

said that most of the Jewish lads introduced were over 18 years of age and Mr. Hicks and himself had in mind a class exemption for these Jewish lads who are 18 years of age or over on arrival.

Mr. Metcalfe pointed out the difficulty that the Big Brother Movement had requested some time ago a class exemption for their youths when they turned 18 years of age but that this had not been recommended by the Child Welfare Department in New South Wales. On the general question of exempting all 18 year olds introduced by voluntary organizations, Mr. Metcalfe pointed out that last year all Minister's delegates were approached and all were against such a class exemption preferring to deal with each case on its merits. The United Kingdom authorities also held these views.

Mr. Challoner put the view that there was a difference between exempting all lads 18 years of age on arrival and exempting all lads as they turned 18 years.

Mr. Ordish stated that it would be difficult to convince the Big Brother Movement that there was a difference of any magnitude. Mr. Metcalfe mentioned that the previous Minister had refused an exemption of the A.J.W.S. from the provisions of the Guardianship Act and that all States would have to agree to the N.S.W. proposal before action could be taken otherwise, for example, a lad not under the Minister's jurisdiction in N.S.W. might come under the Act if he travelled to Victoria.

Mr. Hicks and Mr. Challoner indicated they would give the matter further consideration on returning to Sydney.

#### D General

##### Mr. Noss - U.K. Child Expert

Mr. Hicks said his conversations with Mr. Noss had been cordial. He understood that Noss would recommend a number of the Catholic Institutions in N.S.W. on which decisions from the U.K. had been delayed. He said Noss was not impressed with Fairbridge Holong but had given him the impression that any report made would be "watered down".

##### Catholic Homes

There were, of course, difficulties of "after-care" and contact with local community particularly the latter with Catholic Homes and these matters in the main have to be decided by the Home Office in conjunction with the Catholic Church. Mr. Metcalfe indicated that negotiations on this aspect were taking place in London between Father Nicol and the Home Office.

St. Joseph's Cowper was not a particularly satisfactory Home nor St. Anne's Liverpool.

There was a local conflict of opinion over the suitability of the dining room at St. Vincent's Westmead but it was hoped that this would be settled soon.

Mr. Hicks mentioned that he had been in Tasmania recently and was quite impressed with the St. John Bosco Boys Town, Glenorchy.

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