

SOME OF THE SOCIETY'S ACTIVITIES:



Adult Deaf and Dumb Social Welfare Centre and Headquarters of the Society, Jolimont, Melbourne East.



Church for the Deaf and Dumb.

Jolimont, Melbourne East.



Homes for Aged, Infirm, and Dependent Deaf Mutes, Blackburn.

*This Society is NOT CONNECTED with the Victorian Deaf and Dumb Institution, which is a RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL for Deaf and Dumb Children*

# Adult Deaf & Dumb Society

of Victoria (Incorporated)

## 56th Annual Report

FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1940



HEADQUARTERS:

JOLIMONT SQUARE, MELBOURNE EAST

PHONE JA 1270

AND THE

HOMES FOR AGED, INFIRM AND DEPENDENT DEAF MUTES

AT BLACKBURN, VIC.

WHAT DOES "HEARING" MEAN  
TO US?

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THE next important asset to life itself is the sense of hearing, for, deprived of hearing, one is deprived of the **great avenue** to the social enjoyment and understanding of his or her fellow men and women. Therefore, a bequest to an organisation that aims at providing substitutes that will, in some measure, bring to our citizens who are deaf and dumb opportunities ordinarily open to all who can hear, is, perhaps, one of the finest ways of being of service to our fellow men.

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Form of Bequest

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I bequeath the sum of £        :        :        to the  
Treasurer for the time being of the **ADULT DEAF  
AND DUMB SOCIETY OF VICTORIA, JOLI-  
MONT SQUARE, MELBOURNE EAST**, for the  
use of the said Society, for which the receipt of such  
Treasurer shall be a sufficient discharge.

**Adult Deaf and Dumb Society of Victoria**

(INCORPORATED)

OFFICE BEARERS, 1940-1941

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Patrons:

HIS EXCELLENCY SIR WINSTON DUGAN, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.,  
GOVERNOR OF VICTORIA.

HON. SIR WM. IRVINE, K.C.M.G., LL.D.

THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD MAYOR OF MELBOURNE.

President: SIR JULIUS BRUCHE, K.C.B., C.M.G.

Vice-President: MR. L. A. CLEVELAND.

Hon. Treasurer: MR. EDGAR H. PEACOCK, J.P., 486 Bourke St., Melbourne

Hon. Secretary: MR. C. R. B. JAMES, F.C.A. (Aust.), F.A.I.S.,  
19 Queen Street, Melbourne.

Hon. Physicians: DR. BOYD PENFOLD, DR. W. J. CRAIG  
and DR. SELWYN SUTTON

Board of Management:

Chairman: MR. F. W. SPRY, F.C.A. (Aust.).

MR. N. ARMSTRONG, J.P.

MR. H. BEDGGOOD

MR. H. BELYEA

MR. E. J. L. BREMNER

MR. M. J. HOATH

MR. S. G. HOBSON

MR. C. R. B. JAMES

\*MR. E. R. NOBLE

MR. E. H. PEACOCK, J.P.

\*MR. H. PUDDY

\*MRS. A. W. SUTHERLAND

MR. G. W. SWEETLAND

Assistant Secretary: MISS E. R. EMPSON.

Superintendent of Blackburn Home: MR. DOUGLAS ABRAHAM.

Residential Welfare Officer: \*MR. J. M. JOHNSTON.

Collectors—City and Suburbs: MESSRS. \*H. BLACKMORE, \*W. HATELY,  
and \*B. GRAYDEN:

Collectors—Country: MESSRS. \*T. D. McRAE, \*W. M. UNDERWOOD.

GEELONG BRANCH.

Hon. Secretary: MISS C. MONAHAN.

Meeting Place: Rotary Club, Moorabool Street, Geelong.

BALLARAT BRANCH.

Honorary Superintendent: MR. H. LUDBROOK.

Meeting Place: The Orphanage, Victoria Street, Ballarat.

\* Deaf.

## LIFE GOVERNORS.

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Mrs. Fred. Dennett  
Miss Sue Dennett  
Cr. S. Dennis  
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FIFTY-SIXTH  
ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE

# Adult Deaf and Dumb Society

OF VICTORIA (INCORPORATED).

The work of the Society for the past twelve months is a record of continuous success, both from the welfare aspect and the financial response made by the public.

In submitting this account of its stewardship, the Board of Management feels that it has great reason for thankfulness to Almighty God, not only because of the benefits directly derived by the deaf and dumb community, but for the joy and privilege of being blessed with the accomplishment of so much.

All parents will agree that the leaving school age is one of the most critical in a child's life, for it is the time when impressions for good or evil are most easily made. If provision is found to be necessary for the normal child at this stage, how much more so is it needed for the deaf and dumb? This Society sets out to provide for the particular needs of the deaf and dumb youth the one-hundred-and-one activities available for the further education and social well-being of the normal youth.

One thousand of our fellow citizens are shut out from most of the advantages that make up our daily life. If we can provide them with substitutes, should we not do so?

The deaf and dumb are cut off from—

Ordinary social intercourse—  
They cannot hear.

Music and Song—  
They cannot hear.

Wireless, Talkies, Telephone—  
They cannot hear.

The voices of loved ones—  
They cannot hear.

Participation in Municipal and Parliamentary honours, from Public Dinners, Meetings and National Functions—

**They cannot hear.**

#### THE PUBLIC APPEAL.

Next in importance to the successful continuance of the Society's objective was the generous response made by the general public to the Society's appeal for funds for a central building capable of housing our many activities, for repairs and renovations to the Blackburn Home, and for Hostels for young men and women on the Jolimont property. Plans for the central building have been prepared, but due to war conditions and on the recommendation of the Charities Board, building operations have been deferred.

#### DEAF WAR COMFORTS FUND.

Our deaf and dumb womenfolk are doing a remarkable amount of work in making comforts for our fighting forces. The ready response of their menfolk, who gave a splendid financial start, contributions from dances and other socials, and from the combined Guilds, have enabled the purchase of 900 skeins of knitting wool and 150 yards of flannel to the value of about £62. To date, 206 articles have been made—49 prs. socks, 3 prs. heelless socks, 28 prs. mittens, 22 scarves, 17 Balaclavas, 15 caps, 4 pullovers, 60 vests, 8 prs. of pyjamas. These were forwarded (with the exception of one parcel of 30 articles sent to the Mission for Seamen) to the Australian War Comforts Fund.

