

Miss Burgess has sent medical
 certif for absence until 10.8.42
 Miss G. E. Civil absent
 Mr. McCarty
 Mr. Lawton resumed duty
 Sept 13
 Sept 16 Inspectors present
 Sept 19 Inspectors terminated annual
 Miss Callaghan absent
 resumed duty

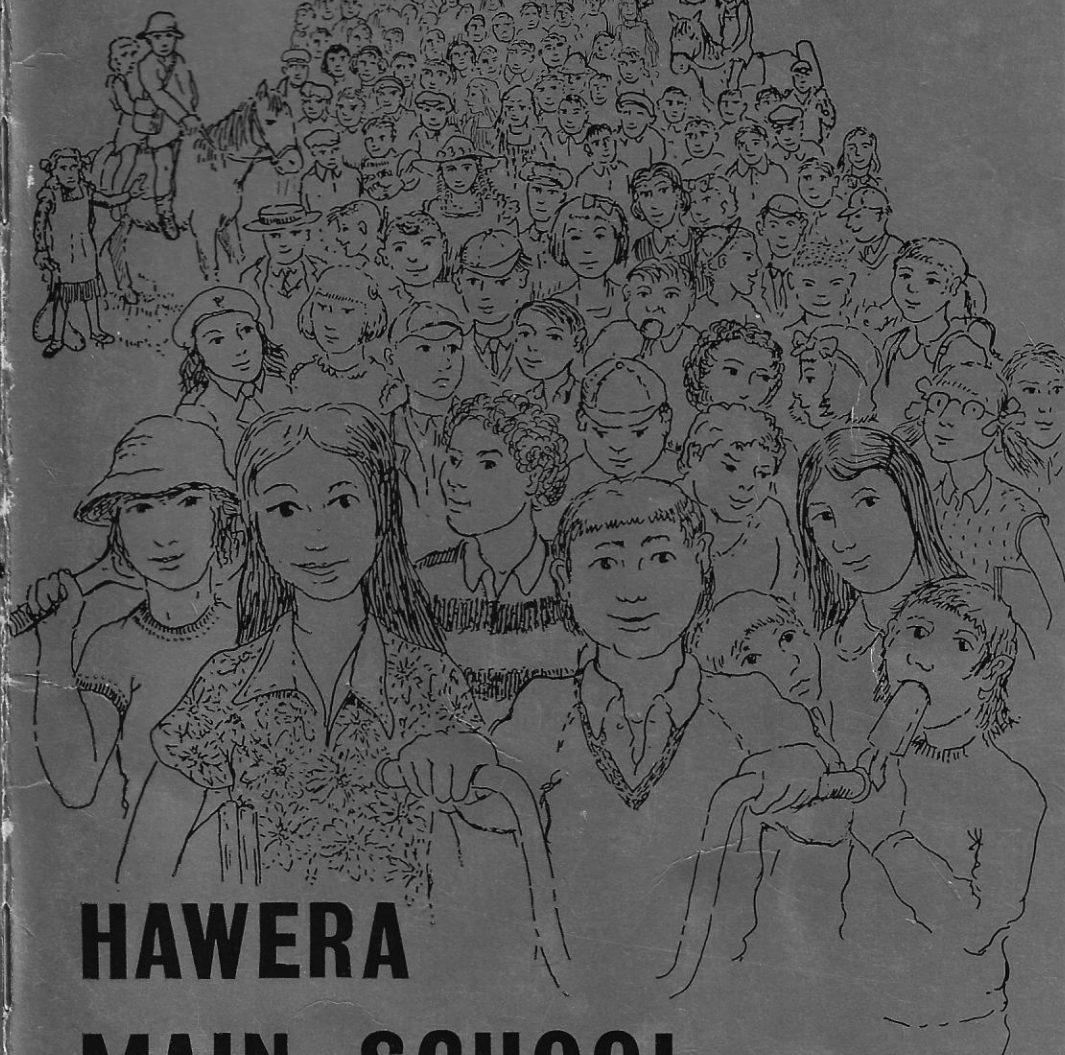
book on 25th May, 261 pupils of this school
 were transferred under the Educational Board's
 order.

Swimming classes
 in fall sewing
 J. Kowen
 A.I. Headmaster
 8.10.42, 1953.

A vast imp
 has been accompa
 is concerned it has not yet been
 to take decided action but teachers
 in charge of class rooms have been
 instructed to report to me if necessary
 J. R. Nairn

1875

1975

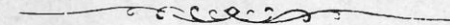


**HAWERA
 MAIN SCHOOL
 CENTENNIAL**

Hawera Main School Centennial

1875 - 1975

THE STORY OF OUR SCHOOL
AND ITS DISTRICT



Compiled by ALISON ROBINSON

Front Cover by N. ARMOND



Present Principal, Mr. Colin M. Smith

Foreword

One Hundred Years have passed and we are gathered to celebrate an Historic Event, The Centenary of a Grand School, Our School. Over just one weekend, memories of a lifetime will be exchanged, history will be caught up with, old acquaintances will be renewed and no doubt new friendships struck. To this end, we as a committee hope your efforts in attending have been worthwhile and these efforts are rewarded with something of joy to look back on in the years to come.

Hawera Main School has an enviable scholastic record and many old pupils have distinguished themselves with merit in their chosen fields in just about every corner of the globe. I have every confidence in the school, its teachers, administrators and the present and future pupils to continue this record.

We now look forward as we must do and I know you will all join with me in wishing our school well as it heads towards its second centenary.

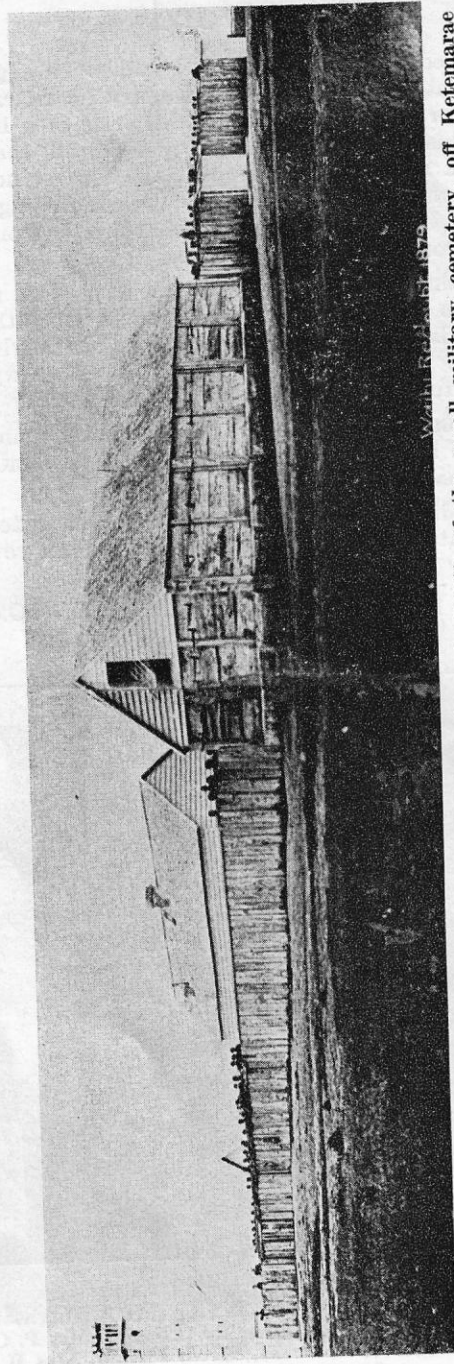
Because of distance, health and employment difficulties, not everyone could attend and to them, all of us thank you for your thoughts and say we wish you could be with us.

CENTENARY COMMITTEE



Centennial Committee

Mr C. Hatchard, Mr A. MacRae, Mr J. Philip, Mr A. Hughson, Mr M. Pollock, Mr. A. Dietschin, Mrs J. Drake, Mr C. Smith, Mrs P. Chadwick (Secretary), Mr R. Neale (Chairman), Mr J. Parker, Mrs B. Dobson, Mr T. Kilmister.



Waihi Redoubt in the 1870s. The site is now in pasture, 10 yards south of the small military cemetery, off Ketemarae Road, West of modern Normanby.

Historical Background of Hawera District

On each side of modern Hawera were the coastal villages of the "Tangata-Whenua" (the moa-hunter peoples). Possibly as long as a thousand years ago, these peaceful folk lived in river-mouth settlements such as that at Ohawe where sea erosion has destroyed so much. We know that they called Mt. Egmont "Puke-haupapa", and Waingongoro River was "Wai-aro-riri" (angry water) but apart from this, and a few artifacts which have been found, we know very little; for the Maoris who followed, inter-married with them, defeated them, enslaved them and took over their villages which they often converted into forts and wartime strongholds.

TURI'S LEGEND

There is an old legend that when Turi's people first came to Taranaki they had called in at "Rangitahua" (supposed to have been the Kermadec Islands) and collected seed of the Karaka tree. When they arrived at the Patea river mouth, they found a tribe led by Taikehu in possession. The two tribes agreed to live peaceably and eventually inter-married. The newcomers planted their karaka seed—a little inland on the north bank and named the place "Papa whero". Erosion gradually removed the resultant karaka grove until by the late 1880's it had all gone. They made their homes on the south bank and Rev. Hammond said that the place name should really have been Pawa-tea (the Pa with the clear outlook). Some of these people later moved north to a spring at Otaraite which was between the two good fishing grounds of Whitikau and Kaitangata. When some of the tribesmen moved south, Turi's daughter Taneroa, is said to have stood in the river and cursed them, thus giving the name "Tupatea" (standing in the river).

LARGE POPULATION

In Maori times the area between the Whanganui River and the Waingongoro River was the second most populous part of New Zealand after Northland. Our own area must have supported a very large population, for within eight miles of Hawera were sixty village sites, seven of them fully fortified strongholds of stone-age Maoris and all said to have been so close together that they were within hailing distance of a strong-voiced man. Some of them were not occupied when white people first saw them. By early 1800 white people were being seen at times in New Zealand, but not in Taranaki.

MAORI VILLAGES IN THIS AREA

1. TE RANGA TAPU—At Ohawe on East bank of Waingongoro river. A Moa-hunter settlement and later Nga Ruahine hill pa.
2. TE KAWAU—At Ohawe. Clifftop Pa on Hawera side of river mouth. Higher than Te Ranga Tapu. Now lost by erosion.
3. OHAWA-TOKOTOKO—At Ohawe. On a clifftop, on Hawera side of Waingongoro River. Not at the mouth, this Pa had no fishing rights at the mouth. Ngati-tupaea branch of Ngati-ruanui.
4. OKAHU-TITI—A sister pa to Te Ranga Tapu. On Waingongoro River in a fold of the river near the power house on present Normanby-Okaiawa Road.
5. RANGITOTO—At Ohawe. It was then half a mile inland on west cliff above a bend in the Waingongoro.
6. KOPAKI—At Ohawe. Low on the Waingongoro bank opposite Rangitoto.
7. PUKEOHA (also written PUKEAWHA)—At mouth of Waihi Stream.
8. PUKETI—At the mouth of Mangamingi Stream.
9. PUKETARATA—Three quarters mile west of Puketi.
10. KETEMARAE—A large fortified Pa at junction of several war trails and Whakaahurangi Trail. (Present Normanby site.)
11. TE RAMANUI—By Hawera Hospital. A sacred place. A tohunga's seat of learning.
12. TAUPATATE—At Nolandtown. Had an underground tunnel to a spring.
13. OTAPAWA—On a high position on banks of Tangahoe Stream. One mile N.E. of bridge on Ohangai Road. A Hau Hau village. Site of Battle of Otapawa in 1866. Destroyed by Gen. Chute.
14. WAIOKENA—A coastal pa 2½ miles S.E. of Hawera. A preaching place.
15. MANAWAPOU—On South bank of Ingahape (Manawapou) River. 1½ miles South of Hawera. 3 miles from Manutahi. There was said to be a bad taniwha at river mouth.
16. TE RUAKI—3 miles E.N.E. from Hawera. On banks of Tangahoe River, on a long high spur. Now in Whareroa Maori reserve, by bridge on Meremere-Ohangai Road).
17. WAIMATE—At mouth of Kapuni River on East bank. The pa where Betty, wife of Capt. Guard, and her children were held captive for five months in 1834 when their barque "Harriet" was wrecked.
18. ORANGI-TUAPEKA—On west bank at mouth of Kapuni River opposite Waimate Pa.
19. TE HAWERA—A village of the Titahi people 1½ miles S.E. of Hawera, 1½ miles then from coast. Burned out in a vengeance raid hundreds of years ago. Deserted.
20. TAUMAHA (TAUMAOHA)—Near Taumahai Road by the Otapuae Stream which runs into the Manawapou River.
21. OHANGAI—A large Pa S.E. of Hawera. On Matangara Road near cemetery and at the back of Brewer's farm.
22. WAIPAPA—A village at Ohangai where Wiremu Neera lived, who first preached the Christian Gospel when he returned from slavery at Hokianga.
23. MAWHITIWHITI—A settlement by Hastings Road destroyed by Gen. Chute in 1866. Chief kainga of Nga Ruahine.
24. WAITOTO—A small village near Mawhitiwhiti. A preaching place.
25. KETEONETA—By Turuturu Road towards Austin Road. Destroyed by Gen. Chute 1866.
26. WARAWARANUI—A preaching place.
27. AHIPAIPA—North of Ohawe. Near Ahipaipa Road. Destroyed 1866.
28. WERIWERI—A kainga near Hastings Road. Destroyed 1866.
29. PUKEKOHE—A settlement at Kaipokonui.
30. NGA TIKI—By Tawhiti Road near Ohangai Road crossing.
31. WAIOKURA—This side of Manaia on banks of Waiokura Stream. about 2 miles from the coast.
32. TE PUNGAREHU—A Hauhau village at Junction of Ahipaipa and Tempisky roads. Battle site in 1866.
33. MATANGI—A kainga of the Ngati-Tu. On the Kaipokonui River, on high land behind the cliff head.
34. TAURATAI—At Kaipokonui beach. On hill side facing the sea where the dressing sheds were. (A kind Taniwha was said to live in the pool above the swimming hole. The famous Oranga Fishing grounds extended from Kaipokonui mouth halfway to the Otakeho mouth. The sacred burial place of OTAMARE was in the sandhills here.
35. AKOAKOA—A naturally strong fortress of the Ngati-Tu at the mouth of the Otakeho River, high up on the East side.
36. NGATEKO—At the mouth of the Kapuni River.
37. TE POPIA—Village a little way N.E. of Normanby.
38. MATARIKI—A clearing in the heavy bush near Ketemarae, Normanby.
39. MANGAMANGA—Just west of Normanby, off Ketemarae Road. On a rise about 100 yards south of a small cemetery now. This old Pa site was taken over and turned into the WAIHI REDOUBT.
40. MATANGARA—A kainga by Matangara Road just outside Hawera now.
41. TE MARU O TE WHENUA—Across Waingongoro River. A large village. A Hauhau fort in 1868. Between Te Ngutu and Ahipaipa Road.
42. TE NGUTU O TE MANU—The fortified village where Titokowaru had his headquarters. Near Skeet Road and beyond Okaiawa. Scene of three attacks. Major Von Tempsky killed here.
43. TE WHENUKU—An important kainga near Whenuku Road. Destroyed 1866.
44. TE HAURANGA (also called KAHUKURA-NUI)—A Ngati Ruanui fort. On sec. 294 Block II Hawera S.D. East of Mokoia. May be seen from Noonan Road. On hilltop above Otoki Stream.
45. TE PAREPARE—A Ngati Ruanui fort. A large important stronghold on a big isolated hill ½ mile north of Te Hauranga. On Section 279 Block II Hawera S.D.
46. TE AWA MATENGA—A Ngati Ruanui fortified village. On the end of a high spur above the Otoki Stream. On section I Block II H.S.D.
47. TE PORO PORO—Another Ngati Ruanui fort on the same survey block but a little way east of Te Awa Matenga. On high land the same side of the Otoki Stream.
48. TE TAU NUI—Fortified Ngati Ruanui Pa. Also on banks of Otoki Stream but on a high spur on opposite bank from Te Poro Poro and Te Awa Matenga.
49. PUKEMUKO—Fortified Ngati Ruanui Pa. A small strong fort on the very high spur with one side sloping very steeply down to the Pukemuko Gorge. On a scenic reserve mis-called by Pakehas "The Poke-A-Moke Gorge".
50. TAKE RUAHINE—An extensive and very ancient Pa. It is 1½ miles east of TE PAREPARE on Sections 4 and 5 Black 12 Hawera S.D. It was a Ngati Ruanui fortified Pa and later a Christian preaching place.
51. TURUTURU MOKAI—A Ngati Tupaea Pa deserted since about 1600 when a massacre followed a tattooing session leaving a tapu and a legend of bitterness so strong that it was not discussed.
52. WHAREROA—East of Tawhiti Road by the Ohangai Road. Destroyed 1866.
53. TIROTIRO MOANA—East of Eltham. A large kainga with large gardens destroyed by Gen. Chute 1866.
54. TAIPOROHENUI—Near Ohangai Road. Headquarters in 1865-66 of the prophet Te Ua Horopapere Haumere who founded the Pai-marire or Hauhau religion. Had a huge Nui pole. Destroyed 1866.
55. POKAIKAI—Settlement south of Taiporohenui. Destroyed 1866.
56. MEREMERE. An old Kainga by Wairere Road. Destroyed 1866.
57. MANUTAHU—By Taumaha Road. General Camerons troops constructed a redoubt here on the old Pa site in 1865.

