

As the cost of 1,000 copies (£28) could be met out of existing funds, it was agreed that no special contribution by members need be made to the cost of printing the leaflet. None of the members expected to require large quantities of the leaflet which would be used primarily by the Hon. Secretary in giving information to Children's Officers and others regarding the activities of the Council.

6. LETTER FROM HOME OFFICE AND CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM BY THE HOME OFFICE ON REGULATIONS TO BE MADE UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE CHILDREN ACT, 1948, TO CONTROL THE MAKING AND CARRYING OUT BY VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE EMIGRATION OF CHILDREN

These documents had been circulated to Members and the comments of those not able to attend the meeting were duly noted. Father Nicol felt that such regulations would limit the activities of the Voluntary organisations and the Authorities concerned failed to appreciate that the organisations were only interested in emigration with a view to giving children a chance in life which would not otherwise be available to them. He felt that his Committee would be reluctant to carry on with their child emigration activities if they were bound by such regulations. Major Bavin agreed with Father Nicol, adding that the introduction of further regulations might cause the New Zealand Government to abandon child emigration altogether. Mr. Brown added that in his opinion the Ministry of Education's influence was seen in the regulations as a diminution of youths for employment in England would follow large scale child emigration. Miss Coleman, however, felt that as many of the children sent by the Organisations were of tender age, the question of employment would not arise for some time. Canon Flint thought that the regulations merely followed on from the Curtis Committee's report and there was general feeling against child emigration by the "powers that be". The Chairman agreed with Canon Flint, adding that there was always a certain amount of criticism that we were taking the cream of the children and leaving those in England who were not so good. Mr. Vaughan said that, on the other hand, there was the child who would be better off overseas and selection had to be on that basis. He thought that the Local Authorities would be faced with increasing problems in connection with children in their care. Mr. Plenderleith gave his view that the regulations need not be regarded as a serious deterrent to child emigration: many of the arrangements outlined were already being made.

The Chairman then invited members to go through the draft Regulations.

It was agreed that no official comment need be made on Sections 1 (a) and (b) as under these headings organisations were required to give certain information to the Home Office before completing arrangements for the emigration of children. After considering the remainder of the document, members agreed that the only suggestion which might be conveyed to the Home Office was that the words "or by a person acting on behalf of the Committee" be inserted in line 17 (a) which would then read:

"the child has been interviewed by a Case Committee or by a person acting on behalf of the Committee"

Which would be in line with para. 7 (c). Members felt that it would be impossible for all children to be brought before a Case Committee sitting in one centre, by reason of the fact that applications were considered from all over the country.

It was agreed that this suggestion be passed to the Home Office and also that the Council's thanks be conveyed for the opportunity of being allowed to see the regulations as well as for the assurance that Council would be consulted again if any changes of substance were made.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: It was agreed that the next meeting be held on Tuesday, the 16th September at 2.0 p.m. Mr. Bernard Brown would take the chair and the meeting would be held in his office at the Y.M.C.A., 4 Great Russell Street, W.C.1.