#### THE FACILITIES OF THE SOCIETY.

The Society's Club House is open daily to the whole of the deaf and dumb community. The office and service of its experts, in whatever matter pertaining to welfare service, are also at the disposal of every applicant for assistance. The Principal, Assistant Secretary, and Welfare Officer reside in Jolimont Square, and one or other is ready, and frequently called upon, to assist at any hour in cases of emergency.

#### DEAF COMMITTEE.

The Board of Management here expresses pleasure and satisfaction with the manner in which the members of the Deaf Committee have carried out the work entrusted to them during the past year. This committee deals with the inner activities of the Society, is largely responsible for the successful running of the

various deaf clubs, social entertainments arranged by the deaf, and above all the conduct and good name of all deaf and dumb folk.

#### OUR LATE PRINCIPAL—ERNEST J. D. ABRAHAM.

It is with very deep regret and great sense of loss that we record the passing of Mr. Ernest J. D. Abraham, Principal of the Adult Deaf and Dumb Society of Victoria, at a private hospital on the afternoon of the 29th July, 1940, after a brief illness. He was 73 years of age.

It is not given to many of us to be able to gaze upon monuments erected to ourselves during our lives, but Ernest J. D. Abraham could point to three—the Centre, situated in the old-world and peaceful surroundings of Jolimont Square; the Home for Aged and Infirm Deaf Mutes at Blackburn, and the specially designed and constructed Church for the Deaf at Jolimont.

#### OUR HOME

Situated at Lake Park, Blackburn, amid beautiful rural surroundings, is our Home—a "home" in the most ample sense of the word, for it is here that our deaf (who are in many cases further handicapped, some being totally blind, others mentally defective, crippled, aged, or who through other misfortunes of life are dependents) find a haven of rest; a place where they are able to enjoy the limited comforts which their afflictions have left open to them.

Besides affording a home for those so afflicted, who in the majority of cases become permanent residents, the doors are always open to the deaf poor and distressed, and as a temporary shelter and home for the deaf unemployed.

To those of us who are blessed with all our faculties, it will be apparent what a comfort this Home must be to those who in their affliction are provided with the means to converse with their fellow men and women.

The Home stands as a monument to the foresight of the Founder, the late Mr. E. J. D. Abraham, whose life was devoted to the amelioration of their distress. The work so nobly begun is reflected in the service now being rendered by his son, who with his wife, in their respective spheres as Home Superintendent and

Matron, and with the loyal support of their staff, are giving sympathetic and unflinching devotion to their duties.

The total number of persons now resident at our Home is 44, including staff. Although the majority of our inmates are precluded, by reason of old age or infirmity, from engaging in outdoor work at the Home, a number, however, find healthy relaxation in this sphere of the Home's activities. The training given at the farm has been the means of assisting quite a number of deaf men to earn their own livelihood. The well-ordered appearance of the cultivated portion of the land, the lawns, flower and vegetable gardens, is an indication of the interest which they take in the maintenance of their Home.

The growing of vegetables, fruit, etc., has materially assisted in keeping maintenance costs within reasonable limits.

The social side of the Home's activities is not overlooked. During the Christmas season the inmates were entertained at dinner, at the conclusion of which a very enjoyable evening was spent in games, competitions, Christmas tree, and supper. This function was made possible through the good offices of the No. 2 Blackburn Home Auxiliary, which provided presents for each of our inmates.

The annual trip down the Bay was held during January, when a large number of deaf and dumb took advantage of the kindness of Bay Steamers Ltd., which again provided free transportation.

We tender our sincere thanks to all those who have contributed in bringing happiness to the lives of our inmates, and especially to No. 2 Home Auxiliary for a generous donation of £41, enabling the provision of additional linen for the Home, and "Kosi" heaters for the men's and women's reading room. The latter have been very welcome during the winter. Our thanks are also due to No. 1 Home Auxiliary, through the good offices of which the inmates enjoyed a picnic at the seaside during the month of March; to the Mitcham Masonic Lodge and Metters Bros. Ltd., for their respective donations in cash and kind.

We also desire to place upon record our sincere appreciation of the valuable services rendered to our inmates by our Honorary Medical Officers, Dr. Selwyn B. Sutton and Dr. W. J. Craig, in caring for our big family at the Blackburn Home.

#### INVITATION.

Members, subscribers and the public are cordially invited to attend any of the church services or meetings held at Jolimont Square, or to visit the Home at Blackburn. At Jolimont, a deaf member, able to speak understandably, is always available and happy to have the opportunity of interpreting the proceedings. Thursday and Saturday nights are the most popular.

#### THANKS.

It is with a deep sense of appreciation that the Board of Management records its thanks for financial and personal help during the year just ended.

To Miss Alice C. Graham, for the continuation of her wonderful financial assistance towards unemployed deaf, and for the upkeep of the gardens surrounding the Church.

To the Rev. F. A. Hagenauer, of Cairns Memorial Church, East Melbourne, for his ready response to help us whenever called upon.

To Mr. T. F. Crabb for presiding at the organ and bringing soloists on occasions when the congregation comprised both hearing and deaf.

To Mrs. Ludbrook, of the Ballarat Orphanage, for the loan of room for meetings and many kindnesses extended to all deaf.

To Miss C. Monahan, Honorary Secretary of the Geelong Branch, for her untiring efforts to help the deaf members, and arranging the meetings, etc.

To the Rotary Club of Geelong for loan of room to hold meetings in.

To Dr. Boyd Penfold for his attention to deaf members of the Centre.

To Mr. E. Reynolds for assisting the Principal with the interpreting.

#### CONCLUSION.

The Society, during the past twelve months, has maintained its high standard of efficiency, and the Board is confident that subscribers have every reason to be satisfied they are supporting a cause which is rendering most useful service to a severely handicapped section of their fellow men and women, who would not otherwise be reached.

F. W. SPRY, Chairman.  
C. R. B. JAMES, Hon. Secretary.

# 56th Annual Report of the Deaf Committee of the Adult Deaf & Dumb Society of Victoria

YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1940.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that on behalf of your Committee I present this, the Fifty-sixth Annual Report of the year's activities for your approval.