58. WHAKAMARA—By the Ingahape Road. This village had a Hauhau Nui pole said to be between 70 and 80 feet high. Destroyed by Colonel Whitmore in 1869 while pursuing Titokowaru.
59. ARAKUKU—On present day Mountain Road near Normanby, and a bird sanctuary.
60. There was a small village by the site of the Central Hotel in Hawera. It was on the banks of a tiny stream which once flowed (now piped) past the site of the Old Hawera Main School towards Pease's farm where it emerges.
61. NGARONGO PA—At the north end of the large Ketemarae clearing. Pepe Heke's kainga near Normanby—it had 30 or 40 inhabitants in the early 70s.
62. UTINGA PA—A small kainga east of present Normanby Railway Station. Had about 1 dozen of Hone Pihama's people in residence in 1871.
63. A large Pa was sited at the junction of South Road and Ohangai Road (1880s) Te Aka lived here (died 1939).
64. HUKATERE PA—Near Kakarama. Occupied 1860s. People here later moved south and established Pariroa Pa.

MUSKETS

The Maoris were very impressed with the White man's muskets. The White men were impressed with land and the trade potential of prepared flax. Around 1830 a musket was worth 8 large hogs and 3 tons of potatoes or a large quantity of prepared flax. That year the flax trade was worth £26 000 and many Maori chiefs put their whole tribe to preparing flax to trade for muskets. There were somewhere between 100 000 and 200 000 natives in New Zealand when the whites first came. By 1819 the Bay of Islands' natives had several hundred muskets, some of them double barrelled, and were regarded with terror for hundreds of miles around. In 1821 Hongi returned from his visit to England. On his way home he exchanged all the gifts he had received for 300 muskets. He proceeded to terrorise his old enemies. He killed 1 000 near Auckland, 1 000 near Thames, another 1 000 in the Waikato and probably 2 000 Te Arawa tribesmen on an island in Lake Rotorua. The idea caught on and Waikato recovered enough to launch armed raids on Kawhia and Taranaki, which left the province almost cleared of Maori people. Some Kawhia and Taranaki warriors joined the Ngati-Toa chief Te Rauparaha in ravaging the Cook Strait and South Island people and this fighting, coupled with the effects of White man's diseases left 40 000 Maoris dead and it was 100 years before they regained their former numbers.

EARLY WHITE MEN

By 1838 there were said to be 2 000 whites in the country. Six hundred of these were in the Bay of Islands and with a few notable exceptions have been described as the dregs of society, being runaway sailors, escaped convicts, fraudulent debtors from Sydney and generally unprincipled adventurers.

The exceptions were mostly missionaries who worked quietly among the Maoris gaining their respect and spreading their message. When the raids on Taranaki were happening, many Maoris fled south, some even went as far as the Chathams but many hundreds were taken to Hokianga as slaves. When in time the Wai-

kato tribes accepted the Christian message, they felt they should no longer keep slaves and the Taranaki ones were released. When the released slaves returned to Taranaki their fellow tribesmen were also returning from their exile in the south. The ex-slaves were keen to share the Christian message with their kinsfolk but the message was received with suspicion. The first Christian missionary to South Taranaki is said to have been the slave Wiremu Neera (William Naylor) who came from the village of Waipapa near Ohangai. Slowly their message began to be accepted. Christian Maoris began to meet here and there in church houses to worship and study together.

TARANAKI AND WHITE MEN

Taranaki's earliest recorded contact with White men was in 1834 when the Barque "Harriet" was wrecked on the coast and Captain Guard's young wife Betty and her children were captured and taken to Waimate Pa at the mouth of the Kapuni River. Warships were sent and cannons fired and they were rescued. (This beach is referred to in this book as "Harriet's Beach" or "Betty Guard Island"). In 1841 the first boat load of settlers arrived at New Plymouth and they almost starved when the next boat with more provisions on it was months overdue. There were some Maoris in the area but they too were short of food due to the destruction caused by enemy tribes. Settlers learned the value of sea food which the Maoris knew and also found the curly buds of fern trees could be made into sweet pies. In 1842 news reached South Taranaki that the Methodists had appointed a missionary to their area but there was no boat available to bring him and his wife from Kawhia. A party of Christian Maoris then set off to meet them and escort them overland. The route home lay over the ranges to Waipa, thence by canoe and portage to the Mokau River, down the river (shooting the rapids on the way to the coast) and then round the coast, hoping to dodge the tides and not be caught between cliffs and the sea. Thus arrived in Taranaki, Rev. and Mrs. Skevington. They chose a site on the banks of the Inaha stream (on Nixon's farm on Rainie Road now) and called it "Heretoto". Skevington's parish extended from Oeo to Waitotara and included the large population at Ohawe. There were 400 Ngati Ruanui people and 1700 total and though they made the missionaries very welcome they refused to sell them any land which they valued very highly for sentimental reasons, as the home of their ancestors. More and more settlers came to New Plymouth and the land companies felt sure they had bought land for them either from a few men who were not the real owners, or from conquering Waikato tribesmen or from exiles in the Sounds. Slowly it dawned on the company men that land ownership was not as simple as it looked. Who WERE the real owners?

BUSH TRACK CUT

In 1842 the Government agent at New Plymouth had ordered the cutting of a track through the bush from New Plymouth to

Ketemarae Pa. This bridle track was to follow roughly the well known Whakaahurangi Trail of the Maoris. The Pa at Ketemarae was important because it lay at the junction of several war trails. Edward Gibbon Wakefield was taken through this "Nairn Track" the following year and was most impressed with the scenery, but South Taranaki was still Maori country.

MISSION WORK

Bishop Selwyn made a visit here from Whanganui and preached at the Maori village of Waiokena on the coast about 2½ miles S.E. of modern Hawera. Rev. Whitely was working in North Taranaki at this time and baptised a promising young Maori lad called Titokowaru with the baptismal name of Hohepa. When Rev. Skevington decided to attend the Methodist Synod meeting in Auckland in 1845 he took Titokowaru and several other companions with him. Great was their sorrow when during a service there, Rev. Skevington collapsed and died in a front pew in the old High Street Church, and his friends had to make a sad journey back to Heretua with the news. Rev. Woon, who was appointed to succeed him was a big Cornishman with a powerful musical voice. (The ex-slaves said it reminded them of the pipe organ at Hokiangā.) He stayed at Heretua till 1853 often commenting on the danger of the beach path to his southern preaching places, for the cliffs were likely to fall at any time. His wife planted pheasant-eye daffodil bulbs at Heretua and they still bloom each October. In 1942 a large stone was taken from Heretua and placed in front of the Hawera Methodist Church, with some of these bulbs, to mark the centenary.

STILL THEY COME

Though the Maoris were prepared to welcome some white people, they never expected so many to arrive or that they would be so desperate to buy land. In 1852 there were several thousand settlers in North Taranaki and the province of New Plymouth was declared. Maoris viewed with increasing alarm the pakeha fondness for making roads and buying and selling land at a profit. In 1854 an historic gathering was organised just south of Hawera. The Ngati Ruanui people built two very large meeting houses, laid in enormous stocks of food and invited friends and former foes from far and wide to discuss land sales. The matter was thoroughly debated and vows were taken solemnly at dead of night, many of those present vowing to die rather than let land fall into pakeha hands. By 1858 the New Plymouth settlers were very frustrated. Many still waited for their promised farms and when the Governor visited they urged him to act. There were about 1 000 British Imperial troops stationed in New Zealand and in the next five years their numbers increased to about 10 000. New Zealand must have been very difficult to govern then. Each province seemed to be isolated because many roads were only mud tracks and people had to rely on communication by boat. The province of New Plymouth had an agent at Patea which was a small settlement. Soon

settlers outnumbered natives and the Government gave way to pressure to buy land and announced that it would not stand for any more nonsense and that all Maori land north, and later south of the Waingongoro River was confiscated. This was followed shortly afterwards with the news that 50 000 acres would be thrown open for settlement. This news was greeted with joy by the settlers but it was obvious that military power would be needed to back up Surveyors who had worked under difficulties in North Taranaki. Patea became a military barracks with immigration centre and married and single men's quarters.

GOVERNOR GREY

Governor Grey was having trouble with the British Government. They said the 10 000 Imperial troops could stay if the New Zealand Government could pay their salary of £40 a year. The New Zealand Government could not do this, so plans were made to withdraw the troops shortly. To take their place volunteer forces were recruited from settlers, gold miners and other immigrants. These men were offered land if they agreed to serve a certain time and then be available whenever called upon to take arms. A private was granted 50 acres with the option of a further 10 acres in a town block, and free rations if he came and collected them every week for the first year. Higher ranks were to get larger farms but the free rations would not stretch to feed a wife and family and a man could spend days going for them. Had the offer been better many more Imperial soldiers would have stayed here. Before the Imperial troops departed Governor Grey ordered them to march through Taranaki subduing the Maoris.

GENERAL CAMERON

General Cameron (of Gate Pa Battle fame) was in charge. He had already had dealings with Governor Grey and found him deceitful. Cameron had served in the Crimea and in the Indian Mutiny, as had most of his troops. He had come to admire the Maoris, fighting for their ancestral lands and shrewdly saw how the land-greedy settlers and the Governor were trying to manipulate the British troops into a situation where innocent Maoris would be killed. Grey tried to make a fool of General Cameron by telling him to wait for orders and then keeping him waiting till the best weather was over before giving him any. Then Grey ordered him to march 2 000 men up the west coast from Wanganui. Grey himself joined them and insisted on leading the men to a 'victory' against an almost deserted pa which had already surrendered. Cameron moved slowly, making sure of his supply line, erecting redoubts on old pa sites to protect his flank and made his way north round the coast past quick sand at river mouths and through thick bush. The Manutahi redoubt was built on an old pa site and they then moved on to Manawapou near the south bank at the mouth of the Inghape Stream and another was built there where the Te Hawera Pa had been. (This had been burned in a savage vengeance raid

many years before and was deserted. This burning gave it its name.) The famous Kimble Bent here escaped from the army and went to live among the Maoris. Supplies for the two thousand men under canvas were sent in by surf boat to the rocky beach. One day a boat capsized and seven men were drowned. Their bodies were recovered and buried near a bend in the river. (In recent years these graves were moved to the Ohawe Cemetery.) Another important redoubt named the 'Waihi Redoubt' was constructed on the banks of the Waihi Stream on the site of an old pa named Mangamanga (nothing now remains of this important redoubt, except a small military cemetery off Ketemarae Road south-west of present Normanby and a few depressions in a cow paddock just south of the cemetery.) The troops then headed for the Waingongoro river mouth where two bases were set up under canvas at Ohawe on the cliff tops overlooking the basin area. (Erosion has removed a large area of land from the site since then). As an amateur archeologist Governor Grey was most interested in Ohawe, where moa bones were discovered by Rev Taylor in 1843. He asked for volunteers and they found the sand hills still thick with moa bones. Some of the old Maori ovens were opened up and the Governor worked as hard as anyone, thoroughly enjoying it all. It is said that a Maori called Kawana Paipe once told the Governor a yarn about having seen a live moa in his youth. (In 1847 a researcher named Mantell was told by the Maoris at Ohawe that these large bones must have been those of the cows drowned in the 'Flood of Noah's Time'!)

GENERAL CHUTE

After this march General Cameron resigned and was replaced by General Trevor Chute who commanded the volunteer men and the last of the Imperial troops still here. General Trevor had no misgivings about killing noble natives who defended their ancestral lands. He launched a bloodthirsty campaign and while settlers began to arrive he prepared to show who owned the land now. During five weeks at the beginning of 1866 he led his men, (200 of the 14th regiment, 180 of the 57th and 36 of the Forest Rangers under Von Tempsky and 200 of the Native Contingent) on a march of aggression. Beginning at Wanganui they attacked and destroyed as they moved north. They burned down many Maori church houses and with them the copies of the Holy Bible in Maori (an action which the Maoris found very hard to believe.) At the battle for the Otapawa Pa on the Tangahoe banks they lost 11 dead and 20 wounded. They then attacked the famous stockaded village of Ketemarae and as they had three Armstrong field guns they soon defeated that and moved on to take the village of Keteoneta. They followed this up by crossing the Waihi River taking several small villages, including that of Weriweri and then crossing the Waingongoro itself and destroying the Nga Ruahine's main kainga of Mawhitwhiti. General Trevor Chute, no doubt pleased with himself marched his men through to New Plymouth on the Nairn Track cut twelve years before. It had become so overgrown that it took his men nine

days and the track was then called the 'Chute and Nairn Track'. After a stay at New Plymouth the soldiers returned to Wanganui. Meanwhile the 200 men stationed in the Waingongoro Redoubt were not idle either. With Colonel Butler in charge they had marched out with 120 supporting native soldiers in a raiding party that went as far as Tiro-tiro-moana, east of Ketemarae and south-east of Eltham today. Here they destroyed everything, including their fine cultivations just as Chute had destroyed the many acres of garden at Otapawa Pa. On another outing they attacked another pa at Ahipaipa to the north of Ohawe. There seemed to be no one about but while they were destroying it they were fired on so gave chase and with back-up help destroyed another village they came upon. In five weeks Chute destroyed a truly astonishing number of carved meeting houses and valuable Maori things in Taranaki so much so that historians will always remember his burning expedition with shame and sorrow.

SETTLEMENT BEGINS

After this show of strength, town sites were surveyed at Mokoia, Kakaramaea and Ohawe, but nobody seemed very interested. Crown grants were surveyed for military volunteers and men began to arrive to see what their future farms were like. It is said that many took one look and sold or swapped them for something. A Scots Canadian called Middlemas and his two sons Andrew and Thomas arrived and took land near present day Iredale Road. Near them a man called Douglas came. They constructed a sod fort that became known as the 'Canadian Redoubt'. A Mr James Livingston who fought with distinction in battles against the Maoris took a large block between the Waingongoro and Waihi Rivers with a Mr McMichael. Gideon Inkster, from Shetland Isles took land near Normanby Road (now Waihi Road.) Governor Grey had selected the site of the deserted pa at Turuturu-mokai for a Pakeha Redoubt in 1866 and the 18th Royal Irish regiment built it. (Soldiers took up farms round about Turuturu and lived in the redoubt.)

RELIGION

During the 1860s the Maoris became disenchanted with Christianity as they saw it practised by the white men. In many battles Maoris had died reciting the Lord's Prayer or carrying their Maori Bibles, but slowly they began to develop their own form of Maori christianity. They retained the Bible with the old testament stories they found so stirring and encouraging. These stories gave them courage to fight on for surely God was on their side and pakeha bullets could not harm them. The new faith came to be known as Hauhauism and even Titokowaru became a Hauhau. He had become a natural leader among his people and had his stronghold deep in the bush at Te Ngutu-ote-Manu. In 1867 he proclaimed a year of peace. 'The Year of the Lamb'. Titokowaru visited the main pakeha redoubts on state visits and asked permission to march several times round them (like Joshua and the walls of Jerico.) During this year he made

his way from village to village quietly spreading his plan of action for when the year was over. Because he was closely related to the Ngati Ruanui people he was promised a good deal of support. Although it was an apparently peaceful year the surveyors were still working under armed guard.

