

First residents at Bendigo

The first four residents moved into St Laurence Court, Bendigo, at the end of July.

St Laurence Court is the fourth Brotherhood venture in housing for the active elderly and when it is completed the organisation will be able to provide accommodation for 350.

The Court is being built in conjunction with the Anglican diocese of Bendigo and the first stage, which residents moved into during August, consists of 20 flats, 16 single and four double.

Each of the single units has a combined bedroom/living room, divided by a curtain; a kitchen, and a bathroom which also contains laundering facilities. In the double units the bedroom is separate.

Below: Relatives and friends gathered to see the first residents of St Laurence Court, Bendigo, receive the keys to their flats. Right: Mrs Jessie Cantelo chats at her front door with Archdeacon Sheumack.



BEHIND THE SCENES

Organisations associated with helping people in need tend to concentrate on service to the client and public relations with a fund raising aim and to neglect the teaching aspect of their function. This can mean that they fail to share their knowledge about people and in particular with the coming generation who are going to be the future makers and executors of policy.

With this in mind the Brotherhood held a discussion conference for matriculation and final year students on August 16 and 17 called "Behind the Scenes in Welfare". The aims of the conference were:

- To encourage thought and action.
- To involve those attending in thinking about individual community responsibility.
- To stimulate thinking at a philosophical level about the rights of people in dependent situations.

The programme provided for study and discussion on three critical social issues in Victoria: Delinquency — speaker, Mr A. Keddie, Director of Youth Welfare; Australian Aborigines — speaker, Mr R. Worthy, Director of Aboriginal Affairs; Poverty — speaker, Miss Janet Paterson, Director of Research and Social Action for the Brotherhood.

Students from State and private schools attending the conference participated in lively discussion groups which followed each lecture. In summing up they agreed that the overall effect of the programme had been good, they had gained a better understanding of the topics under discussion but had been left with questions which needed answering. Some student commented that it had helped them to understand matric' reading, which this year had taken 'the family' as its subject, and all agreed that it had been a worthwhile experiment which should be repeated.

The conference was held at Trinity Grammar School who, with the help of the Mothers' Group, provided an excellent luncheon and numerous cups of tea and coffee.

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