The year behind us has been a momentous one, and will in all probability be a turning-point and a landmark in the history of the deaf in this State.

First and foremost, we must mention our Building Fund Appeal. Thanks to the untiring efforts of the members of our Board of Management during the months of June, July and August, a substantial sum was raised. The deaf themselves, among themselves, contributed no less than £530, which is probably a feat unparalleled among the deaf of Australia. The raising of this sum from the deaf was largely due to the fine work of Mrs. A. W. S. Sutherland and Mr. G. Newnham. As a sign of appreciation of their fine work, both were appointed to the position of Life Governors of the Society. Mr. W. Ross was similarly honoured for his generous single donation of £10 towards the appeal.

Throughout the year, at meetings, socials and lectures, we have uniformly good attendances, each and all co-operating to secure harmony among us all.

The Men's Guild increases steadily in numbers and influence, and has attracted to its meetings most of the young men who display intelligence and initiative. Midway through the year, the Guild celebrated its 55th birthday by holding a party at which all members voluntarily paid double membership fees, which sum was given to the Appeal.

The Ladies' Guild continues its invaluable work, not only at meetings, but also at socials, dances, etc. Already one very successful social has been held in aid of the Red Cross, at which more than £6 was raised.

"Talkabout" continues to be popular with all sections of the community.

Among many notable meetings, several stand out and are worthy of mention:

The re-union dinner of the deaf—which took place on Show Day, 28th September, was a great success. Many fine speeches were made. This year it was held in our Assembly Hall, and the large attendance showed the wisdom of this innovation.

Our Christmas rally attracted an even larger attendance than usual this year.

A dance was held on the last Saturday of each month from March to October inclusive, and the attendances have been more than satisfactory.

Through the good offices of Mr. E. H. Peacock, our indefatigable Treasurer, who is also Consul for Czechoslovakia, a party of Czechs paid us a visit in their national dress and gave us a magnificent evening's entertainment.

For forty years, the deaf of Victoria have been under the guidance of Mr. E. J. D. Abraham. Now he has gone from us. A loss so great cannot be understood at once.

In his knowledge of the deaf he was surely unequalled. He knew us better than we knew ourselves. His path was not easy, but he never faltered. Steadily, without fuss or show, he worked to raise the status of the deaf. The Church in Jolimont Square—unique in Australia, possibly in the world—and the Club House are concrete evidence of his ability. But there is something else—not alone by bricks and mortar are cities great, not by great possessions alone are nations powerful. These are soulless things that last a day, a week, a year, and crumble and are forgotten. Always in the last analysis it is the **men** who count.

And this, to my mind, was and is Mr. Abraham's greatest achievement—he so built and so guided the deaf of this State that they were able to govern themselves. It sounds easy; it is not. To smooth out difficulties, secure co-operation of jarring elements, to advise, control with endless tact, ignoring rebuffs and rudeness, not for a while, but for always. This was his life work and in this he succeeded. So skilfully did he guide us that the unthinking mind never noticed his hand, urging and controlling us as we learned to control ourselves.

Then suddenly he was gone!

The news seemed impossible, ridiculous. When we left school he was here to greet and welcome us. When we married, it was his figure that stood beside the clergyman, rendering the words of the service into the graceful language of gesture. When we returned to the dust from whence we came, he was there by the graveside interpreting in gesture the sad, impressive beauty of the burial service.

His creed in life had the simplicity of greatness. Well for us who remain if we can follow it as he did. The path is plain before us—to carry on, as he would wish, the work of the Society. His greatest wish was to improve the lot of the deaf, therefore it is up to us to improve ourselves. We pass through this world but once, therefore we must not let our chances slip—what we are to-day we owe to him.

He was a great man!

They told me, Heraclitus, they told me you were dead,  
They brought me bitter news to hear, and bitter tears  
to shed,  
I wept as I remembered how often thou and I  
Had tired the sun in talking and sent him down the sky.

And now that thou art lying, my dear old Caricon guest,  
A handful of grey ashes, long, long ago at rest,  
Still are thy pleasant voices, thy nightingales awake  
For death, he taketh all away, but these he cannot take.

Another notable event was a visit by a party of Rotarians, under the tutelage of Mr. H. Bedggood, when a marvellous film of a motor tour round and across Australia was shown.

Each year we have the sad duty of recording the passing of some of our members:

Mrs. G. Ashley, Carnegie, 21st December, 1939; Mr. T. Collins, Neerim Junction, 10th February, 1940; Mr. F. Rees, Oakleigh, 19th November, 1939; Mr. H. A. Sibley, Blackburn Home, 21st August, 1940; Mr. J. Smalley, Caulfield, 19th January, 1940.

The heaviest loss was the death of our late Principal, Mr. Ernest J. D. Abraham.

**THE LATE Mrs. ERNEST J. D. ABRAHAM.**

Mrs. Ernest J. D. Abraham (wife of Mr. E. J. D. Abraham) passed away on 21st November, 1939, and Mrs. Louis McCubbin (daughter) on 17th December of the same year.

Mrs. Abraham arrived in Victoria with her husband and two children, Elsie and Douglas, in October, 1901, and immediately set to work assisting her husband in building up the financial side of the work, canvassing all workshops and factories. In 1908, a temporary Home was opened at Box Hill, and Mrs. Abraham volunteered to undertake the task of becoming its Matron, and worked without salary. She had no assistance other than the inmates, though the task of controlling and caring for her grievously afflicted charges was of exceptional difficulty, especially as many were at the Home because their relatives had no power over them.

In 1909, Mrs. Abraham was installed as Matron of the newly-erected Blackburn Home, and here again, in addition to the responsible duties of Matron, she had the training of the inmates, and frequently the actual work of the Home, as was the case at Box Hill. After seventeen years of unremitting and devoted toil that fairly earned Mrs. Abraham the title of the Florence Nightingale of the Victorian deaf, she was compelled to retire in September, 1925, owing to a nervous breakdown, from which, after a long rest, she recovered. Some years after, at the request of the Board of Management during a critical time when skilled supervision was difficult to procure, Mrs. Abraham again undertook the duties of Matron for three years. Mrs. Abraham will be very much missed by the deaf.