'TITO' ACTS

In the middle of 1868 Titokowaru issued a solemn warning to the pakehas to cease travelling on the roads, and then the Maoris began to harass the settlers. Mr Henderson and Mr Luxford were molested as they tried to take up land near Mokoia. Mr Bayly was driven off land at Kakaramea. Mr Hiscox was molested, settlers were robbed of horses and gear. Many women were too afraid to be left alone while their men went for supplies. Stories went round about burnings and killings and many women and children were evacuated to Patea, by dray. At the Waihi redoubt there were 400 soldiers, many of whom had begun to break in their land nearby. One day Sergeant Major Cahill and soldiers Squires and Clarke were pit sawing timber on a block known as Te Rauna (between Normanby and Austin Road today) when they were set upon and murdered. Shortly after this, Trooper Smith left the Redoubt to catch his horse and was shot and horribly mutilated. In accord with an old Maori custom, only his blood-stained legs were found, the rest of him probably being eaten in a cannibal feast. Immediately Rifle Volunteers were sent up from Wellington to strengthen Waihi. Captain Ross was ordered to reoccupy the redoubt made at Turuturu Mokai in 1866. A settler named Morrison had been using it as sheep pens but 25 armed constabulary men arrived and began to get it in order again. It was only 20 yards square and was in a clearing in the flax, fern and koromiko. In the clearing were several whares belonging to local settlers. Round it was a five foot rampart and a six foot trench and inside the walls were six bell tents and a raupo whare used for stores. While the cleaning up was being done the commander and another man slept in whares outside the walls, as did a settler named Coslett Johnson who was breaking in 80 acres at Keteoneta within sight of the redoubt. The spies of Titokowaru called at the redoubt selling onions, so he was well informed about how matters stood there. In frontier garrisons the men were usually called at 3 a.m. and 'stood to arms' until dawn, as Maoris were known to prefer to attack in the hour before dawn.

TURUTURU MOKAI

On 12 July, there was a very heavy frost and the uncompleted plankwalk was very slippery. Because of this two sentries were on duty outside the walls. One of them heard a noise and fired rousing the men, but it was already too late. A swift Maori attack left Captain Ross dead, Mr Lennon dead with his heart cut out, dead and wounded lying inside and out and the whares all burned. The men at Waihi heard the commotion and were told to stand by. Had the mounted troops been told to go at

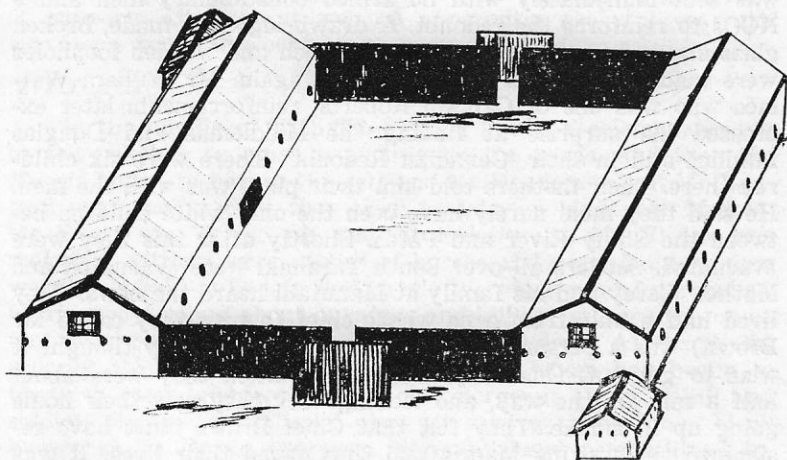
once they might have been some help, but by 7 a.m. it was all over and the whole area was deeply shocked. Captain Roberts was sent immediately with 50 armed constabulary men and 9 NCOs to reinforce the redoubt. A drawbridge was made, broken glass strewed in the bottom of the trench and wooden loopholes were made but it was never attacked again. Mr William Wallace who was one of Captain Roberts' reinforcements later expressed his surprise at finding the Middlemas and Douglas families still in their 'Canadian Redoubt'. There were six children there. Their mothers told him their place was with the men. He said they must surely have been the only white children between the Stony River and Patea. Shortly after this they were evacuated. Settlers all over South Taranaki were evacuated and Mathew Carey and his family at Manutahi heard the news. They lived half a mile from a pa whose chief (a man they called Mr Brown) was a personal friend, but nevertheless they thought it wise to get out. One dray broke down when they were about half a mile on the way, and looking back they saw their home going up in smoke. They felt that Chief Brown must have restrained the waiting Maoris and thus saved their lives. It was late when they arrived in Patea and they were wakened again about midnight with a picket from the redoubt warning them that they must quietly come into the redoubt as the area was under attack. As soon as possible white women and children were evacuated to Wanganui or Nelson by steamer.

REVENGE

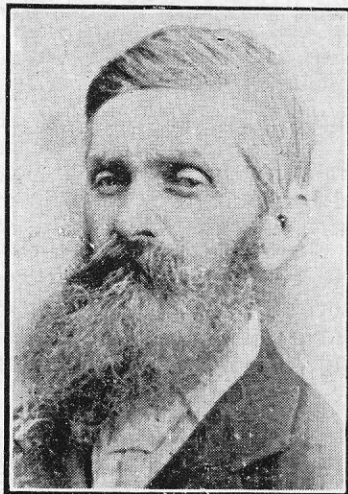
Immediately after the Turuturu Mokai attack the troops set about avenging it. It was the end of August before they had enough men together. By then Colonel McDonnell had 350 men being three division of armed constabulary, Wellington Rangers, Wellington Rifles, Patea Yeoman Cavalry and Taranaki Volunteer Militia. The force was in two parties under Major Hunter and Major Von Tempsky. Von Tempsky was an interesting man, a cultured person and a capable artist whose pictures of the Maori wars are valued today. He could have taken up the land he was granted but seeing the hardship of those who did, he preferred to leave his wife and family at Auckland. (Current prices were — flour £3.3.0 a 200 lb sack — butter 2/6 — milk 1/- a quart — beef 7d a lb — matches 6d a box.) On the first occasion the troops crossed the Waingongoro which was in high August flood and attacked Te-Ngutu-O-te-manu with some success, capturing some ammunition and as usual burning some whares.

TE NGUTU

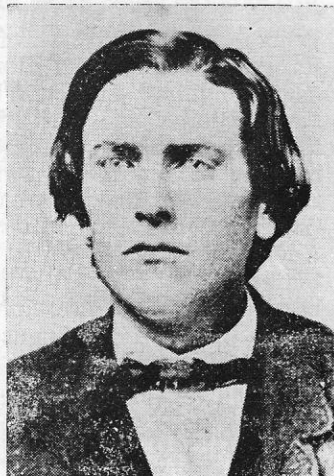
A fortnight later they attempted to do the same thing again with disastrous results. It was September, a bleak, wet, horrible spring month in Taranaki. They set off with 360 men and a half caste woman as guide into heavy bush at midnight. They planned to go round to the back of Titokowaru's stronghold where they thought there might be a Hauhau village, and catch the Maoris



PLAN OF HAWERA BLOCKHOUSE
1870



Mr Kearney, who taught at
the Blockhouse.



Mr Tom Middlemas, first
Chairman Hawera School
Committee.

asleep. It must have been a nightmare trip, cold, dark and frightening. In the blackness it was almost impossible to know just where they were and they were suddenly being shot at by marksmen they never saw. The shots came thick and fast and the men soon decided they must be greatly outnumbered. Von Tempsky got himself in position near the stronghold and waited for the order to attack, but the commander hesitated. The order never came. Officers lay dead and dying and Von Tempsky himself was shot, and the whole affair became a nightmare of confusion. It took the retreating troops hours and hours to make their way back to the redoubt taking their dead and wounded with them. They left on the field five officers and fourteen men, whom they had been unable to take back. It is said that Titokowaru accorded these soldiers an honourable cremation, thus sparing their friends the indignity of a cannibal feast. The first casualty at Te Ngutu was the Patea teacher, Captain Palmer of the Volunteers.

PAKEHAS WITHDRAW

This incident so demoralised the army that troops were withdrawn to Patea. Titokowaru gathered his supporters and set off after them setting up his camp on the banks of the Patea River at Otautu. When Colonel Whitmore's troops launched an attack on them the Maoris ran out of ammunition and were forced to retreat. The troops gave chase and followed them to an island in the Ngaere Swamp (Rawhitiroa). The Maoris knew tracks through the swamp. In the night the soldiers made supple-jack ladders to get across, but in the morning, there was so much confusion over which Maoris were the enemy and which were not, that 'Tito' escaped away back to the Tangohoe Valley, and open warfare was over in Taranaki.

... AND RETURN

When the settlers returned from Nelson and Wanganui, a Blockhouse was built at Hawera on a grassy knoll or small hill, (the hill has been leveled now and on this place is the library, law offices and the old town baths). The Blockhouse was to be a safe refuge in time of war for all the local settlers, taking up land between the Waihi redoubt and the Te Hawera redoubt (Manawapou) and Waingongoro. Military settlers who took 50 acre blocks in the country also had the option of taking 10 acres in the new township of Hawera. The blockhouse was large enough to act as a community centre and was used for all meetings, for services when the visiting clergymen arrived on horseback and for any other purpose. It had bullet-proof double slab timber walls with spaces in between which were filled with gravel. It consisted of two quite long buildings which had look-out turrets and loopholes to fire guns through, and it had pallisaded fences at each end, making a square courtyard between the two buildings. Round this community centre the armed constabulary men and the settlers formed themselves into a closely knit group.

Though Dr Walker and Dr Best had been with the troops while the fighting was on, there was no doctor between Patea and Hawera in 1870. Houses began to go up in the district and though flax and fern still grew in High Street in 1872 it had begun to look like a town. In 1871 the coach service from Wanganui was inaugurated. The coach had to be ferried over most rivers. On its first trip it had a V.I.P. passenger, The Premier Sir William Fox. On this occasion the coach was to go right through to New Plymouth. In 1865 the troops had been marched round the coast from Waingongoro to reopen the coast road to New Plymouth, but the area was still Maori country and when the coach reached Parihaka the home of the prophet Te Whiti the Maoris forced it down on the stony beach.

CIVILIAN SETTLEMENT BEGINS

It is inevitable that where there are military settlements, civilians in service industries will move into the area. There were soon men in the carrying business operating drays and waggons between Patea and Waihi taking supplies in for the troops. Storekeepers are usually to be found too, in new settlements. Mr Harry Locker, came to Patea as a small child when his parents opened a store to provision the garrison at Patea Heads about 1861.

In 1931 he spoke about those days. The troops were the 18th Royal Irish, and the famous 57th and 65th Regiments (called 'Hicketty Pips' by the Maoris). There were many supply settlers and some from the Australian goldfields. The navigable river mouth meant little timber scows and other steamers traded regularly. Settlers lived in tin houses, (as there was no local timber), set up by the authorities in sections with a number of tents. He remembered the armed constabulary, mounted police and Von Tempsky with his slogan 'Make Tito run.'

About 1869 the settlers were moved further up the river and the new site was called 'Carlisle' or (Carlyle). Sections were put up for auction with little public interest and the tin houses were sold off for farm sheds.

In 1867 the men at the Patea Barracks were paid 10d a day. Paydays were a wild experience of drinking and gambling. Many officers of the regiment owned fine bloodstock horses and racing them and issuing challenges was a popular pastime. Some of these races were endurance races . . . Patea to Waingongoro and return.

As a lad Harry Locker was employed at the Waihi redoubt and remembered the officers there . . . Captains Capell, Foster and Marshall. He was sometimes sent to Patea to bank money and in the course of his work he met many Hawera settlers, Messrs Livingston, McMichael, Winks, Goodson, Quinlivan, Douglas, Middlemas and Mrs Shepherd. He knew several carriers Treweek, Spence, Vine, Collins, King, Woller, and Dyer who operated between Patea and Waihi.

SHIPPING

Timber scows operated regularly to Patea bringing in timber. The first regular shipping Co was run by Captain Westrupp and Captain Bennett with the 'Mana' and 'Kiripaka.' They later added the larger 'Kapiti' and 'Arapawa'. A Nelson boat owned by Chris Cross, the 'Waiotapu' called there too.

James 'Baldy' Davidson opened a store in Hawera where news items were displayed as they came to hand. The mail arrived from New Plymouth by means of a coach driven round the beach by a fine Maori nick-named 'Napolean' who came as far as Opunake. Here he was met by Mr Flynn who next day drove his coach round the beach, over the plains and through the ford at Waingongoro to Hawera. The mail was handled by a Mr Kearney at the block house prior to 1872 when Quentin Muir took it over. Mr C. W. Curtis many years ago recalled an accommodation house at Opunake kept by Bartletts, (whose son Jimmy was a well-known Hawera identity). He travelled via 'Harriet's' Beach to Oeo where a Captain Good had another accommodation house.

'Baldy' Davidson later operated deliveries over a wide area of Hawera's outlying districts.

Large mobs of cattle were driven up from the Marton district, crossing the Wanganui River by punt.

FIRST WHITE BABIES

The first white children born in the district are said to have been, Tom Tait, Jenny Livingston, Jim Winks, Steve Adamson and Wally McL'Dowie.

In the late 70s there were said to be 350 men at Waihi under Captain Marshall and Sergeants Riddle and Hattie. The Ohawe military outposts seem to have been mainly under canvas and more temporary.

Normanby township is on the site of the great clearing at Ketemarae. This area was granted to a half-caste, Captain Blake, a well educated military advisor to the armed constabulary who received a grant of about 125 acres. He decided to survey it into sections for a village but had to wait pending the decision of the route for the planned railway line. The line was found to dissect the clearing diagonally forcing a re-arrangement of sections, but leaving many odd shaped ones.

Normanby area was renowned for its excellent heavy timber.

In 1875 the cottage (18ft x 16ft) used as General Chute's headquarters at the Waihi Redoubt, was sold to the Irish Community for a Catholic Church. Their new priest Father Pertuis was due to arrive from France. He proved to be a gentle kindly man who grew flowers, raised white rabbits and was an amateur astronomer. The cottage was used as his home and as a church. A few months after he arrived he started a small school there also. First teachers were Miss Ellen Coakley, Miss Guerin (later

EARLY HAWERA

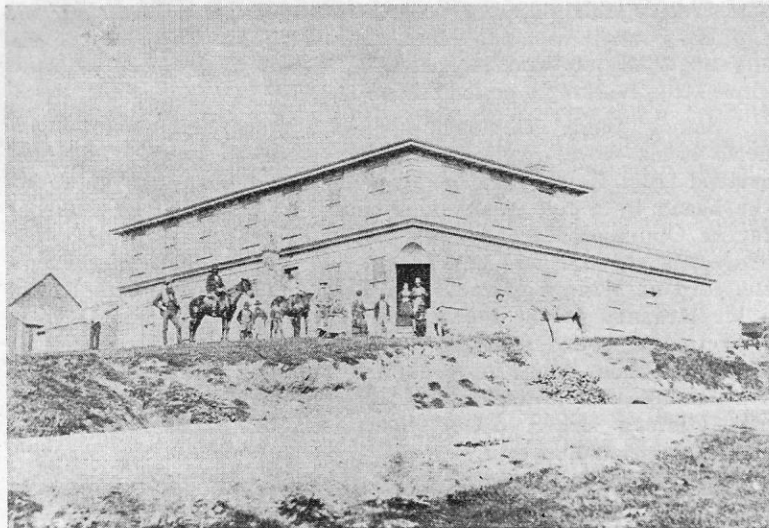


Photo courtesy Mr J. Buttress.

Hawera's first hotel on a rise fronting High Street and the western side of what was later Union Street. It was burned down about 1908 and temperance interests combined to buy the site.



Photograph courtesy Winzenberg Collection Alexander Turnbull Library

Mrs Austin Whittacker of Auckland) Miss Boylan (later Mrs Kirk). In 1902 Mr Finlay bought it and had it shifted by bullock team to part of the Livingston estate at Tokaora which he had bought. In May 1975 it was occupied by his son, Mr Harold Finlay.

