

5 In the report of 29 April 1985 the inspectors, while expressing distinct reservations about the site, buildings, aspects of staffing, curriculum and equipment have concluded that the school, in most respects, meets the minimum standards to allow for provisional registration. They also recommended that a firm written undertaking be secured from the school's managers with regard to safety aspects in the teaching space used for science. I have sent a letter to the school's managers ... seeking this undertaking. I enclose a copy.

6 While I, too, have strong reservations about many aspects of the school and doubts about its long term viability, I am of the opinion that the school should now be granted provisional registration. This course would seem to offer the best prospect for influencing the future course of events at the school. I propose, if the school is provisionally registered, writing a firmly worded letter to the school's managers, outlining my concerns and pointing out that substantial progress would be expected in overcoming these deficiencies if the school is to be registered. In particular, I shall point out that Miss Vicki Saul the "new" teacher referred to in Pastor Stephen's letter of 19 March 1985 is teaching full time in the primary school and cannot at this stage be considered in relation to secondary staffing. However, as she has 100 level papers in Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry, the school would be well-advised to release her to spend some time with the secondary students on a regular basis.

7 RECOMMENDATION

With the forgoing provisos in mind, I recommend that Shiloh Christian Academy of 92 High Street, Motueka be granted provisional registration as a secondary school in terms of section 186 of the Education Act 1964.

Sel Moore

Sel Moore
Regional Superintendent of Education

Enc:



"New Life Centre"

P.O. Box 104 Motueka

1 February 1985

THE WHOLE FAMILY INVOLVED

Mr S. Moore,
Regional Superintendent of Education,
P. O. Box 12-345,
WELLINGTON

Dear Mr Moore,

I am writing to you after talking to Mr Gausel of Nelson by phone yesterday.

Shiloh Christian Academy now has twelve secondary students fulfilling numerically the requirements of your Department, and we wish to make application once more for registration.

Would you please forward to us at your earliest convenience, the appropriate form that we may make application.

In other areas we are making progress and hope to find your approval and pleasure in the event of an inspection.

May we take this opportunity of wishing you and your staff a successful year and look forward to building an understanding and working relationship with you.

Yours faithfully,

W. A. Stephen
Principal,
SHILOH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

To be forwarded to:

Regional Superintendent
Department of EducationDEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF PRIVATE SCHOOLSHILOH CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY

- I HEREBY make application for the registration of (1).....
- (1) Name of School, Private.....
- (2) Primary, Secondary, or Special School which.....
- (3) Cross (It is proposed to establish) in (4).....
- (has been established).....
- through the line that does not apply.
- (4) Name of place.....
- RODNEY HEATH
SCHOOL ROAD, RIWAKA RD1, MOTUEKA
- (Full name and address of person authorised to sign on behalf of the Managers.)

Date: 11/2/85

* (separate applications are required in respect of Primary and Secondary Departments of the one school)

INFORMATION TO ACCOMPANY APPLICATION

- 1 Name of school: SHILOH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
- 2 Exact location: 92 HIGH STREET MOTUEKA
- 3 Date on which the school (a) was opened: FEBRUARY 1981
- or (b) is proposed to be opened:
- 4 Names and addresses of managers: PASTOR W.A. STEPHEN, 33 WICKIE ST., MOTUEKA,
MR. M. SPENCER, 6 QUEEN VICTORIA ST., MOTUEKA,
MR. R. HEATH, SCHOOL ROAD, RIWAKA RD3 MOTUEKA
- 5 Description and size of site (a plan is to be submitted): AS SUBMITTED
PREVIOUS APPLICATIONS.
- 6 Description of school buildings (a plan is to be attached showing all rooms and the size of each classroom and the lighting):
DITTO
- 7 Statement of the provision made to the satisfaction of the local authority and the Department of Health in respect of the buildings, fire protection, sanitation, and the like:
DITTO
- * (a) Number of pupils already enrolled (or to be enrolled) who are five years of age or over and who are classified in Primers to Form II inclusive:
- (b) Number of pupils not included in (a) above, who are engaged in secondary work (or will be so engaged) i.e. are in Form III or higher : //
- 9 Maximum number of pupils for which present (or proposed) accommodation has been planned:

- 10 Description of the staff. The names and qualifications of each teacher are to be given:

<u>NAMES</u>	<u>QUALIFICATIONS</u>
MR. RODNEY F. HEATH	DIP. TEACH. (A.T.T.1) - ART & CRAFTS
MR. MICHAEL SPENCER	DIP. TEACH. M.A.
PASTOR WILLIAM STEPHEN	
MRS. DEBORAH HEATH	DIP. TEACH. P.E. T.S.T.C.3 (HISTORY)
MISS VICKI SAIL	DIP. TEACH. B. SC.

- 11 Description of equipment (in the case of a private secondary school this must include a statement showing clearly what provision is made for the practical teaching of Science) :

(Supplied previous applications)

- 12 A brief and general statement of the nature of the curriculum either in operation or proposed. Secondary subjects, if any, are to be included:

(Ditto)

12/2/85.
Date

R F Heath
(Signature of person authorised to sign on behalf of the Managers)

29 April 1985

DSISS to RSE

SHILOH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY SECONDARY SCHOOL, MOTUEKA :
REPORT FOR REGISTRATION

On 22 April 1985 this school was visited by Mr G Thomson SISS and Mr K Stevenson ISS, to consider the application made by the managers for registration.

The Site and Buildings

Essentially the site and buildings remain as when previously reported on in 1984. Some upgrading of the space used for art and craft has taken place and some hard paving and general exterior maintenance of buildings have occurred. Reservations about the location and size of the site must remain. The secondary school does not have exclusive use and shares all buildings and site with the primary school and church.

The current primary school roll is 35 with four new entrants expected next term. Currently there are 10 secondary students and when to this is added the full and part time adults who act as supervisors or monitors the facilities seem inadequate to cater for up to 70 children and adults other than on a casual basis.

Toilet facilities are very limited - one urinal and one stall for boys and men and three stalls for girls and female staff. The desirability of adults having to share toilet facilities with children including new entrants must be questioned. No shower facilities were noted in spite of a programme that involves vigorous fitness drills for secondary students.

Science is taught in a small space, formerly a kitchen. It has severe limitations as it is presently organised and egress in an emergency must be of concern. The storage and access to chemicals needs attention. A locked wooden cupboard located in proximity to gas and power sources seems unwise. The science area received little natural light and no provision appears to be present for heating.

The main classroom upstairs is crowded. It forms the main teaching room for the majority of the primary students and all the secondary students.

It would be an adequate teaching space for the secondary school if they had its exclusive use but its adequacy if more students are added must be questioned.

Staffing

Currently the school has the full time services of Mr M Spencer and the part time services of two other trained teachers, Mr R Heath and Mrs Heath.

In addition, Mrs Hedges typing one hour per week, Mr Hedges technical drawing one hour per week are involved with electives, Mrs Trewavas reading three times per week and Mrs Williams sewing and Mr Greany woodwork, come once per fortnight. The core subjects are taught as follows:

English and social studies	Mr Spencer
Science and mathematics	Mr Spencer
Music	Mr Spencer
Craft/fine art	{ Mr Heath (Art)
Physical Education	{ Mr Greany (ww)
	{ Mr Heath
	{ Mrs Heath

In general some reservations must be expressed about the time allocations for option subjects and training and background of non-teacher trained parents who act as teachers.

An area of weakness appears to be in the secondary sciences and mathematics. Tuition by appropriately qualified staff here appears to be lacking.

Equipment

As the school shares the facilities and equipment with the primary school and church, there is much overlap. In general, although equipment is limited in some areas especially arts and crafts and physical education, a range of teaching materials was made available for our perusal.