**Marriages.**—Mr. J. McLean, of Moonee Ponds, to Miss E. Smith, Preston, 5th April, 1939; Mr. H. V. Griffiths, Kenmare, to Miss H. Roxburgh, Williamstown, 6th May, 1939; Mr. F. Sandon, Chelsea, to Miss E. Doyle, Melbourne, 29th April, 1939; Mr. Len Ashley, Geelong, to Miss W. Peters, Brunswick, 1st April, 1939; Mr. McKenzie (hearing) to Mrs. Fawcett, 19th October, 1939; Mr. C. Johns, Geelong, to Miss K. Kelly, Brisbane, Queensland, 21st December, 1939; Mr. J. Phillips, Melbourne, to Miss F. Peters, Brighton, 20th March, 1940; Mr. C. Lyfield, Neerim, to Miss R. Beasley, Brunswick, 23rd March, 1940.

**Births.**—To Mr. and Mrs. K. Pickett, a daughter, 1st May, 1939; to Mr. and Mrs. J. Campbell, a daughter, 23rd July, 1939; to Mr. and Mrs. G. McGuiness, a daughter, 14th May, 1939; to Mr. and Mrs. E. Raines, a son, 17th August, 1939; to Mr. and Mrs. E. Pallot, a son, 19th September, 1939; to Mr. and Mrs. A. Anderson, a son, 23rd October, 1939; to Mr. and Mrs. W.

O'Keefe, a daughter, 14th October, 1939; to Mr. and Mrs. M. Dyson, a son, 10th February, 1940; to Mr. and Mrs. H. Blackmore, a son, 15th February, 1940.

E. R. NOBLE,  
Hon. Secretary Deaf Committee.

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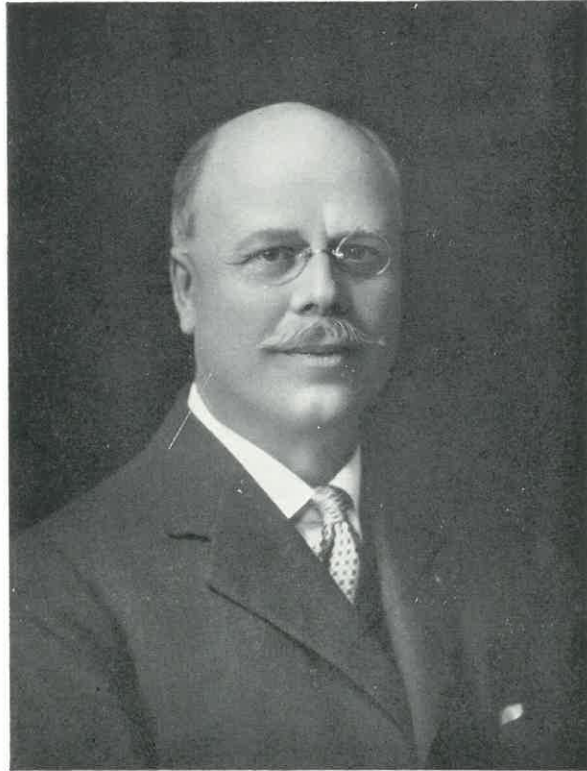
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## OUR LATE PRINCIPAL

ERNEST J. D. ABRAHAM



THE LATE ERNEST J. D. ABRAHAM

July 29th, 1940, saw the end of the 55th year of work amongst the Deaf, the last 39 years being in Victoria, of the late Ernest J. D. Abraham, the Principal of the Adult Deaf and Dumb Society of Victoria and founder of the Society's Home for Aged, Infirm and Mentally Deficient Deaf at Lake Park, Blackburn.

Mr. Abraham has had an unique and extensive experience of educational and missionary work among the Deaf and Dumb. Few men have had better opportunities of examining all sides of Deaf Mute problems, and none has made better use of these opportunities. During past years his name has been the property of the Deaf and Dumb the world over, and his labours to ameliorate their condition have been crowned with remarkable success. He commenced his work among the Deaf at an earlier age than most of his contemporaries.

At sixteen he was in charge of a Free School for Deaf and Dumb children in the South of London. At eighteen the Deaf Mutes elected him Minister to the London Gospel Mission. At twenty he accepted the post of Superintendent of the Bolton, Bury and Rochdale branches of the Manchester Adult Deaf and Dumb Society, and raised an Institute and income sufficient to support it. At twenty-four he became Editor of the "Deaf Chronicle," which name he afterwards changed to "British Deaf Monthly." At that time the circulation had increased from 1,000 to 15,000.

He had as colleagues on his editorial board the late W. S. Bessant and P. Dodds, Principals of the Royal Schools for the Deaf at Manchester and Exeter respectively. He has lectured extensively on behalf of the Deaf, even going to America in connection with the work.

Mr. Abraham founded the Institute of Missionaries to the Deaf and Dumb and the Guild of St. John Association of Deaf Mutes.

At this time, August, 1901, a severe nervous breakdown caused him, on the advice of his doctor, to relinquish his many activities and accept the post of Chaplain to the Adult Deaf and Dumb Mission of Victoria. On leaving England, Mr. Abraham was farewelled by some 7,000 people at a picnic in his honor, and an address and purse of gold was presented to him.

The first years of Mr. Abraham's sojourn in Australia were devoted to the raising of funds to erect a church on a block of land in Flinders Street that was owned by the Mission. Speedily ahead went the preparations and very soon the little church was completed, which proved not only a source of great comfort for spiritual worship, but the many attendant activities were much appreciated and enjoyed by the Deaf.

Whilst lecturing in the country for funds for the above-named object, Mr. Abraham came across so many sad and lonely deaf mute cases that a plan soon evolved itself in his mind for the housing, caring and comfort of these folk. The church completed, Mr. Abraham set about his next big work in 1906, when the late Sir Thomas Bent (Premier of Victoria) presided at a crowded meeting in the new Adult Deaf and Dumb building in Flinders Street, Melbourne, while Mr. Abraham gave an address on "The Care of the Deaf."

Mr. Abraham pleaded for the same opportunities for the Deaf as the hearing enjoyed, namely, free and compulsory education in a school controlled by the State, the removal of clauses in the Marine and other Victorian Acts that classified the deaf with lunatics, idiots and paupers. State employment for certain of the deaf, a farm for those of weak intellect and a home for aged and infirm.