In 1873 Mrs Ann Evans, a widow with five children arrived and opened a small store at Waihi redoubt barracks. She was formerly Nurse Clive, and had spent eighteen months with Florence Nightingale during the Crimea War. There was at that time no doctor between Patea and New Plymouth and she was most welcome. One day a party of Maoris called at her home and took her into deep bush to attend a man with pneumonia. From his description she recognised Titokowaru with his blind eye and stern face. She nursed him for several weeks and the Maoris continued to keep her children supplied with food. When the man recovered he gave her a piece of paper which proved to be a one hundred pound note, protesting that his life was worth more than that and she must take it.

TARANAKI FOREST

Away from European settlement Taranaki became well known for the wild pigs which were everywhere and wild peaches which flourished. Moa hunter fires had left coastal Taranaki including Hawera with a cover of flax, fern, tutu and light forest. Auroa was in exceptionally heavy bush — enormous rata, with rimu, pukatea, tawa and totara. Ohangai-Meremere area was in dense forest with fine karaka groves at the Pa. Ararata was in heavy forest of mahoe, pukatea, tawa and rata (mainly firewood grade). Whakamara's heavy forest was renowned for its bird life of pigeons, kakas, tuis and quail. Okaiawa was in rata, matai, tawa and supplejacks while Normanby area provided splendid building timber of matai and white pine, which was used for most of Hawera's building.

CROWN GRANTS

The original Crown Grant record map of Hawera Town shows at the bottom of the map an Education Reserve of over 40 acres fronting South Road. This is the site of our Hawera Main School. The township is laid out in three rows of ten-acre sections. On the left fronting Waihi Road are two larger blocks belonging to the Town Board. The upper one is now the King Edward Park area and the lower is subdivided by Dixon Avenue and other streets.

Original owners of the sections fronting South Road opposite the school section (which runs to a point opposite Waihi Road) are, No 1 James Livingston, (also owned the large Toka-Ora block), No 4 James Mitchell, No 7, John Reid, No 10 Bernard O'Riley, No 13 John Black (Postmaster about 1873), No 16 George Hayward, No 17 Patrick Dowell, No 22 Christopher Dowall, No 25 Adam Ramager, No 28 John Malone, No 31 James Davidson.

Sections above these with a frontage on High Street were owned by: No 2 James McMichael (also owned a block at Tokaora). This section also fronted Disraeli Street though it was not named then. No 5 Michael Lynch, No 8 Alexander Winks (lower left corner High and Victoria Streets), No 11 John Stevenson (opposite corner Victoria Street), No 41 Andrew Middlemas (also had 31 acres on South Road). This section also fronted Princes Street.

The next two blocks ran lengthwise one above the other. The lower, No 18 was owned by Patrick Sweeney, and the upper, No 19, Government owned with 1 acre owned by the Town Board and, including the borough chambers. The right half was known as the Government paddock and is now the water tower grounds. No 23 (fronting Collins Street) Daniel McL'Dowie, No 26 Colin Cameron, No 29 Thomas Malone, (No 29 and No 26 fronted Gladstone Street also un-named then), No 32 George White.

On the upper side of High Street were from left No 3 Lawrence Milmo (also 50 acres Turuturu Road), No 6 George Bamford (also 51 acres on Glover Road), No 9 Charles Tait, No 12 M. John Goodson (also 320 acres Waihi Road, No 15 Thomas Middlemas (also 51 acres South Road). The next two sections in the heart of town also run lengthwise one above the other. Union Street did not exist. No 20 owned by Michael Sweeney lies along High Street from Princes to Collins Street. The left half was early very much subdivided for business premises. No 21 above (fronting what is now Grey Street) was owned by William Douglas. No 24 (fronting Collins Street) Gavin Hamilton, No 27 James Cowper. Sections 30 and 33 were Town Board sections. No 30 was the site of the first hospital and 33 is a cemetery reserve. Naumai Park now spreads across the lower half of both. On the right of town are two Education reserves totalling about 96 acres.

A triangle shaped section 35 (owned by the Town Board) which was the military parade ground faces No 21 with Apex near the present Railway Station. To the left is No 34 John Gore, and to the right another 10 acre Education reserve. Another area of 37 acres on Glover and Waihi Road corner is also an Education Reserve.

The triangle (Glover, Waihi, Turuturu Roads) was H. R. Kearney's 22 acres, Hicks' Park area was Thomas Wilson's 52 acres and above Surrey Street were farm areas belonging to George Bamford, J. Livingston and J. Gore.

Farm owners in the school district included Moore Hunter who owned a large area to the left of Waihi Road, and near the school, Mathew Hayes, Charles Mohr, Mr Keane, Parker Roche, William Evans Dive (beyond the Lakes), Charles J. Hutchinson, William Peck, Thomas Meadowcroft, M. Coonan, A. Lough, John Connolly, J. Denby, Chris Dowall (51 acres behind the second section).

The other side of town were, John Glover, P. F. Hosey, Joseph Perry, A. A. Fantham, W. Airth, Isaac Jones, H. C. Morrison, John Reynolds, John Matson, Hugh Robinson, James Gallagher, G. Grant, George Kendall, W. Moule. Beyond the Tawhiti Stream is the Maori land of the Whareroa Reserve. Farms around Turuturu-mokai bear the names of settlers killed there.

Down South Road (and some pupils came in from Tangahoe) were W. Barnes Rhodes, Robert Wilson, Peter Peterson, Middlemas brothers, Charles Mason, S. Norton, P. B. Cahill, J. Garsed, Ed Shea, D. Bennett, M. J. Stewart, W. Dale, D. McL'Dowie, D. Toohill, D. Mundell, John Merrylees, and Dick Hicks.

Joseph Perry (whose farm is now part of the racecourse lived in the Blockhouse as a single settler in 1870. He said soldiers had 10 years to pay £20 for their town sections. Some used 'dug-outs' for farm dwellings for a start). The Town Board and Reserve Sections were finally approved in 1877.

OTHER NAMES ASSOCIATED WITH EARLY HAWERA

C. E. Gibson, helped drive cattle here from the Marton area about 1869. Mr W. Treweek was a travelling butcher supplying the troops about the same time. Mr William Williams was a blacksmith in the late 60s. Mr Shearer was a butcher and Mr J. Winks a butcher and a baker about 1870. Mr A'Court came to work for William Williams as did J. J. Patterson, who with his brother was orphaned at Frankleigh Road by a Maori attack. He and his brother drove cattle round the beach from New Plymouth. He later became a large land owner.

Mr Quentin Muir and Mr Taplin a baker, had the first general store at the corner of High and Princes Streets very early in the 70s. Mr Burton had a brewery in 1872. Mr Quinlivan had a Public House in 1875. (It was known in 1874 as the "Egmont.") Mr T. Espagne had "The Hawera" in 1872. Mr Furlong had a billiard saloon in 1874. Mr A. Newall who was here in 1874 said Mrs Shepherd, wife of the coach driver had a "grog shop" then, Mr Young was also a Cobb and Co Coach driver about 1872.

Mr Cunningham and Mr D. Hurley ran a boot shop about 1874, and at the same time Dingle Brothers and Messrs Davis and Cole were roading contractors and Mr Cockburn ran a blacksmith's on what was later McGruer Bone's corner. Mr George Syme who built the school came here in 1874 with his family, including a son of the same name. His son recalled country settlers Peterson, Hobbs, Buchanan, Siggs, Gore, Sweeney and others were still actually living in the township at that time. He also remembered Mr Adams (a baker), Mr Suiter (a tailor), Mr Meuli (a saddler) and Mr Osterling (a hairdresser).

Mr Sutton, an early settler, was later mayor, Dr Walker, a Dublin graduate who served with the army lived near Normanby in 1875-76. Mr Rhody Slattery, was a well known coach driver who once owned livery stables in Melbourne. Mr Daniel Hughes

and Mr Martin Coffee were ex-war guides for the armed constabulary. Mr Felix McGuire a prominent citizen later M.P. for the district was a supply contractor to the armed constabulary in the early 70s. Mr James Wallace who worked for him in 1878 said that by then the Blockhouse had fallen into disuse. He recalled that wells and springs supplied the town with water.

Mr Austin J. Whittaker came in the late 70s. He had a drapery opposite the Post Office and a store on the same side. H. G. Pitcher was a watchmaker and jeweller and his brother-in-law Thomas Ecclesfield had a store at this time. Mr W. T. Wells was here in 1879 and said O'Reilly's had the 'Shamrock' Boarding House. Mr A'Court was by then the 'Smithy.' Mr Galvin who founded "The Hawera Star" came in 1880. He remembered three hotels. Arthur Owen occupied the 'Egmont' (where the coaches drew up), the 'Empire' was owned by Tom Lloyd and let, and John Prosser owned the "Railway" (Tom Lloyd was bugler at the Normanby Redoubt. He remembered the bandmaster, Mr Dickson, and said the Normanby Redoubt had a tower so that the Waihi redoubt could be signalled in an emergency.)

The settler Mr A. A. Fantham is credited with importing bumble bees to fertilise the clover for seed production and Mr Partridge bred draught horses.

Mr Percy Smith a historian and surveyor, surveyed Hawera by contract living at "The Round-Bush" and working without trig stations. Mr Northcroft was also a surveyor. Early bank managers were Mr W. G. White who was B.N.Z. agent and is said to have kept the safe under his bed in the top story corner bedroom of Hawera's first hotel. He was manager from 1877 for a very long period. Mr G. V. Bate was manager of Bank of N.S.W.

Morrisey's had a stable in what was later Union Street. Mr Max King was a Draper. Mr Furlong had a store and Perry and Siggs were butchers, as was Mr Nicholas. Mr J. (Saint Jimmy) Bartlett was a carrier in the late 70s (his parents had a well known guest house at Opunake for travellers on the beach route). Also known to have been carriers were Messrs J. Stevenson, C. Tait, D. McL'Dowie, J. Redding, J. Dyer, J. Treweek, Robinson, P. Sweeney and Oakes (possibly the husband of Sarah who had a school in the early 70s.)

Carpenters were Messrs T. Fitzsimmonds, R. Lynch, T. Chetham and T. Robinson. Mr C. Tait married the widow of Captain Vincent Messana who was lost at sea with his coastal kauri trading vessel shortly before the birth of his son A. V. Messana (or Tait). Mrs Messana opened a small school in Dixon Street, Wellington, but after her remarriage the family came to Hawera in 1873.

Mrs Isa Home (pronounced "Hume") was Waverley's first school teacher. Her family rode in to Hawera Main from their uncle's place at Waingongoro. Her son was later famous as a doctor.

By an unusual co-incidence, there were TWO men named WILLIAM DOUGLAS associated with the beginnings of Hawera. No 1 farmed in the Nolantown area on the banks of the Tawhiti Stream. He had a son called William Middlemas Douglas and two daughters, Mrs J. Cowper, and Mrs M. J. Campbell. No 2 lived on South Road and was the grandfather of R. B. and J. C. Douglas. Mr McGowan had a brick kiln by the bridge at Tokaora in 1882.

Other early Hawera names are, Adamson, Smith, Watts, Edwards, Partridge, Elliot, Larcom, Bayly, O'Shea, Malone, Synnott, Hurley, Beamish, Hollard, Roper, Butler, Spratt, Caplen, Brunette, Power, Whitmore, Hawke, Ekdahl, Clarkson, Caverhill, Hitchcock, Boyd, Meredith, Mendelsohn, Duffill and Hunter.

Prominent Maori personalities were Rama, Raha, Ahau (of Otakeho), Hukanui Manaia (of Waiokura Pa), Honi Pihama.

POPULATION

Census figures for the actual town of Hawera are:

March 1874: 257.

March 1878: 377 (plus another 157 in the vicinity).

March 1881: 943 (plus another 49 in the vicinity).

In 1875 the white population of the whole of Taranaki was 4 600.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

8 December 1874. First meeting in the Blockhouse of the Hawera Town Board.

1876. Hawera Road Board formed at a meeting in Davidson's Store, Main Street. (The town Board renamed Main Street, "High Street" and named Princes Street officially in 1878, and most other streets were officially named the following year.)

1881. HAWERA COUNTY COUNCIL became separate from Patea County.

1882. Hawera became a Borough.

THE BEGINNINGS OF EDUCATION

Early New Zealand legislation for education was never put into practice. Fitzroy's 1844 Trust Ordinance provided for the education of native children, but nothing was done, and under Grey's 1847 Ordinance, the Government could have set up schools. However, it was always left to private citizens or church groups to think about schools. As New Zealand was a large area mostly of bush, with small settlements here and there, and communication only by sea, round the shore, or by the bridle track, governments were set up in each district in 1852. We were included in the PROVINCE OF NEW PLYMOUTH. When these small governments were set up, nobody actually decided whether education was their problem or was to be left to the Central Parliament. Unfortunately the Provincial Governments met before Parliament sat and thus began twenty years of struggling

Two Early Views of Hawera



Burton Bros photograph—Alexander Turnbull Library



Photo courtesy of Winzenburg Collection—Alexander Turnbull Library

for power, for the small local authorities, assumed it was their job and began at once. There was mounting public concern over the poor standard of education in many parts of the country, and "the number of uneducated louts roaming our streets" at this time.

AID

The New Plymouth council had a few schools operating round New Plymouth, when the settlers returned after the Maori scares. It offered aid to parents who wished to send any child over five to school. This amounted to 3/9 per quarter for a child under 10 years, whose total fees were 6/6 per quarter. For a child over 10 years they offered 5/- towards his fee of 10/-. To qualify for this aid, schools had to submit to an inspection. Mr Robert Eyton inspected them in 1867 and was horrified. Parents were fraudulently claiming aid for the whole family, but paying only one school fee, as they only sent ONE child to school on any one day, the family taking it in turns. Teachers were also doing dishonest things with the scheme. Many North Taranaki people despised education, teachers were regarded as "nine shillings-a-week-drunks" who would get a better job if they were worth it, and indeed Mr H. R. Richmond publicly said as much in an 1873 speech to the council. Financial hardship caused the low salaries paid. £45 a year was a male teacher's wage in 1869 (only about a third of what was paid in Canterbury where education was valued highly. Accommodation was also a problem. The Midhirst teacher was reported to be sleeping behind a curtain in a corner, and at Bell Block, the teacher was re-employed if he promised not to sleep in the school. Many girls were kept at home, in case they met a fierce Maori on the way to school. A series of meetings was held in Taranaki to gauge public opinion. Many parents thought schools weren't a bad idea if the children could stay at home at harvest and busy times. Many got very annoyed, and said everyone was entitled to an education if he wanted one.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

The council came to grips with the situation in 1868. They passed a new Ordinance turning the "Trustees for Public Reserves" into a "Board Of Education" which was to continue to collect rent from Education-Reserve land and with its other income to set up a Fund. It was given power to form EDUCATION DISTRICTS, to decide who should get aid, and to dismiss teachers. Education was NOT compulsory and teachers could refuse to teach any child who was dirty, diseased or very naughty. To form a District, local people had to get together and have a meeting of HOUSEHOLDERS (meaning any man over the age of twenty). Many young chaps found these meetings a "source of innocent merriment". Three people were to be elected for a SCHOOL COMMITTEE, which was to be fairly powerful. It could strike a rate of not more than £1 per year per household.

(Chimney tax). It could establish a school, appoint a teacher (but not sack him), fix his salary and the school fees, and receive grants of money and equipment from the board.

HAWERA TEACHERS

The first schools in the Hawera district appear to have been at Waihi and the Blockhouse. Mr Kearney of the armed constabulary had an office in the Blockhouse where he attended to the dispatch and receipt of mail, until Mr Quentin Muir took over as post master in 1872. The Blockhouse also housed the armed constabulary library and in this building Mr Kearney gave lessons in the early seventies. William M. Douglas who attended his classes described him as "a grizzled old Indian mutiny veteran", who loved to appear before his pupils wearing all his war medals! Mr Douglas had a school prize dated 1871 signed by Kearney. (Army personnel were often called on for teachers. Many were well educated and they had certainly been to many parts of the world.) Near Waihi military redoubt a school operating in a private house somewhere in the vicinity, had catered for 15 pupils and Miss MacEacharn taught there and received £40 in aid. This was operating in 1874, but a school was later built to serve Ketemarae and Waihi. A Mrs Sarah A. W. Oakes also had a private-house school in a building which later was on the back of Messrs Bennett & Sutton's section. She taught about a dozen, mostly small children, and her school was recognised in 1873. Lessons were also given in two government immigration cottages, one teacher being Mr Thompson in 1874.

