

CAISTOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ACCOMMODATION.

The Education Committee have appointed Aldermen Raby and Hunt and Councillor Cottingham to discuss with the Managers of the C. E. and Methodist Schools the future provision for primary education at Caistor. The Education Committee included in the first draft of the Development Plan a proposal that both the existing primary schools should be closed and that one County primary school should be provided in their place. The Managers of the C. E. School, supported by the Diocesan Board of Education, objected to this proposal and their objection was upheld by the Ministry on the ground that the Act intended voluntary schools to continue where the Managers so desired. As a result the Development Plan, as finally approved, provides for the C. E. School to continue and for the Methodist School to be replaced by a County School. The Methodist School is over-full and a class is accommodated in the adjoining Chapel vestry. This room is unsuitable for the purpose and the numbers seem likely to increase still further. The Committee have therefore decided to include in the Minor Building Programme for 1955-56 the provision of two classrooms as an instalment of the new permanent school.

We have had considerable correspondence with the County Planning Officer about a site for the new school and the only site which he can suggest is one immediately adjoining the existing C. E. School. The Committee were therefore faced with a position in which they would be compelled to provide a new County School and to bring up to Building Regulation standards wholly at the public expense the existing C. E. School, and these two schools would be on adjoining sites. When this situation was reported to the Sites and Buildings Sub-Committee they instructed me to lay the facts before the two bodies of Managers and to ask for any suggestions which they might have to make. In the result the two bodies of Managers have proposed that the two existing schools should be replaced by a Voluntary Controlled School, at which both Anglican and Methodist instruction could be given to the children of any parents who might ask for such instruction, and on the Managing body of which the Church of England and the Methodist Church would have equal representation. This proposal has the support of the Diocesan Board of Education and the Methodist Education Committee. The advice of the Ministry on the proposal has also been sought and it is understood that they will be prepared to give it favourable consideration when it is submitted to them officially, and that they can see no legal difficulty in the way of carrying it out. When the proposal was reported to the Education Committee they gave it their cordial approval, and the purpose of the meeting with the Managers is to discuss the means by which the scheme shall be carried out. It is hoped that the following notes may be of assistance to the representatives in indicating the nature of the problems and suggestions for solving them.

1. No. of children on roll in existing Schools.

Age	<u>Summer Term 1954</u>			<u>Autumn Term 1954</u>		
	<u>C. E.</u>	<u>Meth.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>C.E.</u>	<u>Meth.</u>	<u>Total</u>
10-11	16	16	32	12	18	30
9-10	12	19	31	18	17	35
8-9	17	18	35	13	13	26
7-8	12	13	25	21	24	45
Total Juniors	<u>57</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>136</u>
6-7	26	26	52	20	20	40
5-6	19	21	40	22	27	49
4-5	14	25	39	2	13	15
Total Infants	<u>59</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>131</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>104</u>
Grand Total	<u>116</u>	<u>138</u>	<u>254</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>240</u>

Notes. 1. The "bulge" seems to cover three years at Caistor; the present age groups 5-6, 6-7 and 7-8.

2. One of these groups is now in the Juniors.

