

*THE*  
*JOHANNE LOHSE*  
*BEQUEST*



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## *THE JOHANNE LOHSE BEQUEST*

### *HISTORICAL NOTE*

Miss Lohse was born in Germany on 12 May 1839 of a German father and English mother. She was brought up in England where she worked as a Governess and also a teacher at a large girls school. Convinced of the need for a superior girls school in New Zealand she came to Christchurch in 1873 with \$2,000, bought land at Riccarton on the (then) outskirts of Christchurch, built a house and established a school with five boarders and a few day pupils. The "country" area proved unsuitable so she shifted to the city and built up her school at various locations.

In 1890 because of health problems she sold her school and migrated to the warmer climate of Italy where she subsequently died on 25 August 1910. It is possible to trace the present St. Margaret's College in Christchurch back to Miss Lohse's school.

During her New Zealand stay she acted as examiner of modern languages at the (then) Canterbury University College and it was natural that she should encourage young women to go on to tertiary education by providing for the scholarships which now bear her name. She was a pioneer of tertiary education for women in New Zealand.

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Unfortunately when she died she left two Wills, one in Italy and one in New Zealand and it took some time to decide which was valid, the final decision being that her New Zealand Will applied to her New Zealand possessions and thus the Lohse Trust arose.

### *THE BEQUEST*

In her original Bequest Miss Lohse made provision for Scholarships under certain conditions one of which was that the amount of each Scholarship should be limited to \$600 per annum for three years, a significantly large sum for those days when clergy stipends were around \$500 per annum. The first two Scholarships were awarded in 1921, each for \$300 per annum, equivalent to the annual wage of many adults at that time.

The Bequest terms indicate specifically that Awards are to be based on Talent rather than need.

In early 1987 the Church Property Trustees decided to seek a change in the Trust so that it would be more in line with today's educational needs both as regards the amount of the awards and the length of University courses. Using the provisions of the Anglican Church Trusts Act (1981) leave was sought from the Attorney-General to both increase the amount of Scholarships and the length of time for which they could be held to allow for those who were studying for such degrees as Food Technology, Engineering and Medicine

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which require up to five years University work. Provision was also requested to enable Scholarships to be granted to the daughters of clergy in the Diocese of Polynesia which was not in existence when the Will was drawn up and because the original Bequest specified a term of residence within the Dominion of New Zealand. Approval for these changes was finally obtained at General Synod in Suva in April 1990. As amended the Bequest now provides for:

1. Scholarships for the daughters of any clergy person of the Church of the Province of New Zealand who holds, or has held a Bishops License. They may be held at any tertiary educational institution in New Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom or on the continent of Europe and may be awarded by the Church Property Trustees to any student showing promise in either arts, science, painting, sculpture, music, or any other branch of learning whatsoever. The trustees shall decide the subject for which each Scholarship is awarded and the institution where the Scholarship shall study.

2. Each Scholarship is for up to five years and for such **annual value** as the Trustees shall decide.

3. The number of Scholarships awarded and the subjects for which they are awarded are decided by the Trustees.

4. Applicants must be over 16 and under 26 years of

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age at the date of awarding of the Scholarships and must have lived continuously within the area administered by the Church of the Province of New Zealand for at least three consecutive years.

5. There are no competitive examinations on which Scholarships are awarded. Scholarships shall **be given** to applicants who have shown some pronounced talent in the subject for which the Scholarship is offered, according to the testimony of persons who, in the opinion of the Trustees, are competent judges in such subject.
6. No Scholarship is awarded to any candidate whose character and attainments are not considered satisfactory by the Trustees.
7. Each Scholarship is liable to forfeiture upon the Church Property Trustees receiving such report of the work or behaviour of the holder of a Scholarship as they shall consider sufficient to cause such forfeiture.
8. In addition, in awarding of Scholarships, consideration shall be given to the financial needs of the applicants, but subject to all other conditions being met.
9. Subject to the above existing regulations the Scholarship shall be awarded in such a manner in all respects as shall from time to time be authorised by the Trustees.

The above is a summary of the Bequest copies of the original are obtainable from the Trustees.

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It is important that all applicants for Scholarships make themselves fully aware of the conditions laid down in the late Miss Lohse's Will as they may not be varied by the Church Property Trustees.

### *REGULATIONS*

In addition to the above and to assist in the administration of the Trust the Church Property Trustees have made regulations pursuant to Clause 9 of the Bequest and these are as follows:

10. Every Candidate for the Scholarship shall:

10.1 Produce and furnish the Trustees with her Birth and Baptismal Certificate or such evidence of her Birth and Baptism as the Trustees shall in her case accept in lieu of Certificates and shall also give further information relative to herself and her parents as the Trustees shall from time to time require in each case.

10.2 Produce a statement declaring whether or not clergy stipend is the sole income or her parents, and if not, a general indication of other sources of income.

10.3 Agree to the regulations and conditions set forth in the Will and undertake faithfully to abide by them and by these regulations to the satisfaction of the Trustees.

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10.4 Submit to the Trustees the name of the institution at which she proposes to study, and furnish the Trustees with such further information as the Trustees may require,

11. No Scholarship shall be held at any institution of which the Trustees have not expressly approved.

12. No Scholarship may change from the college or institution which may in her case have been approved without first submitting to the Church Property Trustees her reasons for wishing to change and the name of the college or institution to which she wishes to change, furnishing the Trustees with such information and references as they may require and obtaining the consent by resolution of the Trustees to such a change.

13. Each Scholar will be required to furnish the Trustees with a written report from her lecturers/ tutors in each subject in June of each year indicating academic progress and conduct of the Scholar; and each person **providing** such a report will be expected on request to give the Trustees such information relative to such Scholar as the Trustees may in any case require. At the end of each year each Scholar will be required to furnish the Trustees a copy of her end of year examination results. All such reports and information shall be sent direct to the Trustees and shall be confidential to them and the institution issuing them.

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No payments will be made by the Trustees until reports are received.

14. Each scholar is expected to diligently and faithfully to the best of her power and ability during the term of her Scholarship apply herself to the study of the subjects for which her Scholarship may have been granted and devote all her power and energy to acquiring proficiency in such subjects.

15. If at any time in the opinion of the Trustees any Scholar has failed or is failing in any particular to comply with the conditions upon which her Scholarship has been granted, the Trustees may by resolution passed at a meeting of the Board declare her Scholarship to be determined from the date as specified in the resolution. Scholarships shall be absolutely forfeited from the date mentioned and the Scholar shall have no further claim and shall receive no further payment.

16. In all cases in which any discretionary power is vested in the Church Property Trustees in connection with any candidates, Scholar or Scholarships, the decision of the Church Property Trustees embodied in any resolution duly passed by them at a meeting and recorded in the Minutes of that meeting shall be final and binding upon all persons interested.

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