Sir Thomas Bent sympathised with Mr. Abraham and promised help, which he was not slow in fulfilling. For soon after the meeting he acted as spokesman for the deaf in regard to the restrictions in the Marine Act, and later gave instructions for the drawing up of a Bill to help bring the education of deaf children in line with the hearing of the State. Finally, offering in the name of the Government a grant of £2,000 conditionally a like sum was raised in three months. The Committee accepted the offer, and Mr. Abraham proceeded with the work of raising the money in the stipulated time. And it was done.

At a huge bazaar in the Melbourne Town Hall, where over twenty municipalities were represented, nearly £4,000 was raised and the building at Lake Blackburn commenced.



Home for Aged and Infirm Deaf, Blackburn.

In 1909, the central wing and men's wing were opened. Mrs. Abraham (who passed away last November) was appointed the first Matron. She had a difficult task, for the section for whom she laboured needed constant supervision.

In 1912, the front half of the women's wing of the Home was built, and in 1922 further additions and improvements were added, thus completing the wing. All these buildings were opened free of debt.

Mr. Abraham all this time was directing his energies to the most important work of making desirable citizens of the "normal" young deaf mute population at the Adult Deaf Mute Centre in Flinders Street, the new headquarters for all religious, educational and social organisations. Those activities so increased that larger accommodation became imperative, and in 1924 the historical Jolimont Square of Melbourne East was purchased at a cost of £25,000. The Flinders Street property was sold for £17,000.

Jolimont Square is a valuable site nearly two acres in size with residential houses on it.



Adult Deaf Club House, Jolimont.

The Society is using two of the houses for temporary administrative offices until such time as conditions permit the Board to bring to fruition their well considered plan of building. And in

this old world garden, apart from the lack of adequate accommodation, nothing seems to be missing except, perhaps, the spoken language, but that only tends to strengthen what to the deaf is "their world." And right well it is valued by those capable of appreciating its beauty and blessings.

In 1930 a beautiful church was built in our Square. It is unique in this respect, for it is the only Church for the Deaf in Australia that stands alone. Other States have chapels in their headquarters, but this little church in its lovely garden setting is a centre of attraction in the day time, and the beautiful coloured cross in the tower at night is observed from many points of the city.



Church for the Deaf, Jolimont.

Mr. Abraham was never a man desiring tangible recognition, and only on a few occasions had he consented to accept a memento of affection. All the same, we know he had great pleasure in using a beautiful cut glass and silver ink stand—a gift from the Deaf and Dumb of Queensland and South Australia in 1904—a well worn pocket book from the deaf ladies of New South Wales, and an attache case bearing the inscription, "From Deaf Girls of Melbourne, Old and Young," which was his daily companion on business bent.

On the occasion of his twenty-fifth anniversary, the Deaf Committee arranged a most successful anniversary banquet, at which was presented to Mr. Abraham a very nice gold watch and chain and an enlarged framed photograph of Mr. Abraham.

The latter hangs in the Hall at the Centre.

The watch bears the following inscription:—

Presented to  
Ernest J. D. Abraham,  
Our Chief,

On his 25th Anniversary in Melbourne,  
in affectionate recognition  
of all that he means to us,  
The Deaf of Victoria.

And not only has Victoria benefited by Mr. Abraham's ministrations. In 1904 he was invited to come and help Queensland. In 1906 he was invited to come and help New South Wales, which he willingly and most successfully did.

Even after fifty-five years of continuous service in the interests of the Deaf and Dumb, Mr. Abraham was not satisfied that sufficient had yet been done for the Deaf of Victoria, and the Charities Board, having recognised the justice of all the claims that Mr. Abraham had put forward for providing the necessary facilities for training the young people so that they might be fully equipped to take their stand alongside normal people in the business community, gave permission for an appeal to raise £15,000 for the building of Workshops, Hostels and a complete Social Centre. At the time of his death Mr. Abraham was planning for the erection of these much-needed additions at the Centre.

## ROTARIAN ERNEST J. D. ABRAHAM.

Ernest J. D. Abraham was inducted into the Rotary Club of Melbourne in 1924, but many years before that, in fact, long before Paul Harris enunciated the Rotary principle of "Service Before Self" he had dedicated his life to that objective, and at the age of 16 years commenced his long term of service to the deaf and dumb by teaching in a small school for the deaf in the outskirts of London. Later he came to Australia, where he undertook the superintendence and direction of the activities of the Adult Deaf and Dumb Society of Victoria. Before long his fame spread throughout Australia, and his services to organise and co-ordinate similar movements in other States were requisitioned and freely granted, so that he may justly be regarded as the Father of the Adult Deaf and Dumb Movement in Australia.

Ernest, with his wide vision, enthusiasm, administrative ability and dynamic force, might easily have attained to important and highly-paid executive positions, but he preferred to apply these attributes to the advancement of the Deaf and Dumb, and he lived as he died, a comparatively poor man. Poor in monetary terms, but rich in the fact that he was the trusted adviser, friend and confidant of over 1,000 deaf mutes, whose interests and welfare he regarded as his own.

It is not given to many of us to be able to gaze upon monuments erected to ourselves during our lives, but Ernest could point to three—the Centre, situated in the old-world and peaceful surroundings of Jolimont Square; the Home for Aged and Infirm Mutes at Blackburn; and the specially designed and constructed Church for the Deaf at Jolimont.

So passes a good citizen, an unselfish worker and a true Rotarian.

L.A.C.—(From the Rotary Club's Weekly Paper.)

