

APPENDIX 16

THE CHILDAHVEN AND CRAIGMORE HOMES

36.01 The Craigmores Children's Home, opened in 1903, was the direct outcome of the Twentieth Century Fund. In connection with that movement the late Mr. T. Foulkes Shillington, J.P., presented to our Church, for the purpose of founding the Home, a large residence, farm buildings, church, and a valuable farm of about 145 acres, situated at Aghalee, on the Moira Circuit. A grant of £2,000 was given from the Twentieth Century Fund towards the expenses of equipment. In 1902 the Conference formally undertook to carry on the work of the Home, in which provision had been made for the accommodation of forty boys. The Conference of that year appointed Trustees and approved of the Trust Deed which provided for:

- (a) the maintenance, religious and secular education, support, training in industrial, domestic, or agricultural pursuits, and starting in life of children (either boys or girls, or both) who may, by the death of either parent, or of both, or from any other cause, need the assistance of the Home.
- (b) the training of persons of either sex to be managers or assistants of or in the Home, or any other similar Institution.
- (c) such religious services as the Committee should appoint. As regards (a) the Deed contained no distinction or limitation of age, sex, creed, or class, but it provided that in case there should at any time be more applications than vacancies, preference should be given in the following order:
 - (i) to children, either or both of whose parents, were, or if deceased, had been, declared Methodists.
 - (ii) to the children of parents of any other Protestant denomination.
 - (iii) all other applicants.

This rule could be relaxed by the Committee at its discretion in exceptional cases of special need. In all other respects, admissions to the Home and length of residence, as well as all other matters relating to the management of the Home, were to be subject to such regulations as the Committee should from time to time determine.

36.02 The Conference of 1902 also made directions regarding the appointment and constitution of the Committee, the appointment of officers, visitors, audit, doctrine and other matters.

36.03 The Conference of 1937 approved of the amalgamation of the Craigmores Children's Home with Childhaven, situated at Millisle. Childhaven, the property of the Belfast Central Mission, is governed by the Committee of that Mission. It was the gift to the Mission of the late Mr. Hugh Turtle, LL.D. Originally a large country residence, it was renovated and enlarged and opened by the Mission as a Children's Home in 1930, and as such carried on the work among children formerly undertaken by the Mission in Whitehead and elsewhere.

36.04 By its resolutions of 1937 the Conference:

- (a) approved of the transfer of the Home and investments of Craigmores to the Trustees of Childhaven to be carried on as one Home at Childhaven under the title "The Childhaven and Craigmores Homes".
- (b) directed that the management of the Home shall be in the control of the Belfast Central Mission, the Committee of which is appointed annually by the Conference and subject to the provisions of the Trust Deed which had been drafted as aforesaid.
- (c) directed that the residue of the premises, not transferred to the Trustees of the Methodist Church in Ireland, should be sold by the Trustees of Craigmores Home and the proceeds of such sale including the balance of the proceeds of sales already affected subject to the discharge of the liabilities of the Home and to payment of the costs and expenses of such sale and the costs and expenses otherwise incurred of and incidental to the aforesaid transfer be applied for the purposes of the Childhaven and Craigmores Homes.

(d) sanctioned a successful application to the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice in Northern Ireland or to the Charities Committee of the Ministry of Finance in Northern Ireland, as the case may be, for the transfer of the invested funds held by the Trustees of the Craigmores Home to the Trustees of the Childhaven and Craigmores Homes to or for the purposes of the said Homes subject to payment thereof of so

much (if any) of the aforesaid costs and expenses as the sale of the residue of the lands may be insufficient to meet, and if necessary for the settlement of a scheme.