FIRST HAWERA SCHOOL COMMITTEE

About 1872 Hawera residents got together and had a Householders' meeting and elected a school committee. The first chairman was Mr Tom Middlemas. This meeting was probably mid-year as later annual meetings were July. The Taranaki Provincial Gazette for May, 1873 (in the Parliamentary Library), records that Sarah A. W. Oakes received for the first quarter of 1873 the sum of £1-15 from the Education Board for the following 14 children for whom the capitation allowance is given. Julia Byrnes, Andrew Middlemas, Robert Middlemas, Jane Middlemas, Ellen Middlemas, Mary Douglas, William Douglas, William Tate, Alfred Tate, Mary Anne Willis, Frederick Long, Florence Oakes, Lilian Oakes, and Percy Hurrell. (A. V. Tait many years later recalled that the north side of High Street was planted in rows of blue gums through which children walked to reach Mrs Oakes' cottage. Schooling cost parents £2 a year, he said, and for the small boy carrying a half sovereign to school each quarter day, it seemed a very great sum indeed. Victoria Street was known as "Tait's Lane" north of High Street and as "Winks' Lane" running south.)

SHORTAGE OF INSPECTORS

When Inspector Eyton left, the Board of Education in New Plymouth was so short of funds that they decided to go out in pairs and do the inspecting themselves. They therefore paired off — Messrs Cutfield and Upjohn — Messrs Crompton and Knight — Messrs Hulk and Gledhill. Their total income for 1872 had only been £330 and they had spent that by paying the secretary £25 and giving £280 in aid and grants.

MR HARKNESS

About 1873 or 1874 Mr Charles Harkness from Wanganui was persuaded by one of the ministers, who covered their large parishes on horse back, to come to Hawera and be a teacher. He became the school master at a salary of £80 and made a good job of it. He had school age children of his own and was a good all-rounder who even took the girls for sewing lessons. However, he was really a chemist and wanted to open his own business. He had spent some time in Africa with the famous missionary "Doctor Livingston". As there was no residence for the teacher, the committee chairman Mr Middlemas wrote to the Colonial secretary in April 1874, pointing out that Hawera did not want to lose a good teacher, and asking if £1 000 could not be set aside from sales of confiscated land for the building of schools and residences in the area.

TWO BOARDS

At this time, Taranaki was divided into two areas under two Education Boards. The area south of the Waingongoro River, which included Hawera, was to be under the Patea Education Board. It was a good thing the area was divided, for many north Taranaki people despised education and were reluctant to be taxed for it. The FIVE members of the Patea Board who were appointed soon after, were —

Chairman: Captain Wray — He had been a surveyor in India and in New Zealand had done surveying work around Hawera in 1866 with Percy Smith and Mr Williams. He had joined the European Contingent and fought at Te Ngutu. He became quartermaster for the Military forces at Carlyle (Patea), staying on as Commissioner of the Peace and Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Mr Tom Middlemas — One of Hawera's original settlers from Nova Scotia. Served as a Lieutenant in the Militia Volunteers.

Mr James Christie — One of the first settlers at Manutahi.

Mr William Furlong — An early Hawera settler and one of our men on Patea County Council.

Mr John Milroy.

Secretary: Mr William Cowern — Provincial Government agent for Patea. He was an early Patea settler, large land owner,

auctioneer and he had regular cattle sales. His salary was £50 for part-time work.

The members of Patea Board lost no time in building schools within months of being appointed. These schools were identical and were built to the "Wellington Plan". The tender of £313 by Mr North was accepted, but the pressure of work and the time limit involved, meant that the actual job was done by his assistant, Mr George Syme. Mr Syme later went into business on his own account. Many years later when his building tools were sold they were bought by Harold Finlay's father who deposited them in the Patea Museum. Patea Board paid quite good salaries. Mr Harkness received £100 in 1874. In 1875 two more members were added to make seven, and bring the two boards of New Plymouth and Patea to the same strength. Mr Robert England of Kakaramaea, farmer, and Mr Donald Coutts were elected.

EDUCATION RESERVES

It was very lucky that Captain Wray was interested in education and was also Commissioner of confiscated lands. He and Mr Middlemas saw to it that the Patea Board was well endowed and in fact better off than most districts. In Hawera alone Education Reserves (Sections 545, 546 and 189) totalling nearly 140 acres were set aside. The "Chimney Tax" brought in £205 in 1875 which means a fairly high rate of collection. In the same year Hawera School "Fees" brought in £26. Their "Dog Tax" also brought in £26 that year. Their income from reserves leased was £376. In 1877 they were able to extract a grant of £3032 from the Colonial Treasury, which was surprisingly large for the size of the area.

ROBERT LEE

The board moved to secure the services of the best inspector they could get, and were fortunate to obtain those of Mr Robert Lee, a big burly man, of the Wellington Board, an outstanding educationalist of his day. It was his idea to have "Half-time" schools where one teacher spent a half day at each of two neighbouring schools. He regarded this as far better than letting one school have a poor teacher all the time. He also introduced the idea of "STANDARD PASSES" which meant that schools were divided into FOUR standards (not six as in later years), which prevented teachers from teaching in a disorganised way. He inspected the Patea area twice and was paid £34-13-0 for his part-time service. He was employed again in 1877 and reported the 282 pupils in six schools progressing, some at Patea had even reached Standard 3.

After six months the Patea Education Board reported and the Provincial Gazette published their report. Hawera, it said had 30 names on the roll but the Blockhouse was "close, ill-ventilated, and very objectionable as a school room." They were confident more children would attend school when the new school was completed.

The Board built schools at Patea, Hawera, Normanby, Manutahi, and Kakaramaea. It also tackled the problem of teacher housing and built quite a few teachers' residences. Mr Harold Hardwick Dyer was the Patea teacher, Miss Corrigan (who wrote for the paper under the name "Helas") was at Manutahi, and Mr Robert Temple Brown who had a cork leg was at Kakaramaea.

By 1875 Mr Dunne was teacher at the Blockhouse in Hawera. He did not have very good health and was only there a short time. He was away, sick, the day Inspector Lee made his second visit. It is said that the Blockhouse was so dimly lit, he had to light a candle to make an entry in the new log book, which he probably brought with him. He wrote —

"This is my second visit to the Hawera School, in the old Blockhouse, without any suitable furniture. The school as on my former visit, is in a primitive state and the results low. There are 29 boys and 19 girls on the books, of whom 19 boys and 11 girls are present. Eleven boys and five girls have passed Standard 1. Five boys have passed Standard 2 and there are no candidates for Standard 3. The new school is being built on a very suitable plan. The new headmaster is not present owing to illness. He has not been in office long enough to produce results. The copybook writing is slovenly and the organisation very unsatisfactory.

SITE

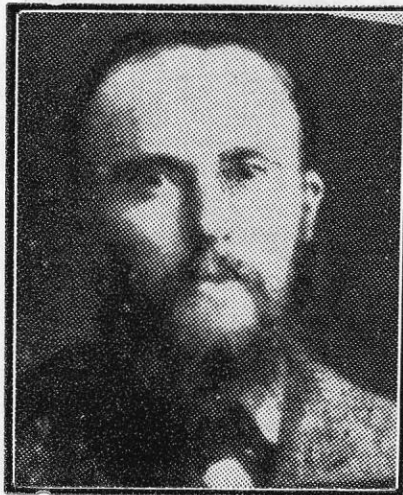
Initially, it is said, local people were divided over the best place for the new school. Some favoured the "Government Pad-dock" now occupied by the Water Tower, some suggested the site now used by the Church of England. The fine pit-sawn timber from Normanby was actually stacked on this site when Mr Middlemas intervened and it was shifted to the South Road. The place finally chosen was way out of town in those days, as there were hardly any houses on that side of High Street. Nevertheless it was a fine large area and the choice was never regretted.

By May 1875 it was completed and HAWERA MAIN SCHOOL was ready to begin its first hundred years.

First Decade 1875-1885



Courtesy of Winzenburg Collection. Alexander Turnbull Library
Princes Street, Hawera about 1880.



Mr Alexander Mair
(Headmaster 1878-1892)



Mr G. Syme,
Builder of the first school

On the first day of the newly built Hawera School, 13 May, 1875, there were about forty pupils present when Mr F. J. Dunne, acting on instructions from chairman, Mr Tom Middlemas, transferred his classes from the Blockhouse to the South Road. Years afterwards, Mr A. V. Tait who was one of them, claimed to have been the first child to enter the new school. It came on to rain quite heavily, he said, just as the children were making their way down the muddy unformed road. They all arrived at school wet, and when the master appeared at the door, they all naturally enough, took it as a signal to enter, and went rushing in excited and boisterous. Mr Dunne, however, bundled them all out again to make a dignified and ceremonious entry.

Mr Dunne may only have been a relieving teacher, at any rate he did not stay long for he was not in the best of health. He was on a salary of £80 a year, which he is said to have received "only in dribs and drabs."

In the middle of winter a bad gale blew down the school chimney only five weeks after the children moved in. The insurance company directed that no fire be lit until such time as the chimney was rebuilt.

The Secretary of the Patea Education Board, Mr Cowern paid a visit to the school six months after it opened and recorded in the log his satisfaction with the lessons given. Mr Dunne left towards the end of the year and a handsome Englishman, Mr Chamberlain had charge for a few months. He was followed by a Mr Thompson, (possibly the man who had pupils a few years before in a Government cottage.) He is remembered as a snuff taking man who had attended a Scottish University. He was in charge for a short time only. It is probable that he was only a relieving teacher.

MR JOHN HARRE

On 26 May, 1876, Mr John Harre began his duties. He is remembered as a good teacher and a good disciplinarian, one who took no nonsense. The well-endowed Patea Education Board was now able to pay at a good rate to get good teachers. When the school had its 25th Jubilee the headmaster at the time, Mr Bates, who was a pupil under Mr Harre, paid him a very warm tribute. "He gave his pupils a wonderful grounding," said Mr Bates. "I personally have him to thank for any success I might have achieved." Looking back on the same occasion, Mr Harre wrote for the "Hawera Star."

Hawera in 1876 was a small settlement with roads metalled only a short distance from the centre of town.

In winter the children had great difficulty in picking their way through the mudholes to school. Attendance naturally suffered. I admired the shrewd local chairman, Tom Middlemas who was also on the Patea Board. He saw to it that the board was well endowed with land at the outset, and this revenue helped to pay what were then considered good salaries of their teachers. While in charge at Hawera I received about £3 a week (£180). We had to be content with one inspection a year, and it was even less in my predecessors' time, for I was third who had charge of the school, Messrs Harkness and Chamberlain preceded me. There were then no organised games in the smaller schools. The big boys played chasing and the smaller ones dug holes in the soft soil near the school. The girls divided their time between skipping ropes and marbles. On wet days pupils were allowed to crowd into the single porch or crawl under the building. There were no shelter sheds. Pupils came from all parts of the district, those from Waingongoro on horseback. Ruby Gore and the Hicks children came from Tangahoe. Only Maoris lived beyond the Tawhiti Stream and it was considered out of the question for them to attend. The curriculum was confined to the three Rs with a little geography and history. (There was quite an outcry when I introduced a little fancy printing and drawing.) In spite of all our drawbacks and there were many, a good foundation was laid, and I understand quite a number of my old pupils have risen to eminence in various professions, law, medicine, the church — and what I consider quite as important, intelligent farmers and tradesmen."

LOG ENTRIES

Early school log books and the first roll have been lost in the fire of 1912 which destroyed records stored in the safe of chairman Mr Bone, in High Street. We are indebted to material quoted in "The Hawera Star" for the following entries.

7 JUNE, 1876. Much inconvenience today. A window in school had to be kept shut because of a smoking chimney.

17 AUGUST. Mr W. M. Douglas appointed a pupil teacher. (He was always a most reliable and helpful lad to each of the teachers from Mr Kearney on.)

NOVEMBER. Visit from Inspector Foulis from New Plymouth. (Of Mr Foulis it is said that he spoke with such a broad Scots accent that children could not understand him and therefore could not pass the exams.)

JANUARY, 1877. A new school has been opened in neighbourhood. The girls' roll has dropped in consequence. (This must have been Miss McCutcheon's Private School for young Ladies' and Gentlemen.)

9 APRIL. Miss Alexander appointed a pupil teacher to replace Mr Douglas.

7 JULY. School closed for two days. Headmaster to attend examination at Patea.

The remaining few log entries refer to the introduction of mental arithmetic and the granting of occasional holidays for such reasons as the Presbyterian Tea Meeting. The roll was increasing steadily.

PATEA COUNTY FORMED

At this time the Provincial Governments were abolished. In their place New Zealand was to have no less than 64 COUNTY COUNCILS. Taranaki was divided into two counties and Hawera was then part of the enormous PATEA COUNTY which extended from the Tangatorua River near Opunake to Waitotara in the south, and as far as Mount Egmont and out to Omoana east of Eltham. At this time, the Patea Education Board was merged with the WANGANUI EDUCATION BOARD. Under the terms of the Act, Mr Cowern said he should have been secretary of the new board, but this was ignored and Mr Brown of Wanganui became secretary to the Wanganui Board.

EDUCATION BECOMES FREE AND COMPULSORY

This was accomplished by the 1877 Education Act. Many big boys and big girls were shocked to discover that not only were they required to go to school, but also that they must stay there until they passed the fourth standard or until they turned 14 for a boy and 13 for a girl. This Act ushered in the "Age of Giants" in N.Z. primary schools, and gave rise to many legendary "Untamable-Big-Boy" stories. The provisions of this Bill were intended to deprive local Education Boards of much of their power and give it to the Government. However, politicians so altered the Act as it went through Parliament that the end result was found to be that central government would have to pay most of the cost, including that of £3.15 per head if attendance was satisfactory, while local boards got more control, including even that of the inspectors.

Shortly after these changes Mr Harre left Hawera towards the end of 1878.

ALEXANDER MAIR

Mr Alexander Mair began his very successful fourteen years at Hawera at the end of 1878. During this period Hawera School achieved a great reputation for sound scholarship, and the headmaster's own reputation as a wonderful teacher grew year by year. It is said that the Wanganui Board's Inspector Mr W. H. Vereker-Bindon never tired of singing the praises of Mr Mair and Hawera School wherever he went. Under him many scholarships were won, and many pupils went on to greater things. He has been described as "a young man of very sterling worth and a very capable quiet teacher." Mr Ritchings Grant who was an assistant teacher at Hawera once wrote:

"Mr Mair was the dearest friend I ever had, the kindest soul, one of nature's gentlemen. In my whole career I never met a man just like him. He was a born educationalist who imbued

those around him with a love of their work, and a desire to do their best under all circumstances. He ruled by love and not by fear and seldom, if ever, resorted to corporal punishment which was unusual in those days."

It is also remembered that Alexander Mair had no sense of humour, or so some people said. The boys once dared Jim Winks to go to school early while Mr Mair was taking his early morning class of scholarship pupils and pupil teachers, and try to make a fool of the head.

In fear and trembling Jim knocked at the door and when Mr Mair opened it he stammered, "Er . . . It's April Fool's Day Sir . . ." "Is it indeed?" said the head and Jim was invited to join the class for a time of silent meditation. On another occasion some boys caught in the act of smoking were marched down to Constable Paddy O'Carroll's Lock-up to see at first-hand where "Baddies" finished up.

THE EIGHTIES

From 1881 the Waimate Plains began to be opened up and Hawera had a steady stream of pupils stopping in Hawera while waiting for their families to provide housing on land in the Manaia area.

In 1882 Hawera became a Borough and the most urgent task facing the new council was seen to be the ploughing, levelling and gravelling of Victoria, Glover and Wilson Streets. A gorse hedge in the middle of one street was to be removed, and a stock watering hole in Glover Road to be fenced in. In short, they thought it was time Hawera lost its wild west look.

Mr Mair's logs are also lost, but the Star files record that they were very neat and beautifully kept. In 1881 Inspector Foulis wrote that the roll had reached 186 and that the committee would shortly need to consider additions to the building. Examination results were:—

- 1880 79 passed out of 83.
- 1881 99 passed out of 103.
- 1882 132 passed out of 140.
- 1883 137 passed out of 138.

SCHOLARSHIPS.—

- 1883 George Home (later Dr Home) top marks. £25 Class C.
- James McFarland top marks Class D.
- 1884 George Home Second place. Class A. £30.
- H. McLeod Second place. Class B. £20.