## ADULT DEAF AND DUMB SOCIETY OF VICTORIA (INCORPORATED)

### General Revenue Account for Year Ended 30th June, 1940.

To Staff Salaries ..	£1,443	2	0	By Subscriptions ..	£4,044	1	10
" Office Expenses, Postages, Staff Travel- ling, etc. ..	199	5	8	" Requests and Donations ..	673	12	5
" Earnings and Travelling Expenses of Deaf Mute Employees ..	1,479	12	11	" Church Collections ..	24	7	3
" Printing and Stationery ..	48	17	3				
" Light and Fuel ..	100	4	5				
" Insurance ..	15	13	9				
" Alterations and Repairs ..	15	10	9				
" Cleaning ..	60	2	10				
" Interest on Overdraft ..	31	16	6				
" Audit Fee ..	26	5	0				
" Rent of Administrative Headquarters ..	287	10	0				
" Employment and Relief of Indigent Cases ..	406	18	8				
" Grants Deaf Committee and Honorarium ..	72	10	0				
" Sundries ..	91	19	10				
" Depreciation, Furnishings, Centre and Chapel ..	97	18	10				
" Surplus ..	£4,377	8	5				
	364	13	1				
	£4,742	1	6				

E. H. PEACOCK,  
Hon. Treasurer.  
11th October, 1940.

O. R. MACDONALD,  
Chartered Accountant (Aust.),  
Auditor.

### Home Maintenance Account for Year Ended 30th June, 1940.

To Wages of Staff and Inmates ..	£914 15 6	
" Pensions and Allowances to Inmates ..	323 15 6	
" Repairs and Replacements ..	142 2 9	
" Maintenance (Food and Clothing) ..	677 18 1	
" Horse and Poultry Feed ..	38 13 9	
" Seeds, Plants and Manure, etc. ..	4 1 6	
" Sundries ..	25 19 10	
" Insurance ..	29 13 10	
" Travelling Expenses and Freight ..	31 19 1	
" Light and Fuel ..	89 14 10	
" Depreciation ..	91 16 9	
	£2,370 11 5	
		By Pensions and Other Maintenance Fees .. £1,604 13 5
		" Donations (including Auxiliaries) .. 106 17 6
		" Government Grant .. 800 0 0
		£2,011 10 11
		" Deficiency, made good out of General Revenue .. 359 0 6
		£2,370 11 5

E. H. PEACOCK,  
Hon. Treasurer.  
11th October, 1940.

O. R. MACDONALD,  
Chartered Accountant (Aust.),  
Auditor.

### Jolimont Square Property Revenue Account for Year Ended 30th June, 1940.

To Rates and Insurance ..	£195 9 6	
" Repairs and Upkeep ..	197 11 4	
" Interest on Mortgage ..	573 15 0	
" Collection Expenses ..	23 4 6	
" Legal Expenses ..	6 6 0	
	£996 6 4	
" Surplus ..	139 18 1	
	£1,136 4 5	
		By Rents from Tenants .. £848 14 5
		" " " Administrative Headquarters 287 10 0
		£1,136 4 5

### Summary of Revenue Accounts.

Surplus from General Revenue ..	£364 13 1	
" " Jolimont Square Revenue ..	139 18 1	
	£504 11 2	
Less Deficiency from Home Maintenance Account	359 0 6	
Net Surplus, transferred to General Fund ..	£145 10 8	
	£145 10 8	

E. H. PEACOCK,  
Hon. Treasurer.  
11th October, 1940.

O. R. MACDONALD,  
Chartered Accountant (Aust.),  
Auditor.

**SCHEDULE OF ASSETS AS AT 30th JUNE,  
1940.**

**Administrative Headquarters.**

Furniture and Plant, at cost, less depreciation ..	£134	4	0
Motor Vehicles, at cost, less depreciation ..	107	11	0
	£241	15	0

**Blackburn Home.**

Property, at cost .. .. .	£10,560	2	11
Furniture, at cost, less depreciation ..	396	2	7
Live Stock, at valuation .. .. .	55	16	0
	£11,012	1	6

**Jolimont Square Property.**

Property, at cost .. .. .	£25,000	0	0
Improvements .. .. .	1,332	10	0
	£26,332	10	0
Less Mortgage thereon.. .. .	11,850	0	0
	£14,482	10	0
Chapel Building, at cost .. .. .	2,736	18	0
Chapel Furnishings, at cost, less depreciation ..	255	2	8
Tennis Court, at cost, less depreciation ..	308	12	8
Rents outstanding .. .. .	2	1	8
	£17,785	5	0

E. H. PEACOCK,  
Hon. Treasurer.  
11th October, 1940.

O. R. MACDONALD,  
Chartered Accountant (Aust.),  
Auditor.

**ADULT DEAF AND DUMB SOCIETY OF VICTORIA  
(INCORPORATED)**

**General Balance Sheet as at 30th June, 1940.**

	LIABILITIES.	ASSETS.
Sundry Creditors .. .. .	£272 18 4	Administrative Headquarters, as per schedule ..
English, Scottish and Australian Bank Ltd., Overdraft .. .. .	716 9 7	Blackburn Home, as per schedule ..
General Fund at 30th June, 1939 .. .. .	£27,769 8 8	Jolimont Square Property, as per schedule..
Transfer from Debt Re- demption Fund.. .. .	150 0 0	Petty Cash on hand .. .. .
Add Surplus Revenue for year .. .. .	27,919 8 8	Sundry Debtors.. .. .
	145 10 8	
	28,064 19 4	
Trust Funds .. .. .	£29,054 7 3	Investments .. .. .
	£9,336 4 10	£29,054 7 3
	£9,336 4 10	£9,336 4 10

I have examined the books and accounts of the Adult Deaf and Dumb Society of Victoria (Incorporated) for the year ended 30th June, 1940. In my opinion, the above statements, which are correctly made up from the books of the Society, truly set forth its financial condition, its income from all sources, and its expenditure on all accounts.

I have inspected the securities and obtained Bankers' Certificates with respect to the balances represented by assets in the various statements of accounts and found them to be in order.

E. H. PEACOCK,  
Hon. Treasurer.  
11th October, 1940.

O. R. MACDONALD,  
Chartered Accountant (Aust.),  
Auditor

# Sucscriptions, 1939-40

## Municipalities.

City of Melbourne .....	£15 0 0	Shire of Tungamah .....	1 1 0
City of Hawthorn .....	9 0 0	Shire of Wimmera .....	1 0 0
City of Brunswick .....	5 0 0	Shire of Bellarine .....	1 0 0
City of Caulfield .....	5 0 0	Shire of Broadmeadows .....	1 0 0
City of Collingwood .....	5 0 0	Shire of Colac .....	1 0 0
City of Camberwell .....	5 0 0	Shire of Werribee .....	1 0 0
City of St. Kilda .....	2 2 0	Shire of Benalla .....	1 0 0
City of Footscray .....	2 2 0	Shire of Charlton .....	1 0 0
City of Sandringham .....	2 2 0	City of Northcote .....	1 0 0
City of Moorabbin .....	2 2 0	City of Ballarat .....	1 0 0
Borough of Castlemaine .....	2 0 0	Borough of Sebastopol .....	10 6
City of Box Hill .....	1 1 0	Borough of Portland .....	10 6
Shire of Cohuna .....	1 1 0	Shire of Whittlesea .....	10 6
Shire of Gordon .....	1 1 0	Shire of Bulla .....	10 0
Shire of Melton .....	1 1 0		

