

To Sergeant Lane

(1)

Acting Sergeant Forrest on oath says:-  
My name is George Forrest  
acting sergeant of Police  
stationed in Maryborough  
I know the Defendant Edward  
Wilson Fisher I have known  
him for about twelve months  
At four o'clock this morning  
I found him lying under  
a small culvert in a  
yard off Bazaar Street  
The yard is the property  
of Mr Stephens, Dentist.  
He had a little boy with  
him about 5 years of age,  
his son.  
The culvert is just a grating

(2)

affording no protection  
from the weather

Said to him "What are you  
doing here" He replied

"The little boy was tired & I  
put him to sleep under here"

Said "I will arrest you on  
the charge of having no  
lawful visible means of  
support" He replied "I think

you are making a mistake  
I can prove I was hawkking  
fish yesterday"

I took him to the watchhouse  
& handed him over to the  
watchhouse keeper

I have seen dependant

(3)

frequently about the town during the last six months, since the time of the late elections.

I have never known him to do any work during that time. I have seen him all over the town, on hotels, sometimes following drunken men. For the last two months he has almost constantly had the little boy with him day & night. I have heard complaints about the way the boy was being treated. On searching him at the watchhouse, I found

(4)

no money or valuables  
on him

By Plaintiff

I am not aware that before  
Christmas defendant was  
hauling fish from the  
"Expert" in Crompton's waggon  
I am not aware that you were  
selling dried fish yesterday  
for Mr Ellwood

I am not aware that some of  
the dried fish lying on Mr  
Ellwood's counter at present  
is your property

I am not aware that you are  
engaged to do the clerical  
work for the Maryborough  
Fish Supply Company

I am not aware that for several months past <sup>you</sup> have been staying at Mr Barber's house in Alice Street

Jas Fowler

TAKEN AND SWORN AT MARYBOROUGH  
THIS... Eighteenth ... DAY  
OF... January ... 1910  
BEFORE

Chris Finner  
Police Inspector

QUEENSLAND, }  
TO WIT. }

To the Superintendent of the Reformatory School at *Wentworth*  
in the said State, and to all Constables in the State.

WHEREAS *Leslie Milton Fisher*

a *boy* under the age of fifteen years, has been this day brought before  
the undersigned, a *Police Magistrate of Queensland*

and charged with being a neglected child, for that *he*  
the said *Leslie Milton Fisher* is *destitute and has lost*  
*support means of subsistence apparent to the Court and whose*  
*parents are in the opinion of Court in indigent or circumstances*  
*and unable to support the said Leslie Milton Fisher*  
and whereas I have directed the said child to be sent at the earliest

opportunity to the said school, for the term of *Seven* years next ensuing :

These are to require you, the said Constables, to take the said child, at the earliest  
opportunity, to the said school, and to deliver *him* to the said Superintendent thereof ;

and you, the said Superintendent, are hereby required to receive the said child into  
the said school, there to be detained for the said term of *Seven* years, unless such  
child shall in the meantime be discharged by due course of law.

GIVEN under my Hand and Seal, at *Wentworth* in the said State,  
this *Eighteenth* day of *January*, A.D. ~~1900~~ *1910*

*Clive Francis*  
*Police Magistrate*

*See Endorsement*

The little boy Leslie Wilton Fisher I formally ordered to be committed to the Westbrook Reformatory School for boys, for seven years as a neglected child.

He is of tender years, not a fit subject for the Reformatory, and should be admitted to an orphanage.

With a view to such admission I directed the child should be placed in suitable care until the Ministers directions should be known.

I forward the depositions and a duplicate copy thereof and also an application by Senior Sergeant Lane in charge of Police at Maryborough for the child's admission.

I recommend first that the neglected child Leslie Wilton Fisher be admitted to an orphanage as a Church of England child.

Secondly that the sentence of seven years confinement in the Reformatory School at Westbrook be remitted.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Crispin Jones".

Police Magistrate.



Home Secretary's Office,

Brisbane, 5th February, 1910.

Sir,

I have the honour, by direction, to inform you that His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to remit the unexpired portion of the sentence of detention for seven years in the Westbrook Reformatory School for Boys, passed by the Bench of Magistrates, Maryborough, on the 18th ultimo, upon Leslie Wilton Fisher, who was convicted on a charge of being a neglected child.

This action has been taken with a view to the admission of the child to an Orphanage, and the papers in connection with the case are forwarded herewith.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

*[Handwritten signature]*

Under Secretary,

The Inspector of Orphanages,  
BRISBANE.

*Little necessary action  
1/2/10*