

practice did not increase when I was at Molong Fairbridge between 1959 and 1961, or after I left.

10. No children were ever fostered out from Fairbridge Molong, either before I arrived in June 1959, or after.
11. When told by the UK Fairbridge society in 1958 to foster out Fairbridge Molong children, the chairman of the NSW Fairbridge Board W.B. Hudson told Sir Charles Hambro, the Chairman of the UK Fairbridge Society: 'We do not do this'. Hudson also added his reasons why he did not support the increasing practice of foster care: 'It is my opinion that people only want a child boarded out with them to get as much work out of the child as is legally possible' [PRT000093].
12. Children continued to leave school at the minimum school leaving age of 15 and were forced to work long hours on the farm for two years, being paid only a few shillings pocket money and no wages. This remained the practice at Fairbridge after I arrived in June 1959 and for the life of the child migration scheme.
13. When told by the UK Fairbridge Society of the decision that the 'traineeship should end' the NSW Fairbridge Chairman wrote to Hambro arguing for a preservation of the status quo and suggesting the change proposed to the traineeship scheme would be too costly.

'I want to assure you that we have developed our present system purely on what is best for the children.....without the children.....will involve abandoning the orchard, the vegetable garden, dairy, fowls and perhaps pigs. We would then have to buy all our vegetables, fruit, eggs, milk and perhaps also meat' [PRT000093]

14. The minutes of the Board of Governors of Fairbridge Molong record that 'London be informed we are already spending more on keeping trainee boys than they would receive as wages and there appears to be no sound basis for altering this'. [Minutes of the Board of Governors Fairbridge NSW, 21 January 1959].
15. No comfort or amenity was added to the children's cottage accommodation. The cottages had no lounge room or lounge furniture and remained the same after I arrived in June 1959 as they had been described in the UK Government Fact Finding Mission addenda in 1956:

'The cottages have the minimum of furniture and little comfort. The beds consist of wire mesh, which tends to sag, in a steel frame, with very poor mattresses. There is no other furniture in the dormitories and floors are bare wood...bathrooms and kitchens are shabby...in the dining hall the children use plain metal plates and beakers. [EWM000319]