## Special Grants and Bequests.

Legacy from the late Margaret Kennedy .....	£100 0 0	Mrs. Hope Campbell .....	5 5 0
Legacy from the late Charlotte Yates .....	100 0 0	W. K. Burnside, Esq. ....	5 5 0
Howard and Georgina Berry Benevolent Fund (Home) .....	50 0 0	L. E. P. Moran, Esq. ....	5 5 0
E. M. Ratcliff Trust .....	50 0 0	Miss A. M. Harris .....	5 0 0
Alfred Felton Bequest .....	50 0 0	Mrs. Ellen Grant .....	5 0 0
Sydney W. Jones, Esq. ....	23 2 0	Mrs. E. M. Shaw .....	5 0 0
Alfred Edments Trust .....	20 0 0	Spry, Fookes & Co. ....	5 0 0
T. J. Sumner Trust .....	20 0 0	Peacock Bros. and Staff ..	5 0 0
Blackburn Home Auxiliary	13 2 6	State Savings Bank Staff ..	5 0 0
Helen Gyles Turner Samaritan Fund .....	10 0 0	Misses Simmons .....	5 0 0
C. L. Forrest Trust .....	10 0 0	Mrs. Alex. Fraser .....	4 4 0
Staff of Geo. Dummett Pty. Ltd. ....	6 16 3	Jos. Kronheimer Trust .....	4 0 0
		S. G. Hobson, Esq. ....	4 0 0
		Robison Bros. ....	3 9 0
		J. Donaldson, Esq. ....	3 3 0
		Myer Emporium Ltd. ....	3 3 0
		W. Dench, Esq. ....	3 0 0

SPECIAL DONATIONS PER LORD MAYOR'S FUND	£60 19 6
SPECIAL DONATIONS FOR ANNUAL PICNIC DOWN THE BAY	£7 14 0
SUBSCRIPTIONS FROM DEAF AND DUMB MEMBERS	£24 7 3
CHURCH CARPET FUND	£4 10 0
TENNIS CLUB	£5 2 0
SPECIAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL	£70 10 6
SPECIAL DONATIONS	£14 18 6
MISS ALICE GRAHAM'S UNEMPLOYED RELIEF AND CHURCH GARDEN FUND	£96 0 0
HOME DONATIONS	£29 6 0

## Melbourne and Suburbs of Melbourne.

COLLECTED BY H. BLACKMORE,  
£1,565/7/4.

### Suburbs of Melbourne.

COLLECTED BY W. HATELY,  
£458/11/11.

COLLECTED BY B. C. GRAYDEN  
£537/14/1.

COLLECTED BY F. WILLIAMS,  
£163/0/9.

COLLECTED BY G. BOYCE,  
£70/11/4.

## Country Subscriptions.

COLLECTED BY T. D. McRAE.

Ararat .. .. .	£13 19 0	Kaniva .. .. .	6 19 1
Ballarat .. .. .	24 19 11	Marnoo .. .. .	1 9 0
Berriwillook .. .. .	2 7 3	Maryborough .. .. .	16 5 1
Beulah .. .. .	4 13 3	Minyip .. .. .	3 4 4
Birchip .. .. .	4 0 4	Murtoa .. .. .	6 2 6
Carisbrook .. .. .	1 19 5	Nhill .. .. .	7 11 7
Clunes .. .. .	2 4 0	Rainbow .. .. .	3 12 6
Creswick .. .. .	2 14 11	Rupanyup .. .. .	3 19 7
Dimboola .. .. .	6 17 6	Sea Lake .. .. .	4 8 6
Donald .. .. .	5 14 3	Stawell .. .. .	13 0 8
Hopetoun .. .. .	3 10 10	Talbot .. .. .	1 10 3
Horsham .. .. .	15 18 3	Warracknabeal .. .. .	7 17 3
Jeparit .. .. .	5 10 9	Wycheproof .. .. .	4 3 0