The school is aware of deficiencies and as finances permit intend to supplement existing equipment. The school, through the primary school, has access to the School Library Service and this has allowed a wider range of reading material to supplement the generally very limited range of library books available to students in the school.

Curriculum

The school has set out a timetable which is designed to meet the requirements of the core curriculum and offer some elective and optional subjects. The quality of the programmes must be considered and it was noted the school had achieved passes in School Certificate level in 1984. Three students had in fact, passed a total of six subjects: three passes in English, two passes in geography and one in history. All were C passes and the highest mark achieved was 60.

The current programmes appear to have significant weaknesses in mathematics and sciences while some reservations must remain about aspects of programmes of core subjects other than English and social studies.

It is clear that a sincere attempt has been made to provide appropriate curriculum in addition to the ACE material which still forms the bulk of daily tuition.

Students

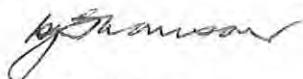
Currently there are 10 students enrolled and in attendance at the secondary school. This barely exceeds the minimum and it could not be stated with confidence that all these students will remain for the current school year.

Summary

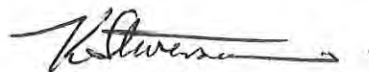
Overall the school meets minimum standards in most respects to allow initial provisional registration. Distinct reservations must exist about the site and buildings, aspects of staffing and curriculum and the adequacy of equipment. We recommend - A firm written undertaking from the school managers be requested that:

- a No unsupervised students will be allowed in the converted kitchen for science tuition.
- b Adequate and fireproof storage of chemicals for science will be provided.
- c An alternative egress from the kitchen is made available.

If these assurances are given we would recommend provisional registration be granted. If no written assurances are given then we recommend, for safety reasons, the school managers' application for registration be declined.



D G Thomson
Senior Inspector of Secondary
Schools
for T E Boyle
District Senior Inspector of Secondary Schools



K Stevenson
Inspector of Secondary
Schools

16 May 1985

Pastor Stephen
Principal
Shiloh Christian Academy
P O Box 104
MOTUEKA

Dear Pastor Stephen

As you are aware, Mr D G Thomson and Mr K Stevenson, Inspectors of Secondary Schools, visited your school on 22 April 1985 and following this reported to me in relation to your application for the provisional registration of your secondary school. It is now my responsibility to write to the Director-General of Education with regard to your application for provisional registration.

However, among the concerns expressed by the inspectors, there is one that involves the safety of all the students and staff at Shiloh and I feel I must bring it to your attention at once. The inspectors are of the opinion that the small space, formerly a kitchen, used for science is unsafe. In particular they are concerned about:

- a the lack of fireproof storage for chemicals, and the proximity of the present cupboard to gas and power sources;
- b the lack of alternative egress from the area in case of emergency;
- c the fact that students are allowed to work in the science area without supervision.

I would like an assurance from you that, in the interests of the safety of your pupils and staff, you will proceed immediately to take steps to rectify these three matters.

I look forward to your early reply.

Yours sincerely

Sel Moore
Regional Superintendent of Education

Acch

Shiloh (Secondary)

- ① Thank you for picking this up.
- ② The papers are attached.
- ③ The urgent action is for Sel to write the parents of those children under 15 years of age. A draft letter done by Greg Knight is attached. Terry's report has the kid's names.

9(2)(h)

the Managers. Could you get a copy of the Minister's approval to Greg, please.

- ⑤ David Mitchell (Moleba newspaper) rings regularly to check on progress. I've rung him & said that there'll

be action in 10 days or so, but I've not told him what action. I think Sel's letters have to get to the parents, & then Mitchell informed. If a woman from Radio Nelson rings to enquire, she should be handled in the same way - she's rung once a couple of weeks ago, when I said we were studying the inspectors' report.

- ⑥ When it does "hit the fan", you could make it clear that the dept made the decision not to register; of course, as is usual, the Minister was advised of this decision before action on it began.

Thanks again

Peter.