It is recorded that the truancy inspector, (aptly named Mr Wagstaff), paid his second visit in 1883. In the same year, Mr Foulis wrote in the log:

"The master continues to exercise over this school the profound moral influence which those acquainted

with him would expect. The whole tone and appearance of the school is highly creditable. With the additional school places provided, this school will be able to make more progress than it has ever yet exhibited, notwithstanding its former high character."

Mr Mair used to stand at the school door and vigorously ring a hand bell to call pupils in.

TEACHERS

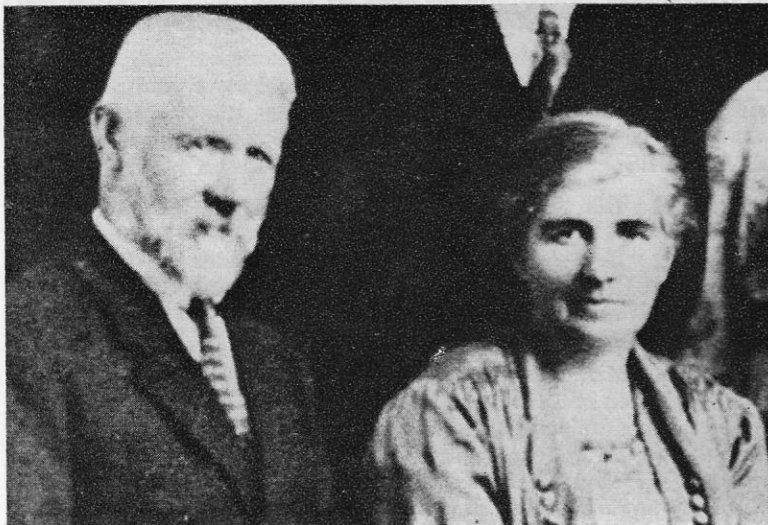
As the roll grew, many pupil teachers and assistants came to help. Apart from Mr W. Douglas, only women teachers assisted during the first decade.— Miss Alexander in 1877, Miss Phillips, 1878, Miss Becky Williams, 1879, Miss Cornfoot, Miss A. Woodhead and Miss Hills in 1880.

Miss Verdon and Miss A. Hobbs came in 1881 and Miss S. Evans and Mrs Horneman came in 1882. Miss Agnes MacLeod was appointed in 1883 and Miss Alice McKay in 1885. Mrs Horneman, the headmistress, stayed for twelve years and she, like Mr Mair, was a strict teacher and very energetic. Miss Cornfoot later married Mr Mair and the story has often been told of a lad, W. Noble, who achieved fame and immortality in the district by throwing an inkwell at the Headmaster's Bride-to-be.

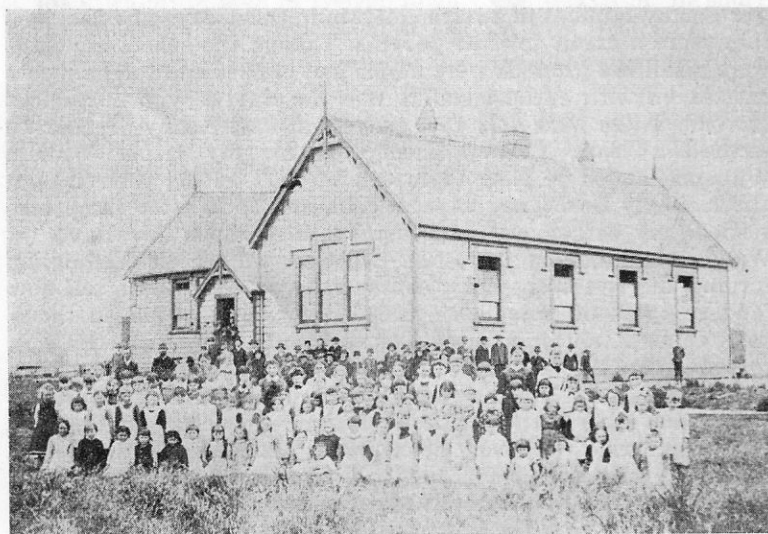
Miss Becky Williams writing many years later about her teaching days at Hawera wrote:

"When I first came to Hawera School, I boarded in Victoria Street and in the winter time that street was so bad that I had to go to school by Princes Street round by the Post Office. There were many families of twelve children in those days and as a rule they were a credit to their parents. Though the school buildings were small the grounds were ample and cricket and football were carried on with enthusiasm. It was the Baylys who introduced football. There were only four players at first but by degrees we secured a team. I knew them well for my father William Williams landed in New Plymouth in 1841 as did their father, Mr T. Bayly Snr. They were friends and soon after they were settled, my father walked from Patea to meet Mr Bayly at Wanganui and from there the two men walked to Wellington, fording the rivers en route." Miss Williams went on to tell how fond she was of horse riding and how young people in those days thought nothing of riding the twenty miles from Hawera to Patea. Parties would go and ride home by moonlight. Trips to New Plymouth via the coast took two days. Her greatest joy was to have her father come up for the weekend and together they would ride the lovely countryside, often visiting the Maori chiefs in their villages. They had ridden out to Livingston's farm at Tokaora the day before the famous raid when the natives began to plough up the lawn in protest at Pakeha land policies.

At the end of this decade, a prize was awarded for the youngest child who walked the greatest distance to school. It was won by Samuel Larcom and Maggie Taylor.



Mr and Mrs J. Harre (Headmaster 1876-1878)



A School Group 1882

A few weeks before the end of the decade the railway line was completed between Manutahi and Hawra, and we were linked by rail with the great outside world.

Though the first register has been lost the second register contains the names and admission numbers of many early pupils whose names were temporarily removed from the roll. This was done because of the strict nature of the truancy laws. If a child was ill or on holiday it was often easier to take him off the roll than cope with the red tape.

It was an easy matter to later readmit him and quote his old number. The following early names are readmissions. 7, John Smith; 27, Margaret Clemow; 30, Richard Smith; 40, Andrew Larcom; 41 Emily Hurley; 45 Esther Ecclesfield; 52, William Nicholas; 63, Bertha Hobbs; 76, James Petersen; 80, Mary Cowper; 81, Fanny McFarland; 83 William Douglas; 94, William McFarland; 96, Ethel George; 98, Florinda McGeoch; 101, Florence Tingey; 102, Ellen Douglas; 103, Bernice Ecclesfield; 106, Alfred Innes; 109, John Hobbs; 135, Millicent George; 133, Sophia Hurley; 138, Christina Cowper; 146, Margaret Boyd; 154, William Shearer; 158, Thomas Fitzsimmonds, also Theodore Fitzsimmonds; 155, Thomas Winks; 213, Mary Synnott; 241, James Way; 253, James Brown; 246, William Dunn; 249, Henry Hughes; 258, David Shearer; 262, Charles Innes; 276, Agnes Clarson; 303, Emily Smith; 304, Bessie Scott; 307, Ella Davis; 308, Etta Davis; 309, Cecilia Davis; 277, Upton Clarson; 312, Henry Fantham; 368, Arthur Beechey; 383, Alex; 384, Jane and 385, Elizabeth Leslie.

NOTES

1878 members of the first Wanganui Education Board were: Hon J. Bruce (the Parihaka hero and member of the House of Representatives), Hon W. Fox (later Sir William, M.R.R. and five times Premier), Mr W. H. Watt (a prominent Wanganui merchant), Mr J. Duthie (head of John Duthie and Co. and later M.H.R. for Wanganui), Rev. J. Ross, Mr W. Williams (father of Mr Dan Williams of Meremere), Mr H. I. Jones, Mr H. Sanson and Mr Dalrymple.

Mrs Oughton (nee Harkness) said that Willy Evans carried the clock on the move from the Blockhouse. Mr Chamberlain, she said, was unfairly dismissed when a girl pupil secreted a bottle of whiskey under the school, and he was blamed.

Second Decade 1885-1895

During this decade the school roll continued to reflect the astonishing growth of Hawera township. Mrs Horneman continued at the school for almost the whole decade. She was in effect the first assistant as no men teachers were appointed until Mr Ritchings-Grant came in 1887. Mr David Syme was appointed a pupil teacher shortly afterwards and in 1888 the staff was, the headmaster, two assistants and three pupil teachers.

SUCCESS

The astonishing scholastic success continued.

1885: The board of Education offered three scholarships. One was awarded to David Syme and Hector McLeod gained sufficient marks to qualify if the board had sufficient funds for a further award.

1886: There were 18 candidates for the Wanganui Scholarship Examination. Margaret MacFarland gained third place on the junior list and won one of the three scholarships. She was the only Hawera entry.

Another year, from 14 entries Hawera took the first three senior places. B. McCarthy, Ethel George and Percy Jackson. (The first two were worth £80, and the third one £40).

1890: Yet again, George McFarland took first place with 89%, Martha Carmichael second with 81.5% and John Ekdahl seventh.

1891: Alex Hunter, Finlay Martin and Charles Thompson qualified for scholarships.

In 1887 Mr Mair wrote in the log towards the end of the year, "I find teaching the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th standards and supervising the other classes too much for my strength," and later, "Headmaster absent for three days on account of illness."

The committee decided it was short of funds in 1888 and the teachers were authorised to collect 6d per quarter per head for pencils and stationery. This was to last for many years and be a sore point with teachers.

By March 1890 the committee apparently had a little money to spare for it started a school library with a nucleus of fifty books. The committee at this time was CHAIRMAN Mr Hutchison (a solicitor), Mr Parkinson (of "The Hawera Star"), Mr Dive (Father of Bradshaw Dive, later an M.P.), Mr Gore (probably of Tongahoe), Mr Jackson (father of Percy), and Mr Sutton and Mr Martin.

For 1890 the log is full of entries.

7 July. Pupil teachers have passed as follows: Esther Ecclesfield, 82.9% (I believe she was later to be Principal of the Girls' College, Wellington), Amy Brunette 66.4%, Isabel Hutchison 67.8%.

OCTOBER: Patrick O'Dea, pupil teacher from Stony Creek visited.

NOVEMBER: George McFarland and Bessie Ecclesfield each received a prize from Head Teacher for highest marks for October.

DECEMBER: Maud Clemoe, Horace Nowell and Alan Wallace obtained good attendance certificates of the first class, and Percy Jackson, Malcolm Brunette, Margaret Carmichael, Lizzie Carmichael and Victor Nowell second class certificates.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

12 December 1890. Visit of the Governor, The Earl of Onslow. The children marched to the Council Chambers and sang the National Anthem, being thanked by His Excellency.

16 January 1891. The Hon R. J. Seddon visited the school today in company with school committee chairman. He granted TWO WHOLE HOLIDAYS.

March. A holiday for the Normanby Horticultural Show. Prizes at the show, **Mapping**, G. McFarland 1st, F. Martin 2nd. **Writing**, Rhoda Syme 2nd.

"Mr Alec Mathison and Mrs Horneman away on account of illness."

"Pupil . . . expelled. Mr H. Caplen solicitor, has written saying that the proceedings of the committee which expelled the boy are irregular. (This is the usual legal device). Mr Caplen had to do something for his client. However as the boy is not attending, no further action is necessary."

SCHOOL COMMITTEE 1891: Messrs J. F. Martin, Sutton, M. Hunter, W. Jackson, Dive, Robbins and Rev Griffin.

8 MAY. Prizes won at the **Taranaki Jubilee Exhibition**.

MAPPING Standard 6. George McFarland H.C., Finlay Martin 1st.

WRITING Standard 6. A. Hunter and F. Martin 1st equal.

WRITING Standard 7. P. Jackson 1st, M. Carmichael 2nd, A. Adamson 3rd.

WRITING Standard 5. M. Burnette 1st.

WRITING Standard 3. E. Wallace 1st, M. Carmichael 3rd.

JUNE 1891 Staff: Mr Mair, Mrs Horneman, Mr Matheson, Miss Brunette, Miss Hutchison, and Miss Ecclesfield.

AUGUST. Senior scholarship won by A. Hunter.

SEPTEMBER: Prizes for highest marks in August go to Emily George and Fred Synnott in Standard 6, Julius Mendleson and Margaret Dive Standard 5.

Singing lessons: "The Old Black Cat" and 'A Happy Family We'.

1892. Punished A. Wallace, H. Hansen and Awatapu Teari. Four strokes each for fighting in the playground.

FEBRUARY. First Class Attendance Certificates: Julius Mendelsohn, Fred Jackson, Emily Whittington, Edith Whittington, Allan Wallace, William George, and Pearl Brown. SECOND CLASS: Ida Mendelsohn, Agnes Mair, David Wallace, Moses Bernard, Lizzie Carmichael, Alice Cole, Robert Carmichael.

1892 COMMITTEE

Messrs: Martin, Brunette, Fairs, Hutchison, Jackson, Parkinson, Sutton, Whittington and Veats.

27 MAY, 1892. Mr Mair wrote, "Forwarded my resignation to board and to committee."

30 JUNE: "Headmaster left school today."

Mr Matheson took charge of the school for three weeks until Mr E. C. M. Harrison arrived. He proved the same kind of man as Mair and followed on with the same thoroughness. His slogan was "MEN FIRST . . . SCHOLARS NEXT". His philosophy was to teach boys first of all to be manly and then to be scholars. He placed less emphasis on academic achievement than Mr Mair had done. Many years later, one of his staff at Hawera said, "Mr Harrison was a fine type of man . . . an old English gentleman, who had a great influence on the character of the boys and girls at the school. An old pupil once said to me, "He always reminded me of the great schoolmaster, Arnold. It was a great shame to tell Harrison a lie, for he always believed you." During 1892 a severe and protracted illness hit the school which remained closed for thirteen weeks. The roll was up to 363 by the start of 1893. August saw another epidemic, this time measles and 214 children were absent.

MR C. H. WARDEN

Mr C. H. Warden joined the staff in April, 1893, and stayed for five years. He was fresh from Otago University and Training College and after the stern Otago heads he found Mr Harrison a refreshing surprise. He immediately saw the teaching of children from a much more attractive viewpoint. Mr Parkinson who had become SC Chairman, extended a very kind welcome to him.

Mr Warden once said Mr Harrison must have been 50 years ahead of his time. A teacher out to cram facts into the large boys then compulsorily attending school was in for a hard time. A teacher who looked at them and saw developing and interesting boys and girls had a much happier philosophy.

Mr Harrison asked Mr Warden to organise playground attractions to give the older pupils more to interest them at school. Bigger pupils like Leo Espagne and George Hobbs came to his assistance and Jean Lambie emerged as a leader among the girls. Drill displays concerts and other activities were quickly organised and teacher-student relationships

were considerably improved. Before Mr Warden came the children had taken part in an exhibition in aid of the Hawera Hospital. They provided tableaux and decorated groups. Mr A. Tompkins was also on the staff at about this time. Mr Warden was keenly interested in cricket, football and music. He played for Star Cricket Club, was secretary of the T.R.U. and took part in the Hawera Operatic and Dramatic Society productions.

Miss E. Low was a teacher about 1887 and in the same year a report of the school concert especially mentions a young staff member Robert Law (later a Kaponga headmaster), who sang a solo, "The Bells". Miss Isobel Hutchison was appointed in 1888.

OLD PHOTO

A class photo of 1890 has the caption: Percy Jackson (teacher), Geo Hobbs, W. Ogle, Geo Larcom, Sam Larcom, Geo Ogle, Ted Fantham, A. Castle, Ashley Jackson, Wm Styles, James Cowper, R. Castle, Horace Nowell, J. Hunter, Dew Caplen, Ed Swinburn, V. Bashford, Hector Beamish, Chas Clements, Major Whiting, J. Mendelson, T. Coffey, G. Clout, A. Sutton, Alf Barley.

As this decade closed Mr Harrison was finding that others did not share his view of life and were making life rather uneasy for him.

Mr Harrison was preparing to offer his resignation.

NOTES

Mrs Watts (nee Ida Smith), is an ex-pupil who was born during the first decade and began school in the second. When we visited her in New Plymouth recently we found she still remembered her school days well. Classes were small in those days and she remembered Miss Brunette and Miss Hutchison best. Miss Brunette was there for many years and was much loved by the children, she recalled:

As we celebrated our centenary Mrs Watts is 93.

The syllabus at this time was pretty rigid and overloaded. Inspectors came to examine EVERY child in EVERY subject. Teachers were evaluated in "Percentage of Passes". In 1894 teachers were given the right to promote children up to Standard 1 and 2 without asking the inspectors. This right was extended to Standard 5 pupils four years later.