COLLECTED BY W. M. UNDERWOOD

Alberton and Port Alberton	£2 7 8	Maffra .. .. .	4 11 5
Alexandra .. .. .	7 3 6	Malmsbury .. .. .	1 17 0
Avenel .. .. .	2 13 0	Mansfield .. .. .	9 3 3
Bairnsdale .. .. .	18 9 0	Marysville .. .. .	7 12 2
Barnawartha .. .. .	18 0	Meeniyah .. .. .	2 4 6
Belgrave (2 years) .. .. .	8 2 11	Merrigum .. .. .	2 12 3
Benalla .. .. .	21 6 10	Metung .. .. .	1 13 3
Bendigo and Suburbs .. .. .	72 4 3	Mirboo North .. .. .	4 0 6
Berwick .. .. .	3 0 5	Moama .. .. .	15 6 6
Bonnie Doon .. .. .	1 11 9	Moe .. .. .	3 11 3
Bright .. .. .	6 7 10	Mornington .. .. .	7 4 9
Broadford (2 years) .. .. .	8 3 6	Mooroopna .. .. .	5 4 5
Bruthen .. .. .	3 4 0	Morwell .. .. .	5 3 3
Buchan .. .. .	2 10 6	Moyhu .. .. .	1 17 5
Bunyip .. .. .	2 11 10	Mount Eliza and Mount	
Castlemaine .. .. .	18 2 0	Martha .. .. .	1 4 6
Chewton .. .. .	2 7 5	Murchison .. .. .	2 19 9
Chiltern .. .. .	4 1 3	Myrtleford .. .. .	10 4 1
Cobram .. .. .	5 7 6	Nagambie .. .. .	5 1 10
Cockatoo (2 years) .. .. .	1 6 0	Nar Nar Goon .. .. .	1 18 9
Colbinabbin .. .. .	16 6	Narre Warren .. .. .	1 9 6
Cowes .. .. .	4 16 5	Nathalia .. .. .	4 17 3
Cranbourne .. .. .	1 6 4	Newhaven .. .. .	14 6
Croydon .. .. .	3 10 4	Nowa Nowa .. .. .	1 5 3
Diamond Creek .. .. .	1 17 9	Numurkah .. .. .	8 7 0
Dromana .. .. .	2 7 0	Nyora .. .. .	15 0
Drouin .. .. .	3 1 8	Omeo .. .. .	3 7 9
Echuca .. .. .	18 12 5	Orbost .. .. .	7 10 0
Elmore .. .. .	4 9 6	Pakenham .. .. .	3 11 2
Eltham .. .. .	2 2 10	Paynesville .. .. .	2 5 0
Emerald (2 years) .. .. .	2 0 0	Picola .. .. .	18 6
Ensay .. .. .	1 13 5	Porepunkah .. .. .	16 9
Euroa .. .. .	9 6 4	Portsea .. .. .	2 7 3
Ferntree Gully .. .. .	6 16 8	Riddell .. .. .	1 17 3
Flinders .. .. .	3 1 7	Rochester .. .. .	8 2 5
Foster .. .. .	3 3 0	Romsey (2 years) .. .. .	6 7 3
Frankston .. .. .	5 4 0	Rosebud .. .. .	2 0 6
Garfield .. .. .	1 8 9	Rosedale .. .. .	2 18 3
Gembrook (2 years) .. .. .	2 12 7	Rushworth .. .. .	5 17 5
Gisborne and New Gisborne	3 8 9	Rye .. .. .	1 4 0
Glenrowan .. .. .	1 8 5	Sale .. .. .	14 11 8
Goorong .. .. .	1 1 0	San Remo .. .. .	1 7 3
Hallam .. .. .	6 9	Seymour .. .. .	4 9 0
Harcourt .. .. .	1 18 6	Somerville .. .. .	1 19 0
Harrietville .. .. .	2 19 0	Sorrento .. .. .	4 13 1
Hastings .. .. .	1 18 10	Springhurst .. .. .	1 3 0
Healesville (2 years) .. .. .	12 13 0	Stanhope .. .. .	2 9 3
Heathcote .. .. .	10 2 5	Stratford .. .. .	3 16 11
Heyfield .. .. .	2 11 0	Strathmerton .. .. .	18 6
Hurstbridge .. .. .	1 0 2	Sunbury .. .. .	3 6 9
Kilmore .. .. .	13 8 10	Swift's Creek .. .. .	1 16 6
Koo-wee-rup .. .. .	2 12 11	Tatura .. .. .	6 1 5
Korumburra .. .. .	11 0 10	Tecoma (2 years) .. .. .	2 2 3
Kyabram .. .. .	6 19 0	Thorpdale .. .. .	1 10 6
Kyneton .. .. .	14 9 8	Tongala .. .. .	2 12 3
Lakes Entrance .. .. .	5 10 10	Toolamba .. .. .	19 8
Lancefield (2 years) .. .. .	8 0 1	Toora .. .. .	3 3 3
Lang Lang .. .. .	3 0 2	Trafalgar .. .. .	3 18 6
Leongatha .. .. .	11 4 3	Traralgon .. .. .	10 9 3
Lilydale (2 years) .. .. .	7 16 6	Tynong .. .. .	11 6
Loch .. .. .	2 5 6	Upwey (2 years) .. .. .	2 2 0
Longwarry .. .. .	1 4 4	Violet Town .. .. .	2 19 1
Macedon and District .. .. .	3 13 7	Wangaratta .. .. .	25 9 5

Warburton (2 years) ..	16 9 6	Woodend .. .. .	3 18 8
Warragul .. .. .	11 0 2	Yallourn .. .. .	9 13 7
Welshpool and Port Welshpool .. .. .	2 19 7	Yarck .. .. .	1 5 9
Westburn .. .. .	1 2 9	Yarragon .. .. .	2 4 10
Whitfield .. .. .	2 2 6	Yarra Junction (2 years) ..	3 16 9
Whittlesea .. .. .	4 9 2	Yarram .. .. .	8 3 8
		Yea .. .. .	5 14 1

COLLECTED BY J. B. MURPHY.

Ballarat .. .. .	£49 11 11	Glenthompson .. .. .	10 6
Beaufort .. .. .	2 1 0	Lake Bolac .. .. .	1 0 0
Beac .. .. .	5 15 9	Lismore .. .. .	5 6 3
Birregurra .. .. .	1 15 0	Mildura .. .. .	94 15 11
Buckley .. .. .	13 0	Penshurst .. .. .	1 1 0
Camperdown .. .. .	12 6 10	Skipton .. .. .	10 0
Colac .. .. .	27 3 0	Warncoort .. .. .	3 16 0
Cressy .. .. .	3 10 6	Willaura .. .. .	5 2 0
Geelong .. .. .	112 1 1	Winchelsea .. .. .	7 2 7

We thank the proprietors of the following publications for daily or weekly copies of their paper: "The Age," "The Leader," "Christian Science," "Labour Call," also many anonymous givers.

The Board of Management much appreciates the kindness of many hotel-keepers, boarding-house proprietors and friends in providing free or at reduced rates accommodation to the Collectors, and herewith extends its thanks for same. For the sake of economy, amounts from each district are acknowledged here. Individual subscribers receive personal receipts.

## ADULT DEAF & DUMB SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

(Incorporated)

JOLIMONT SQUARE, MELBOURNE EAST

THE AIM  
of this Society  
is to make such provision  
for the whole of the  
Deaf and Dumb  
of this State at the close of their  
School life, that will,  
so far as is humanly possible,  
bring into existence conditions  
that will open to  
our Deaf and Dumb Citizens  
substitutes for the  
opportunities available  
to the normal citizen.

### Special Help Needed

To clear off the debt of £12,000 on the Society's Jolimont Square property, and to erect and equip suitable buildings to adequately house the Society's many activities.

SOME OF THE SOCIETY'S ACTIVITIES:



Adult Deaf and Dumb Social Welfare Centre and Headquarters of the Society, Jolimont, Melbourne East.



Church for the Deaf and Dumb.

Jolimont, Melbourne East.



Homes for Aged, Infirm, and Dependent Deaf Mutes, Blackburn.

*This Society is NOT CONNECTED with the Victorian Deaf and Dumb Institution, which is a RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL for Deaf and Dumb Children*