27/5/84

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, WELLINGTON

The Minister of Education

22 MAY 1984

921



SHILOH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY (SECONDARY)

Background

- ... 1 On 27 March 1984 (submission 545, copy attached) you approved a further report to you when additional information had been obtained on the quality of the education provided for the secondary students at Shiloh Christian Academy and on the secondary roll numbers for 1985 onwards.
- 2 A team of 4 secondary inspectors and one primary inspector visited Shiloh Christian Academy on 3 and 4 April 1984 and carried out a detailed investigation to assess the school's suitability for registration (provisional) as a secondary school under section 186(3)(a) of the Education Act 1964.

Inspection Report

- ... 3 A copy of the inspectors' report is attached. In summary it states:

Roll

- a Currently there are 3 form 5 students and 4 form 3 students, total 7. Three form 2 students are expected to move on to form 3 in 1985; it is unlikely all 3 form 5 1984 students will remain in 1985 and there is only one student in form 1. The necessary 9 or more students, required by the Act, are marginally possible for 1985 but unlikely for 1986.

Premises

- b The site and buildings are inadequate for the existing number of students.

Staffing

- c The total staff for both the primary and secondary schools is 3 teachers and 8½ hours. As the required staffing of the primary school is 2 teachers, the secondary component is left with 1 teacher and 8½ hours (ie 13.4 WTHDs). The recruitment of suitably qualified staff has been, and will continue to be, difficult because the principal has stated that it is unlikely trained teachers outside the congregation would be appointed.

Curriculum

- d The curriculum is unsatisfactory, and the standards
9(2)(a)
- 

Equipment

- e Inadequacy of equipment is of serious concern.

Recommendation

- f The inspectors recommend that registration be declined. On all accounts they found unsatisfactory features and that the students are educationally disadvantaged.

Comment

4 Even if the roll numbers were sufficient, provisional registration would not be approved by the Director-General because of the unsatisfactory nature of the curriculum, teaching, premises and equipment.

9(2)(a), 9(2)(h)

Recommendation

- 8 I recommend that you:
- a note the inspectors' report and that registration will not be granted to Shiloh Christian Academy (secondary), and

b concur with the department's intention to:

i inform the parents of their responsibility to obtain certificates of exemption from enrolment, and

ii 9(2)(h)



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. P. Brice".

C. P. Brice
for Director-General

A blue ink signature over a rectangular stamp. The stamp contains the word "APPROVED" and the date "22 MAR 1981".

APPROVED
22 MAR 1981

Released under the Official Information Act 1982



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
CENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE

Rossmore House,

123 Molesworth Street,
P.O. Box 12-345

WELLINGTON 1

TEB:fms

Telegrams: "Schools, Wellington"

Telephone: 735 299

In reply please quote:

10 April 1984

RSE

REPORT ON SHILOH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

BACKGROUND

as a result of an application for registration as a secondary school lodged by Shiloh Christian Academy on 27 February 1984, and at your direction, a team of inspectors visited this establishment on 3-4 April 1984. The inspectors were:

T E Boyle, A/DSISS
D G Thomson, SISS
R Brown, IS
D M Ching, ISS
K Stevenson, ISS

Recognising the criteria set down in 3B, Section 186 of the Education Act 1964, the following points are noted:

1 PREMISES

A Buildings

* These are shared by the primary school, the proposed secondary school and the church community.

* They consist of two separate buildings.

* They contain one boys toilet (one pan and urinal) and one girls toilet (two pans). These facilities serve both primary and secondary pupils (37) and serve the staff which consists of a considerable number of adults.

* An old house, the original homestead, which is used mainly by the junior primary pupils, but which contains the science and boys' manual training facilities.

The new church building, the upstairs section of which is used during the week as a school room with the attached kitchen used for girls' manual training and doubles as a staffroom.

B Grounds

The site of less than half an acre is paved. The school makes use of an adjacent public park for physical education.