The boys and girls of Mr Mair's time looked forward each year to a remark of his which was a hardy annual. "Now boys and girls, it's ONLY SIX WEEKS to the exam."

It is said that a certain little girl of this decade hated history so much that she once swung on the swings all lunch hour until she was too sick to go indoors for history in the afternoon.

The school had no piano in Mr Mair's time. He taught singing by the Tonic sol-fa method getting his starting note from a tuning fork which he put between his teeth and hummed "Doh, me soh, doh."

The story is told of Guy Livingston (Uncle of the present Guy Livingston), who won the most popular boy award. Guy was bigger than most and was frequently called on for justice if the smaller fry were molested or bullied. He was a hero to the boys, especially when he head called him out and strapped him with no visible result. Finally the head remarked, "Go to your seat Livingston. I won't waste any more energy on you."

Henry Babbage and Bertha Dixon also won scholarships during this decade.

A writer, visiting Taranaki on a tour of the country writing his impressions for the Auckland Weekly News, about 1890 wrote:

"The stranger when he first beholds the mountain," will scarcely suspect that Egmont is a vast beehive, that this great stretch of apparently unbroken forest forming its base, is honeycombed with clearings, some of considerable extent. What he is apt to fancy a wilderness of solitude is alive with thousands of human beings and their flocks and herds, dozens of towns, scores of public houses and churches. Indeed there is said to be more open land inside the bush than on the plains outside it."

Third Decade 1895 - 1905

In October, 1895, headmaster Mr E. C. M. Harrison resigned. Everyone was sorry to lose him. He was such a gentleman with his quiet English ways. He seems always to have expected the best from everyone and quite naturally, he usually got it. Someone said, "It's a shame to tell him a lie, because he believed nothing but good in everyone." After he left, the first assistant, Mr C. H. Warden was in charge.

CONRAD STRACK

When the first quarter of 1896 began, Mr Conrad Strack was in the headmaster's office and a new era was upon the school. He was an Australian who had come from Pleasant Point and had a school age family. Taia was in Standard 5, Con was 8, in Standard 3, George was 6, in Standard 1 and Riti was almost 5. At home were sons Fritz, aged 4 and Karl, aged 2. Mr and Mrs Strack were Christian folk who stood firmly for their convictions. They linked up with the Wesleyan congregation and made many friends. He soon became known as a person not to be trifled with. Any child who stooped to "telling a falsehood" knew what to expect and those who played truant could expect to have big boys sent to bring them at bell times. Mrs Strack became almost the school matron and was always ready to render first aid in the school house.

Teachers and especially the young cadets and pupil teachers, found there was to be no slacking. Cadets were young teachers who had passed the exam for the sixth standard. A little further up the ladder they became pupil teachers, but they still were on the admission register as scholars. Mr. Strack took their higher education and their teacher training very seriously indeed. He devoted a lot of time to their classes and to giving special lessons for them to observe and having them give lessons for his comments.

When they failed to do their homework or disobeyed his instructions or in any way disappointed him, he wrote it down in the log book.

The period of almost thirty years under Mr Strack is the best documented period of the school's century. His log books give a fascinating insight into the life and trials and the joys of a conscientious headmaster, with the highest ideals, who gave of himself unstintingly, who expected others to be similarly motivated and who dedicated himself to turning out good citizens with a sound education.

When Mr Strack came, the school had five rooms. A new room for the infants was added during 1899. At the end of 1902 the new building was opened. It had a large central hall so

familiar to hundreds of us. A large fire place did its best to warm the place in winter. The school-house (the second), was new, the old one being shifted to the other end of the block.

Conrad Strack gave the school its motto, "Whaia te matau ranga", or "Aim for the highest".

Some parents and committee-men regarded Mr Strack as being all powerful. Others refused to allow themselves to feel intimidated and adopted a curt "Who-does-he-think-he-is?" attitude. Ill-mannered or high-handed requests were quite likely to be ignored while simple complaints resulted in the head spending many hours of painstaking investigation in order that justice might be done.

SYLLABUS

It had been said that the primary syllabus of 1900 contained double that of 1925. In fact, the huge amount required to be learnt and the requirements of the dreaded annual inspector's exam had a stranglehold on the whole school system. Teachers and schools were judged on their percentage of passes at these exams. The number of teachers allowed for a school depended on the average attendance. The result was a foregone conclusion. Teachers HAD to work towards exams and truancy HAD to be severely discouraged. The Wednesday half holiday caused problems here when seniors were kept home to mind the house while parents had a break.

OUTSIDE INTERESTS

In the late 90s the headmaster encouraged outside interests. A football club was formed and when a track was opened up to Dawson Falls, a Tourist Club was started with the aim of visiting Egmont. The day after the Easter holidays, Mr Strack was called to the inquest of Mr McGeoch and Mr Beaumont who lost their lives on Egmont. The Tourist Club boys attended the funeral and placed a mountain wreath on each grave.

A system of monthly competitions was started and Mr Strack bought the prizes. In April '98 it was kites and dolls. Another time it was pincushions and boats. School flower shows were held and as many as a hundred visitors would come. A sunflower competition drew 50 entries. Nina Dowling had the largest bloom, Karl Strack had the most blooms on a stalk, twenty. Charlie Ogle had the largest seed head at 19 inches across, closely followed by John Thompson with a 17 inch seed head.

SUNSTROKE

When the first quarter of each year began, there was concern lest the children got sunstroke, a sickness often reported in the colony and said to be fatal. Mr Strack decreed that girls MUST wear hats outdoors and had the big boys trim low branches off the trees so that the little ones could play under the trees in the shade. There seems to have been a lot of sickness

amongst the staff, both Mr Strack and a lady teacher going down with measles, one year.

WINTER

When winter came, Mr Finlay kindly cut firewood for the school and the big boys stacked it under the building. Teachers had instructions to make sure the fires were going well before 9.30 a.m. opening time, but to let them die out after 2 p.m. Four inches of snow fell one winter day, which was rare for the town, and one hail storm at 9.15 a.m. caught children on the way, so that they arrived in distress with the cold. However, Mrs Strack made a bucket of hot cocoa which saved the day. The rooms in winter were often hot and stuffy, and worse still, smokey. The log mentions people "slightly fainting" from the effects of the atmosphere at times. "One o'clock days" were observed if the weather was bad or the attendance under half.

INSPECTORS AND EXAMS

The high point of every year was the October visit of the examining inspectors. It mattered desperately. The committee granted a holiday after it was all over and the results were published in the papers. Great was Mr Strack's annoyance when the results were published, one year, TWO DAYS before he received them himself.

Following the joyful, or otherwise, news, there was a great day of moving desks, promoting the successful and calling on teachers to account for their low pass rates.

With this great move around, the whole school began on the new year's work. Yes! In October!

In the log is written, "The annual exam can be passed by fairly intelligent children only by regular attendance and conscientious work by teacher and taught. I note, that after the exam date has been published, some parents send back to school, children who have been absent a long time. They seem to think the exam is a kind of lottery in which each has an equal chance of winning."

When one of the Hawkins boys, who had been attending the convent for a year, turned up at school only a fortnight before the exams, Mr Strack sent him home to tell his father to come and see him. He confided to his log, "I consider it unfair to both schools for him to come here now. 'I have an idea that the boy was NOT sent here by his parents.)' However, Mr Hawkins saw the light and agreed to keep the boy from starting until after the exams. On the day before the exams.—"Desks were cleaned, grounds were cleared. Books, papers, etc.. were all arranged in order of schedules. Spoke to all scholars re the examination. Urged all to be honest."

HIGHLIGHTS

The highlights of the decade were.— The Boer War, the death of Queen Victoria, the Governor-General's visit, the arrival

of the flagpole and the school's becoming a district High School.

The great events of the war were suitably celebrated. When news arrived that Ladysmith had been relieved, the combined schools marched through the streets and sang "Soldiers of the Queen", then they all marched back to Whittaker's paddock opposite the school. Speeches were made by Mr Strack and the new committee chairman, Mr Sargent. The Reverend Father Power provided cake, fruit, nuts and sweets for the children. When our troops at Mafeking were relieved after a long siege the firebell announced the news. Cheers were given in each room and scholars were dismissed for half an hour "to enable them to give vent to the exuberance of their patriotic feeling." At 12.30, Hawera and Convent scholars joined for a march through town. Speeches this time were from the local Member of the House of Representatives, Mr Felix McGuire and the Mayor, Mr E. Major.

When the Governor, Lord Ranfurly and his lady visited the school it was a very proud occasion. The hall was beautifully decorated and a fine archway constructed. Special photographs were taken to be presented to the Governor. On the great day, the Governor, Lady Ranfurly and his suite arrived at 10.15 a.m. The senior boys formed a guard of honour from the gateway to the door. Harold Finlay still has a photo of himself, as a small boy, in a velvet suit, his hair in ringlets. He was chosen to be the one to present Lady Ranfurly with a bouquet.

THE FLAGPOLE

The school acquired its well known flag pole in 1902. It was made from the mast and spankerboom of the barque "Lizzie Bell" which was wrecked on Oeo Beach. (The Stevenson family care for the graves of the 12 seamen lost, 24 July, 1901, in a little cemetery off Puketapu Road, Pihama.) Mr Strack was responsible for collecting funds to have the mast and the ship's bell erected at the school. Harold Finlay recalls that it was brought in by bullock dray and Mr Grant, later of Ararata, trimmed and joined them. The base was enclosed in a galvanised iron cover and sunk about six feet. The stays were steel cables from the ship. Mr Strack recorded the height as being 73ft 2½ inches, the highest in the colony. (Some people thought it looked higher than that.) When the flag rope broke, a sailor climbed up and renewed the rope. The school had a good bugle band in those days and on special days the school gathered round the flagpole and saluted the flag, he said.

Horace White, now of Whangarei, remembers how the flagpole lay on the ground waiting to be erected. He put his books under it and joined the other boys in running along it. When he went to retrieve his books, they had gone. Some zealous child had taken them to his teacher and he got two of the best for carelessness.

Horace lived along the main South Road, near where the Waihi Stream crosses it. His parents had a milk run and he used

to help in the early morning. He remembers his first day at school. While his mother was talking to Mr Strack and enrolling him he wandered away and pulled the bell-pull, giving the children and unexpected early playtime.

THE DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

When the school became a District High School in 1901, Mr Strack began to sign the log book "C.A.S. Rector".

The creation of the D.H.S. meant much extra work for the Rector. Twenty scholars enrolled for the secondary department straight away and the number steadily grew. He discussed the Class 7 syllabus with Inspector Vereker Bindon who said he would be satisfied with the following work.— All the algebra as per regulation, sixteen propositions of Euclid and half the Latin as per regulation. He found his time very full with them and in giving object lessons for the cadet teachers and observing their special lessons. Before the inspectors came in '01 he examined his 50 secondary scholars in Latin, French, algebra, Euclid, English, arithmetic and comprehension.

RUGBY

In the winter of 1900, football fever was about. When the great North v South match was coming up a system was devised to allow the senior boys to see the game without having to play truant. The classes were called in early and let out late and playtimes were dispensed with for several days before, to make up time. However, for the Wellington v Taranaki match the following month the school committee decided to be difficult and refused permission for scholars to be dismissed at 2.30 pm. Nevertheless the log records that the big boys got out at 3 pm and the rest at 3.20 pm.

THE CADET CORPS

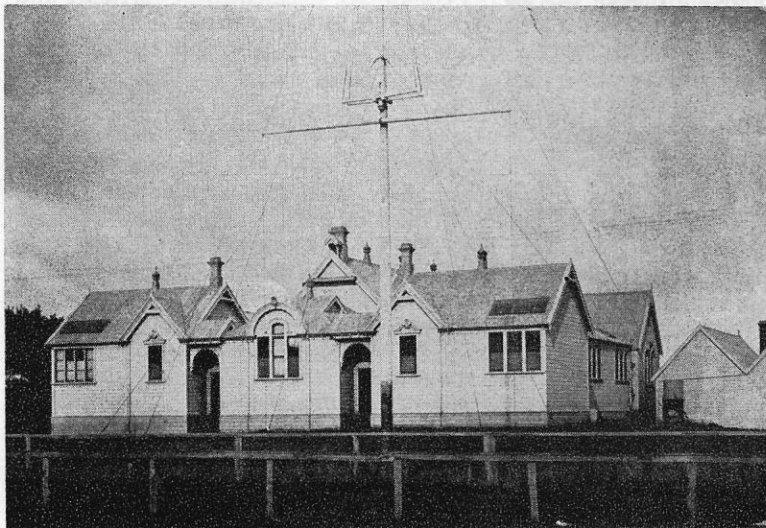
A very well remembered event of 1901 was the trip to Christchurch for the school cadets. Members of the cadet corps in secondary schools were invited to parade either at Auckland or Christchurch before HRH Duke of Cornwall and York, who later said how impressed he had been with the colony's splendid fighting material and the promise shown by the cadet corp. The Hawera group were certainly enthusiastic for 54 boys had been practising twice daily. The trip was regarded as an educational opportunity as well.

SEDDON'S INFLUENCE

In the years 1901-1904 the rigid school system began to undergo a change largely thanks to "King" Dick Seddon who became Prime Minister and Minister of Education. The Public School Teachers' Salaries Act established a colonial scale of staffing and salaries and provided for the Education Department to pay to each board the exact amount for salaries due. This left a much reduced capitation allowance for boards to spend and



An early school group about 1907.



School about 1905

Cyril Murch photo

strengthened the department. The system was still cramped by the proficiency exam but free post primary education was on the way. Richard Seddon visited Hawera for the 1904 Industrial Exhibition, the same year in which Hawera was lit for the first time by the Electric Light Company. (The seventh town in New Zealand to have the pleasure.)

Mr Strack frequently "Spoke to the teachers," as he put it. At these meetings he evidently laid down the law on almost every subject. "Re-keeping strictly to timetable"; "Re-leaving large fires in the afternoon"; Re-getting pens, nibs, ink, etc., ready BEFORE school"; "Re-taking sides in the quarrel which developed in front of a sewing class between Miss Brunette and the pupil teacher Miss McDonogh"; "Re-finding 25 scholars in room 5 with no slate rags and 10 with no rubbers."

A couple of the Wanganui Education Board's circulars have survived. One dated 1901 forbids the use of cane or stick in the schools under the board. Straps will be provided, it says, and they shall not be more than 25 inches long, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide and 4oz in weight.

A memorandum of 1900 asks for sizes of classrooms and is filled in as follows.— Room 5 (infant room), 59 x 28; Room 1, 26 x 19; Room 2, 24 x 19; Room 3, 26 x 22; Room 4, 19 x 24; Room 6, 26 x 28; model school, 18 x 19. The model room was arranged to relieve overcrowding and to give the pupil teachers experience in managing country schools.

TRUANCY

The truancy regulations were so strict that children who took ill were often removed from the roll till they recovered. Weekly returns of absentees had to be sent and the chairman of the school committee had to be asked to grant an exemption for illness or other reasons. On the return for 9 February, 1900, Mr Strack had written, "Must I report cases where the cause of absence is satisfactorily explained? The general attendance has greatly improved since the last court cases."

Notes from irate parents were also in the log book. "Dear Mr Strack", says one, "I am sorry to have to write to you about the matter, but once and for all, I forbid the use of the stick or strap by you or your subordinates on my children. You are quite aware of my views in this matter and I trust I shall not have the necessity to make a committee matter of it and failing that, a board issue. I am etc. Thomas Dowling."

EXTRACTS FROM LOG BOOK

Staff, January, 1896. C. A. Strack, headmaster; Miss Brunette, mistress; C. H. Warden, 1st assistant; Miss Chapple, 2nd assistant; Miss McDonogh, junior assistant; Mr Lyall, senior pupil teacher; Miss Synott, pupil teacher; Mr Gabites, pupil teacher; Miss Spence, cadet; Miss Whittington, cadet.

"Gave a model lesson on subtraction (method of decomposition) for benefit of cadets."

"Took charge of infant room. Gave object lesson on a "Chair". Mr Gabites is proving himself an excellent student and a good teacher."

"Senior boys cleared wire from the girls' playground and mended a gate. Relieving teacher, Mr Bates left. Gave him instruction for half an hour on how to manage several classes at once. Showed Mr Lyall how to correct homework."

