



Presbyterian Church of Victoria

“DHURRINGILE” RURAL
TRAINING FARM

for Orphan Migrant Boys

via MURCHISON, VICTORIA

September, 1956

Dear Sir/Madam,

Six years ago, the Presbyterian Church of Victoria established in the Goulburn Valley the "Dhurringile" Rural Training Farm for orphan or homeless boys from overseas. A splendid irrigated property of 120 acres was secured with a mansion of 68 rooms situated upon it, and 30 boys from Britain took up residence in 1949. And so began a fine Christian venture for boys needing a new opportunity in life.

The great purpose behind this enterprise is to prepare these boys for Christian citizenship, and to educate and train them for rural work or for such occupations as would be suitable for their abilities and desires.

Twenty-eight boys have been received in the Home since 1950, and more are expected this year through the Overseas League.

Over these last few years great progress and development has taken place at "Dhurringile". At the present time 40 boys are in residence, two of them working full time on the property, while practically all the rest are at school. Twenty other boys, who have passed through the Home and received training there, have been placed out on approved farms on or above the Award rates of pay. There is a staff of seven, including the Superintendent, Matron and Farmer. Cows, sheep, pigs and poultry are run on the farm, while recently 700 young fruit trees have been planted near the mansion. Income from the farm last year amounted to approximately £3,300.

It takes something like £7,000 a year to finance "Dhurringile". Each boy in residence costs £4/10/- per week to keep. Contributions made by the Governments for all boys up to 16 years of age amount to less than 30/- per boy. So practically all the revenue is derived from the profits from the farm and the donations made each year by interested individuals and organisations. WITHOUT