C Concerns about Premises

- * The general location of the school near a busy main road and shopping complex, with the attendant problems caused by heavy trucks servicing the shops, cars in the adjacent carpark and the noisy shop extractor fans make the site less than desirable for a school.
- * The premises are inadequate for the existing number of pupils. An increased roll, as projected by the principal, would aggravate these concerns.

2 STAFFING

A List of Teachers as Designated by Headteacher

* Fulltime Teachers

Mr M Spencer, MA(Hons), Dip Tchg (NZ)
Mr R Heath, Dip Tchg - Art/Craft (Aust)
Miss S Jones

* Part-time Teachers

Mrs D Heath, Dip Tchg - PE (Aust)	3½	hours/week
Mr P Helm	2½	" "
Mrs L Evenden	1	" "
Mrs G Williams	1	" "
Mr N Greaney	½	" "

* Ancillary Staff (Monitors)

Mrs P Elzinga	25	" "
Mrs G Ewers	8	" "
Mrs D Jones	8	" "
Mr P Helm	17½	" "

E General Points

The total staffing aggregates 3 teachers and 8½ hours (ie, 34.3 WTHDs). As the required staffing of the primary component is 2 teachers, 1 teacher and 8½ hours (ie, 13.4 WTHDs) are left to the secondary component.

However, the principal was unable to identify clearly the amount of time allocated to the secondary component because of the composite nature of the school.

- * It is noted that, with the exception of one part-time teacher who is employed for 3½ hours each week, none of the part-time staff has recognisable qualifications.
- * It is also noted that no teachers have formal qualifications in mathematics or science.
- * Inspectors expressed concern that at Shiloh, the PACE material is regarded as "the teacher", with the staff acting merely as "supervisors".

- * The restrictions which the school places upon itself by the nature of its beliefs, and the stated intention of the principal that it was unlikely that he would appoint trained teachers from outside his congregation, make it likely that recruitment of qualified staff would always be difficult.

3 CURRICULUM

English

Pupils are working on PACE material which emphasises writing, reading and basic mechanical skills. These cover part of the forms three to five syllabus, but give little instruction on some of the language modes. Even the modes covered need further elaboration, and the trained teacher is trying to do this. To date he has produced one assignment, aimed at covering a terms work for the complete range of forms three to five. There is a considerable amount of unit preparation still to be done and this teacher is planning to do all this, as well as similar unit preparation in all other subjects of the curriculum, as the year progresses. The present programme is, and is likely to remain, inadequate. The pupil work coverage is thin and there is little observable interaction between teacher and pupils, and among pupils.

Mathematics

The American PACE units dominate the course at levels below those of secondary school. New Zealand units are incorporated into the course as supplements in increasing numbers through third and fourth forms while at fifth form and above the courses are totally written in New Zealand.

The American units have a heavy emphasis on time-consuming mechanical exercises much of which are inappropriate for the New Zealand syllabus. As a result of this and the lack of experienced supervision, all but one of the pupils are working at levels well below their counterparts in state, integrated and registered private schools.

Science

PACE units again form the major part of the courses in this subject. Experimental work has been introduced with the purchase of some practical units from other sources. These, together with the recent purchase of some very rudimentary science equipment, make it possible for pupils to do very elementary practical work. Because the practical work is usually done individually with little or no instruction from the supervisor, and often in areas unrelated to the PACE units, the inspectors are concerned that the practical course is far less effective than most equivalent courses in state, integrated and registered private schools. As with mathematics, all but one of the pupils are well behind the expected level of achievement.

Social Studies

The programme seen does not reflect the spirit and intention of the NZ official syllabus. It concentrates on knowledge at the expense of abilities, skills and social action.

Individual assignments are being undertaken by the four form three pupils. One pupil is currently working on PACE 1066 which is Biblical History and is assigned in the school scheme to form one as well as some form three topics. The others are making rather slow progress through elements of the content of the third form suggested syllabus. The general approach relies on pupils being able to read, comprehend and answer in written form, a large number of questions with little or no interaction with other pupils or the teacher.

