of them; to investigate any complaints made either by the children or their foster parents; and in cases of urgency to remove any child from one home to another, reporting, however, such removal and the reasons of it without delay to the Central Committee.
- e. To report to the Central Committee the death or sickness of any child, or any accident or special occurrence happening in regard to any of them.
- f. To find suitable places, if possible, for boys and girls when they shall have arrived at an age to be apprenticed out, and to watch over their treatment whilst so apprenticed in their district.

5. All applications for the relief of destitute children under the boarding-out system must be made to the Chairman of the Central Committee for consideration and decision.

REGULATIONS.

1. Every foster parent for children under these Regulations must be a female of good character, in good health, and, if married, her husband must be of the same faith—that is, either Protestant or Roman Catholic—as herself.

2. Applications for children must be sent in to the Visiting Committee, and must be accompanied by the certificate of a clergyman of the church attended by the applicant and her family as to the moral fitness of herself, and, if married, of her husband, to be entrusted with the training of children.

3. Every foster parent having children within the school ages specified in "The Public Schools Act" must show by the certificate of a schoolmaster or mistress that they are attending school in accordance with

the requirements of that Act, or give a satisfactory reason for their being detained therefrom. Any neglect of this regulation will entail the forfeiture of the week's allowance, and the immediate removal of the children from the charge of such foster parent.

4. The family of a foster parent must not at any time consist of more than seven, including the children boarded from the Government, but exclusive of herself, and, if married, her husband. No more than four children—except in the case of families of more than four—may be placed with one foster parent.

5. The residence of a foster parent must not be more than two miles from a public school under the Board of Education, or five miles from the residence of some member of Committee. The accommodation provided must be sufficient, and suitable and separate sleeping rooms must be provided for male and female children when above the age of nine years. Children above nine years may not sleep in the same room with married people.

6. No boarders or lodgers (children or adults) other than the children boarded from the Government may be received by foster parents, nor may a foster parent or her husband be the holder of any licence for the sale of fermented or spirituous liquors.

7. The children must be properly fed and clothed, and kept supplied by the foster parents with sufficient and seasonable bedding.

8. Children when first boarded out will be supplied by the Government with clothes as per annexed Schedule; but the foster parents will afterwards be required to keep up the supply of clothing on the same scale, and in good serviceable order, at their own expense. Any deficiencies in the proper number of articles reported by the Visiting Committee will be made good by the Government, and the cost deducted from the weekly payments made to the foster parent. The clothing to remain the property of the children, and to be kept constantly clean and in good repair.

9. The children will be visited from time to time by the Members of the Visiting Committee, who, as well as the members of the Central Committee, or any person authorised by them, shall have free access to them at all times.

10. Should a child meet with an accident, or become ill, it must be taken without delay to the medical officer hereinafter mentioned, or, if it be not practicable to take the child, the medical officer must be called in to attend to it, under such regulations as regards charges as may from time to time be made.

11. The foster parents will be expected to attend to the moral and religious training of the children, and send them regularly to Sunday School. When of a suitable age they must all attend the same place of worship as the foster parent and her family; and clergymen of the denomination to which they belong must also be allowed every reasonable facility for imparting to them religious instruction. Protestant children may only be placed with Protestants, and Catholics with Catholics.

12. Should a child meet with an accident, become seriously ill, die, or run away, information must be at once given to the Visiting Committee for report to the Central Committee.

13. Children received under these Regulations may not be transferred by foster parents, or placed permanently under the care of any other person, without the consent in writing of the Chairman of the Central Committee. But the Visiting Committee have power in any case which they consider urgent to remove children from foster parents in anticipation of the directions of the Central Committee. Foster parents may not change their residence without giving two weeks' notice of the proposed change to the Visiting Committee, nor unless the accommodation provided in the dwelling they propose to remove to shall be approved by such Committee.

14. Payments will be made at a rate not exceeding 6s. per week for each child. Payment to cease in the case of children who have attained the age of twelve years, when they can either be returned to the Government or retained by the foster parents without payment, or on such terms as may be agreed on. If retained after reaching the age of thirteen years, they must then be apprenticed under "The Public Charities Act, 1873."

15. Deductions may be made from the weekly payments, at the discretion of the Central Committee, for any neglect or improper treatment of the children.

16. Where practicable a medical officer will be appointed for every district in which children are boarded out. His duty will be to visit the children not less than once in every three months, and to attend to them in illness or in case of accident, either at the residence of the foster parent or his own residence or surgery, as may be necessary, and to supply all requisite medicines and medical appliances. He will be required to report to the Central Committee any deficiency of accommodation, any defects in the sanitary condition of the residence, insufficient supply of food or clothing, or absence of cleanliness, and generally any ill-treatment of the children or cause for complaint that may come under his notice; and an allowance for such attendance and supervision as above mentioned will be paid by the Government at the rate of £1 per child per annum.

17. The Central Committee may remove or direct the removal of children at any time it considers it necessary or expedient. Persons taking children under these Regulations will be at liberty to return them to the Government upon giving four weeks' notice of their intention to do so to the Visiting Committee.

SCHEDULE TO BOARDING-OUT REGULATIONS, (Clause 8).

BOYS.		GIRLS.	
<i>Articles.</i>	<i>Quantity.</i>	<i>Articles.</i>	<i>Quantity.</i>
Boots, pairs.....	2	Boots, pairs	2
Caps or Hats	2	Hats	2
Jackets	2	Jackets	2
Socks, pairs.....	3	Dresses	2
Vests	2	Chemises	2
Trousers, pairs	2	Stockings or Socks, pairs.....	3
Shirts	2	Drawers (girls over 8 years).....	2
Belt	1	Petticoats	2
Flannels*	2	Pinafores or Aprons.....	2
Handkerchiefs	2	Flannels*	2
		Handkerchiefs	2
		Collars, Linen (girls over 12).....	2
		Night-gowns	2

* For those children only who wear them by direction of a medical man.

The Governor in Council has also been pleased to direct it to be notified that the under-mentioned gentlemen constitute the Central Committee for Boarding-out Destitute Children:—

John O'Boyle, Esquire, Administrator of Charitable Grants, Chairman.
Colonel Henry Lionel Charles Bernard.
William Henry Burgess, Esquire, M.H.A.
Lieutenant-Colonel Albert Peel Garnett.
James Grant, Esquire.
Robert Andrew Mather, Esquire.
William Tarleton, Esquire.

By Command,

WM. MOORE, *Chief Secretary.*

NOTE.—Communications relating to the boarding-out of destitute children, and intended for the consideration of the Central Committee, must be addressed as follows:—

The Chairman
of the Central Committee for
Boarding-out Destitute Children,
Public Buildings,
HOBART.