

LUCY MORICE FREE KINDERGARTEN Foundation Stone Laid

In the presence of a large gathering the foundation stone was laid on Saturday afternoon of the Lucy Morice Free Kindergarten Building, in honor of Mrs. Morice, the only survivor of the original committee that launched the kindergarten movement in this State 30 years ago. Mrs. Morice has lived to see, as the result of that committee's labors, 10 active free kindergartens working in different suburbs. To this number will shortly be added the new building in Sussex street, Lower North Adelaide, to the cost of which she has given £500.

Sir William Mitchell, Vice-Chancellor of the Adelaide University, was received by Professor G. V. Portus, acting president of the Kindergarten Union, who presided, and Lady Bonython, chairman of the executive committee of Kindergarten Union, and among those on the platform were the Attorney-General (Mr. Jeffries), Mr. Newland, M.P., Mesdames Nutter Thomas, L. Morice, Harley Hooper (president of North Adelaide Kindergarten committee), and Miss E. F. Kelly (secretary).

On behalf of the Kindergarten Union, Professor Portus handed Sir William Mitchell a silver trowel, and asked him to lay the foundation-stone of a building which, he felt sure, in the years to come would be followed by many other such buildings.

Sir William Mitchell, in laying the stone, said that he had been a supporter of the movement from its early days. The stone, which is of polished marble, is inscribed, "Each for all and all for each."

The Attorney-General, in proposing a vote of thanks to Sir William Mitchell, said that the Government appreciated the loyal and enthusiastic work of the committee. He had spoken to the Premier (Mr. Butler) that morning regarding the union's appeal for an increased financial grant, and although the Government was unable to grant the £250 asked for, he felt sure it had decided to increase the grant by £100. (Applause.)

Mr. Newland, M.P., seconded the motion.

Lady Bonython paid a tribute to Mrs. Morice, who, she said, had given 30 years of service to the furtherance of the kindergarten movement. Despite the great amount of poverty in the district, the Mothers' Club had raised £100 in two years. The committee regretted the absence that afternoon through illness of Miss Phyllis Stewart, who against almost insurmountable obstacles and difficulties had carried on the work in the district for 10 years.

The following donations were placed on the foundation-stone:—Anonymous, £12 10/; Mrs. Telford, £5; Mr. E. W. Keeves, £5; Mrs. F. S. Kelly, £1 1/; Clayton committee, £1; Miss E. F. Kelly, £1 1/; Mrs. J. S. Harvey, 10/; Miss Brown, 10/; Mothers' Club, £5; Mrs. Brownell, 10/; Mr. Harley Hooper, 10/; Mr. J. Harley's sale of lambs at Abet-tours, £1 5/; loose cash, £8 8/3; children's donations from various kinder-gartens, £1 17/3; total, £42 2/6.

The building, which is an imposing red brick structure with green salt-glazed bricks, comprises a main hall, infants' room, lunch room, kitchen, and teachers' room and toilet room. The main room measures about 30 ft. by 50 ft. There is an open air terrace 50 ft. long by 12 ft. wide which opens on to a porch. The main room and the children's room by sliding doors can be made into one large room. On the terrace at the extreme outer edge between two rows of bricks some 2 to 3 ft. high openings have been left which will be filled with garden soil for the purpose of growing flowers. Window boxes for flowers are also being provided. The building will cost, without furnishings, about £1,500.

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