History and Geography

The three form five pupils are undertaking studies of the School Certificate syllabus in History and Geography. Progress is slow and approximately one-seventh of the course has been covered with one-quarter of the normal time required gone.

Physical Education

Although the time allocation submitted meets the core requirements, the programme submitted in sketch outline is shallow compared with what would be found in state, state integrated or registered private schools. It has a strong component of physical fitness training which is carried out on three mornings each week, and which is unstructured and consists of running around a field. The rest of the programme is severely restricted by the lack of an appropriate facility and equipment.

The programme is supervised by a teacher who is several months pregnant.

Music

No scheme or outline of work was identified or presented. Lessons observed consisted of group teaching across the whole age range of the school. No graded levels of work were seen, and the pupils' written record of the years work to date consisted of less than a page of notes.

Art/Craft

The pattern observed was similar to that in music. Until this visit only one lesson had been given. No structured scheme or outline of work was available and the class observed was a composite form one to five. The teacher had only word of mouth to convey his method as no blackboard, OHP or textbooks were available. Pupils were given inadequate guidance in sketching natural and artificial objects merely observations.

Manual Training

Although boys and girls had separate programmes, the same comments apply to each:

- * the project work set did not provide for different age or ability levels
- * equipment was inadequate
- * the teachers were untrained
- * no schemes were available
- * no progression appeared to result from lessons given.

General concerns on curriculum

- * Where schemes existed, there was a considerable gap between the levels of work that these schemes outlined for pupils and the actual levels the pupils were working on. This situation places all the secondary pupils at a disadvantage compared to their age peers in state, state integrated or registered private schools, and particularly disadvantaged those pupils who aspire to pass external NZ examinations.
- * There was an observed lack of balance between the progress pupils were making in the different PACE subjects.
- * A good deal of the PACE material was inappropriate to NZ pupils. One teacher, alone, is trying to adapt and expand this material, in all subject areas, to NZ conditions.

SHILOH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY, MOTUEKA (SECONDARY PUPILS)

Background

1 In 1983 the Minister was informed of two private schools providing secondary education to fewer than 9 pupils and were not registered secondary schools. These were Shiloh Christian Academy, and Hawera Christian Academy. These schools were informed in writing of their legal obligations and the requirements for registration.

2 The Hawera Christian Academy now has sufficient pupils and a recommendation for registration is under action.

3 The Regional Superintendent of Education, Central Regional Office, advises that the Shiloh Christian Academy Motueka continues to provide education for secondary pupils in an unregistered secondary school.

4 The Regional Superintendent wrote to the Managers of Shiloh Christian Academy on 27 May 1983, pointing out the requirements they must meet for registration as a private secondary school in terms of Section 186 of the Act, and pointing out that the Managers were operating a private secondary school contrary to the provisions of the Education Act 1964.

5 On 6 January 1984 the Managers were informed in a letter from the Regional Superintendent of the legal requirement to register the school and were warned that should they commence operation for 1984 as an unregistered secondary school, the Crown Prosecutor would be instructed to institute proceedings against them. This was within the terms of the Minister's approval. (See attached submission.)

6 On 18 January Pastor Stephen replied to the Regional Superintendent's letter of 6 January. Pastor Stephen expressed alarm that the department had again drawn the Managers' attention to the Education Act and its legal requirements. He claimed that the Managers, in contrast, had the welfare of the pupils as their first priority.

7 The other two Managers of the school, Mr R F Heath and Mr M J Spencer also replied to the Regional Superintendent's letter. They both supported Pastor Stephen's reply.

8 On 21 February Mr W Mabbett, ISS and Mr G Thomson, SISS, visited the school. Mr Mabbett's report states:

"Pastor Stephen informed us that the secondary school was still operating and that he intended to continue. He would go to prison to keep it going but he would like to co-operate with the department of education. We were given a list of seven pupils."

The list included three students in Form 5 and four students in Form 3.

9 On 28 February Central Regional Office received from Mr R F Heath a completed application form for registration as a secondary school. The secondary students indicated on the form numbered seven. Provisional registration cannot proceed because in terms of the Act a school must have more than eight pupils.

10 The Regional Superintendent has requested advice as to what further action should be taken.

Publicity

11 CRO received advice on 16 March that there had been press and radio publicity in Nelson on 15 March (copy attached). Mr Moore ADS was rung by the Nelson press and has responded.

Options for Action

12 The options for action are:

- (a) As an application for provisional registration has been received (two weeks ago), secondary inspectors visit the school to look at roll numbers; site, buildings and equipment; curriculum; and staffing. This would provide additional information. As the Act states that more than eight pupils are required, the school could not be provisionally registered. The question of what then happens has yet to be answered.
- (b) Consideration be given to amending that Act regarding required numbers.
- (c) Certificates of exemption be issued, if necessary, for 1984, if there would be more than eight pupils in 1985. Motueka High School would have to co-operate.

Recommendation

13 It is recommended that the Minister be asked to approve one of the options above, as decided upon by Management.

C P Brice
ASSD

NELSON EVENING MAIL : THURSDAY 15 MARCH 1984

FRONT PAGE: Large photograph showing Pastor Bill Stephen outside Shiloh Christian Academy today.

In very large print "THREAT TO SHILOH"

"STAY HAND" plea by principal

Pastor Bill Stephen, principal of the New Life Centre and its Shiloh Christian Academy in Motueka, does not believe they will be prosecuted for illegally operating a secondary school.

Shiloh Christian Academy is in its fourth year of operation with 32 primary school pupils and 7 secondary students.

It has a provisional registration for the primary department, but is not registered as a secondary school.

Pastor Stephen thinks the only thing preventing registration of the secondary department is that it does not have the required minimum roll of 9 students.

"Its ridiculous when that number becomes an issue" he said. He thought the reason was that it was regarded as uneconomic to run a secondary department for less than 9 children. "As far as economics go that is our problem."

From an academic point of view fewer students meant more efficiency - the supervisor was freer to bring in personal counselling and encouragement.

Pastor Stephen said the Department of Education had informed him before Christmas that if the Academy commenced the 1984 school year with a secondary department court proceedings would follow.

He said there had been no further indication of any kind of action and he hoped it would not occur. He was encouraged by the development of relationships between the department and the Academy.

Pastor Stephen said he was also persuaded that the Minister of Education, Mr Wellington, who would have to sanction any proceedings was a man of his word. Mr Stephen cited a speech that Mr Wellington had made at the opening of a new block at Villa Maria College, Christchurch, earlier this month when he said that New Zealand parents had the inalienable right to send their children to the school that fitted their faith and beliefs.

Paster Stephen said it was only a matter of time before the secondary department had 9 pupils. There would be at least that number next year when primary children moved up.

The school would keep going!

"I accept it as a Christian responsibility to do all that God wants in educating our children in academic, spiritual and character building, recognising the necessity of the Department of Education and accommodating to the best of our ability their wishes."

"But I fear God more than I fear man" he added.

9(2)(a)



Released under the Official Information Act 1982

SHILOH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY - RADIO NEW ZEALAND BROADCAST -
REGISTRATION

Non-registration of the above school was an item covered in a Nelson Radio New Zealand news broadcast on 15 March 1984.

Information given implied that the pupil roll of 7 was the sole reason the school could not be registered. Reference was made to the minimum of 9 required under the "new Education Act". The Education Department was reported to be considering what further legal action it should take and to be exercising caution in that action since non-registration of Shiloh under the "new Education Act" and subsequent departmental action would be used as a precedent for future private schools who did not register under the Act.

Discussed with Dennis Standring DP who had heard the broadcast and confirmed my interpretation, and DSIPS. DSIPS advised that Radio New Zealand had contacted him and he had had to clarify aspects relating to the primary department and suggested they telephone both Shiloh and Education Department Wellington for information on the secondary department.

Anne McKay
DO (GS)