"The boy Dabinett in class 6 did a thoughtless and dangerous act today. He brought an old rolled up piece of lead bound with wire to serve the purpose of a cannon. He charged it with powder and shot and then fired it against a tree. The pellets struck the tree, the cannon burst, fortunately towards the ground. A score of little ones were standing near. I heard the report and rushed to the scene. I gave the boy ten strokes with the strap for his idiotic act and confiscated the cannon."

"Mr Kemp and Mrs Gomer complained about Mr Warden's punishment of their boys. I examined the boy Kemp's arm and it is badly discoloured."

"Warned juniors against playing with horses in the yard" and later "and re-interfering with lunch bags on saddles."

"After 3 p.m. a gentleman entertained with a phonograph-gramophone. Several of the scholars recited into the instrument and the record was produced very nicely."

"21.4.98. Mr Wright, a member of the Auckland Education Board visited. He mentioned that nearly all large schools in Auckland have an office for the headmaster."

"Mr Lyall reported a boy for writing bad language on his slate and passing it to another. I investigated. The boy admitted it. I gave him five strokes on each hand and two on the legs."

"Punished Lorf Barraclough (six strokes), for leaving school at 11 a.m. He is an old offender in this respect."

"Gave special lesson on subjunctive mood to 5 and 6. Douglas Day is making good progress in Euclid. He can manage three propositions in a week. Cadet Reuben Lightbourne joined staff."

"Cadet Herbert Gabites commenced duty. Cadets Fred Gabites and Emily Whittington passed their exams. Teachers presented Emily with a gold brooch as she is going to Te Roti."

"Senior boys prepared ground and on Arbour Day 1200 shrubs and cuttings were planted by scholars and staff."

"Took class for geography to show Miss Chapple how to arouse and endeavour to sustain the mental alertness of pupils. Bare repetition is drudgery for pupils and teachers."

"Spoke to boys re playing hockey. A dangerous game. Mr Hawkins brought his two boys to school and suggested they be watched for truancy."

"Punished three boys for fighting on the road home from school and six big boys for 'watching'."

"Three scholars sat for scholarships, Taia Strack, Daisy Barnard and Percy Bamford. Several cases of measles. Tied pump handle as water was not particularly good. Well needs cleaning. Reported it to chairman."

"Word received, Taia Strack took second place, Percy Bamford third place."

"1899. Mr Roger Maunder from Matapu joined staff. (A cadet aged nearly 15.) Scholarship pupil Percy Bamford left for Wanganui Boys' College. (Ka pai te tamati Bamford.) Taia Strack left for Wanganui Girls' School. (Ka nui taku aroha ke te Taia.)

"Gave an object lesson on the tomato. Cadet Maunder came again with unsatisfactory homework. His writing is shocking and he does not complete the work."

"The kindergarten equipment arrived and the small ones love to use it every day."

"Committee decided to make an 8ft path all round the school and asphalt it."

"Splendid end of year concert raised £27. Dux girl, Amy Beamish. Dux boy, Eddie Sargent. **SCHOLARSHIP RESULTS.** Roy Dive 72.6% topped boys' list, Amy Beamish 71%, G. Parkinson 69%, Eddie Sargent 68%, Elsie Barnard 65.1%."

"1900. Miss Cunningham, junior assistant, Miss Gordon junior assistant. New school committee is Mr Chas Sargent, Messrs Dive, Whittington, Barraclough, J. Hicks, E. Dixon, Fake, Sutton and Pacey. Mr B. C. Robbins retired after 5 years as chairman."

"July 11. 400 children present for the first time."

"Attended funerals of Mr Mills, Mrs Muir and Mr Grant, several of whose children come to this school."

"A man showed cinematograph pictures as an entertainment for school funds."

"Had 100 merit certificates printed. The dux of each class will have his framed. Gave final instructions to scholarship pupils before their exams. (Ivy Hudson should do well. Con Strack and Hilda Spence nearly qualify and Edith Caplen may gain 50%."

"Mended floor of Standard 1 and 2 rooms. Drew attention of committee to unworkable state of school pump. Gave them an estimate of £8 to lay water on to boys and girls toilets. Punished the boy McAnemy for truancy. The boy had run away to New Plymouth for four days because he could not stand school."

"Admission of Waldo Steven brings roll to 500. Parallel and horizontal bars bought."

"Drew Miss Gordon's attention to the fact that her punishment of six strokes amounts to insubordination."

"If Miss Whittington disobeys again, in the breach of school rules re lending of pens, I shall have no alternative but to report

her for insubordination. Spent hours inquiring into case of small girl who told her mother she had been "whacked" at school. It was a falsehood."

"The boy Joe Fake had a nasty accident . . . with iron hoops. Cut his leg to the bone. Mrs Strack bathed it with antiseptic. We then drew the wound together with sticking plaster and bandaged the leg. (A few weeks after his return to school he had a similar accident to his other leg. This time the Strack's had some difficulty in drawing the wound together.)"

After the three weeks holiday in June, the school was re-organised in the light of the report of the inspector's surprise visit.

1901. Senior exams. Roy Dive top, 78%, Violet Wilson 76%; junior, Leo Spratt 62%, George Strack 60%.

1902. Classes still overcrowded. Board architect promises to hurry plans along.

July 1902. "Allowed school out early today in honour of the birth of my fifth son." (On Friday morning my little boy died. Teachers and scholars showed their sincere sympathy.)"

September. "Carpenters began on new rooms. Spoke to building supervisor re wooden floor in new central hall being very rowdy. Fifteen men working here. They complimented me on the behaviour of the children they had observed."

"I observed closely myself over several weeks and there is very little bad language. Had children measure new rooms and calculate paint required. I'm convinced we don't give enough attention to "everyday sums". We are planning an industrial exhibition instead of a concert."

New building open. I must help Miss Henn and Miss Synnott. (Pupil teachers.) They have sixty pupils each."

Dux boy, Arnold Thompson (later to become a lawyer), Con Strack 2. Dux girl, Gerty Glann, Verona Hunger 2.

Staff: C. A. Strack, Rector; Miss Brunette (until 1903); Mr Payne, first assistant; Miss Aris, second assistant; M. Niven, High Schol special assistant; Mr Blythe third assistant; Miss Ecclesfield fourth assistant. Pupil teachers.— Miss Gabites, Miss Whittington, Miss Henn and Miss Synott. During 1902 the following pupil teachers joined the staff, Violet Wilson, Amy Fake and Master Rupert Baker.

REMINISCENCES

Mr T. A. Blythe, third assistant 1902-3, wrote at the time of the 50th jubilee.— "The years spent on the staff were the most enjoyable of my life. Looking back the brightest scholar I taught was Frank Hutchens. The nicest girl, of a very nice lot, probably Alison Young. Queenie Glen was the fastest runner and the best hockey player. Eva Baird was good at games and became a Dominion tennis champion. Dick Roberts was a promising football player, (afterwards playing for New Zealand). Charles

A'Court, who later drowned, was also a promising footballer. The town baths opened in 1902 and we began swimming instruction there in 1903. I think the first boy I taught to swim was Jack Grant, a good swimmer and a good soldier. (Later to win the Victoria Cross in the 1914-18 war.)

FRANK and WILL HUTCHENS. Mr Hutchens senr. was the Methodist choir-master and taught his two sons music. Will became the conductor of the 3YA orchestra in Christchurch and was a well known violinist and singer. Frank was considered a child prodigy, for at the age of ten, he was the Methodist organist. Taking his courage in both hands, this ten-year-old travelled alone to Wellington and knocked on the door of Prime Minister Dick Seddon before breakfast. He talked with him and asked him to introduce him to the visiting Polish Prime Minister, the famous pianist, Paderewski. This "King" Dick was delighted to do. The great Paderewski agreed to audition the boy and on his advice, Frank went to England to study at the Royal Academy of Music, at eleven years of age. He was sub-professor at 16 years of age and won many awards. For fifty years he held the post of Professor of Music, in Australia, at the New South Wales Conservatorium of Music. He was awarded the OBE for services to music. In spite of all his success, Frank remained a very kindly warm-hearted man. He always felt very fond of Hawera, his home town. He composed a song especially for the borough jubilee celebrations. He died in a car accident in Sydney at the age of 73, in 1965. Mr Will Hutchens wrote in 1950.— "My mind goes back to the years when I received such good schooling from Mr Strack, Mr Warden, Mr Payne and others. I have met oldtimers in various parts of the world and one and all spoke in affectionate terms of their old school."

Cyril Burton, Wellington, writes: "Miss Janet McLeod was the sole secondary teacher for my first one or two years in that department. She lived with the Robertson family on South Road and was later on the staff of Dunedin Teachers' College. Eddie Sargent of the firm of Barrie & Sargent, Opticians, Wellington, is still my optician, although well into his eighties."

In 1904 Mr Strack organised continuation classes in short-hand and book-keeping. He received no payment and there was no loss to the Education Board. 20 to 25 pupils took advantage of these classes.

In 1905 he again organised, supervised and helped to conduct classes in woodwork, sewing, chemistry, English, commerce, arithmetic, book-keeping and Latin. 90 pupils attended. Mr Strack and others were paid £10. There was no loss to the board.

These classes were what was actually wanted by the young people and were of value to them. The teachers were poorly paid but the Education Board did not give any support.

Fourth Decade 1905 - 1915



Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Strack and family (Headmaster 1896-1924)
about 1910, from left, Fritz, George, Con, Karl,
sitting: Taia, Mrs and Mr Strack, Riti.



A group of young teachers at Hawera
Robina (Sissie) Tait, Riti Strack, Alice Mills.
Front row: Norah Roche, Winnie Bates.

This was the decade which saw the whole world affected by the Great War before it closed. Hawera saw a big increase in population though many families were on the move. Hawera was host to the Brass Bands' Association contest in 1906 which was quite an event for the town. A four day Dominion Dairy Show, which was the forerunner of the popular Hawera Winter Shows, really put Hawera on the map with total attendances of over thirteen thousand in 1910. 1912 saw the disastrous fire in the business part of town in which the school lost its earliest records when McGruer Bone's premises were destroyed. Mr Bone was the school committee chairman.

EDUCATIONAL WORLD CHANGES

In the educational world, changes were afoot. When Education Boards were elected, school committeemen were to vote as individuals rather than as electoral units. Premier Dick Seddon and his Inspector General Mr Hogben, were working towards a system of free secondary education. Unfortunately, Premier Seddon died at sea, returning from Australia in 1906.

Another Education Act the same year gave more power to the Education Department, which took over the control of the inspectors from local boards.

The consequent Dominion Grading system became the basis of making ordinary teaching appointments. Committees and boards no longer selected staff. The one with the best grading marks got the position.

In Hawera, Mr Strack continued to organise and conduct his popular "Continuation Classes" which he had started in 1904. Ninety people attended classes in woodwork, sewing, latin, chemistry, English, book-keeping and commercial arithmetic in 1905. Sixty came in 1906 and took advantage of these classes which were organised at no cost to the Education Board, and Mr Strack's remuneration was a mere £5.

It was obvious people wanted to continue learning and in 1907 the Education Board appointed a Mr Hintz as a Director, to "organise and supervise Technical Education" for the northern part of the Wanganui Education Board, and it guaranteed his salary. It is not surprising that Mr Strack felt hurt and slighted when he was not consulted or asked to take part. It seemed, the board which had never contributed to his classes were prepared to lose money on its own scheme. Only 30 or 40 came to Mr Hintz's classes. Mr Strack felt the board could be out of touch and that it would have been better to base classes in areas like Patea, Hawera, Waverley, Eltham, Manaia and Kaponga, because each district would know its own needs.

Several leading citizens favoured starting a Technical School for Hawera, and this ambition was realised when a school was built in Princes Street to cater for Evening Classes in such subjects as millinery, art, photography, shorthand, book-keeping and wood carving. Mr Strack welcomed the idea and asked the inspectors for an urgent proficiency exam, for which the pupils themselves paid the cost. Seven passed and were able to start work and attend the technical school at night.

Later, the Technical School began to cater for Day Classes as well, and offered in addition, music, orchard work, signwriting and cookery. By 1914 the secondary department of the Hawera District High was so large that the pupils were moved out of the Hawera Main and into the Technical School. Soon the classes were combined and Mr Strack was appointed by the board as Headmaster of both Hawera District High and the Technical School.

Under Miss MacLeod, M.A., pupils could go as far as "matric." Mr Johnson taught agriculture, Mr Jackson took woodwork and Miss Holford was the sewing and cooking teacher. The idea that pupils would go on to secondary school became widely accepted.

STAFF UNREST AT HAWERA SCHOOL

Hawera School grew and so did its problems. A boy ran away from home because he "couldn't stand school any longer" and teachers were frequently disgruntled and quarrelled with the headmaster. In 1907 the log book entry read, "Unhappy with the discipline in the high school room. Neither Miss Poynter nor Mr Niven are exerting the influence over the pupils that commands true discipline, attention, cheerful obedience, love of work, and pleasure in school."

In 1912 when a party of 80-100 pupils was organised for an excursion to Wanganui for Saturday sports matches against Feilding, Mr Strack found the staff strangely stubborn. One after another refused to come on the trip and help. The Head "spoke strongly to Mr Williams about his duty," and "severely reprimanded Miss Mander in the presence of Miss Ellis." He even "told Mrs Ellis that she should come as a good example to the juniors". Three weeks before this he had spoken to Miss Henderson in a similar vein and told her he would never again give her an opportunity to assist. (However Miss Henderson thought better of it and did go.)

He had a running battle with Miss Mowbray who repeatedly dismissed the infants and then went home herself. when she should have remained until 3.40 p.m. when the rest of the school dismissed. Mr Strack noted her departure time over a period of a week to a fortnight and I rather think she must have enjoyed it. When he reprimanded Miss King for working at school until 5 p.m. she was absent, sick the following day. The teachers apparently thought it rather clever not to tell the head when they were leaving. This caused considerable inconvenience and

there are many instances where the log records the disbelief when one after another said they were "leaving today" or "tomorrow."

PUNISHMENT COMPLAINTS

School punishments were always a contentious issue. Special committee meetings were often held to enquire into allegations from parents that pupil teachers made the pupils hold out their hand knuckles up, or that some punishment had been excessive. At one such meeting Mr Reid accused the Head of holding up children to ridicule as liars if they told at home what he did not wish. The log records "All the staff were present to give evidence against such absurd wrong statements."

Many children exaggerated stories of punishments or told "deliberate falsehoods" with the result that parents rushing down to the school to complain were in for an embarrassing time.

Sometimes Mr Strack wrote Mr Nairn curt notes asking him to explain why a certain child was punished and in reply he would get a curt note saying Mr Strack could have the information if he came and asked for it.

DISSATISFACTION

Then there was Mr Stewart, an assistant in the secondary department. He objected strongly to having the headmaster tell him to teach drawing. He couldn't for the life of him see why it was in the syllabus and refused. He also couldn't see why girls should learn agriculture and left them on the doorstep while he taught the boys. And another thing . . . He didn't think the inspectors could MAKE him do playground duty.

A Mrs Noye complained that her two daughters in the primers had been told by their teachers to pronounce the H in Where, Why and What. "In my time," she said, "Even in the best school in England, WOT, WEN and Wy were accepted." She was informed that the method adopted by the teachers was the modern one. Mrs Noye insisted she could not allow her children to make such as absurd sound.

ILLNESS

It is hardly surprising to read that in 1912, Dr Thomson ordered Mr Strack to take a complete rest for one month. He and Mrs Strack had been at New Plymouth only a week when word reached them that the men teachers were so dissatisfied with affairs at the school that a letter of complaint had been sent to the board. (This was in the middle of a campaign to vaccinate the whole school against Small Pox doing about 20 a day. This, and the fact that pupils were aware of the undercurrents made for a general air of misery about the school.)

When Mr Strack heard how matters stood he abandoned his month's rest and returned to take charge of the school at

once. Mr Pirani of the Wanganui Board came up and conducted an enquiry into the causes of the staff unrest but its findings were not recorded.

CADETS

During this decade, the school Cadet Corps was in its heyday. In 1906 they were keen on their shooting practice and took part in the North Island Challenge Shield in December. They scored 655, the top scorer being George Strack with 74.

That year a party of 80 cadets went on another trip to the Christchurch Exhibition. Harold Finlay recalled that it was a wonderful trip. They sailed on S.S. Te Anu and bunks had been put in the hold for them. Unfortunately some of the bright boys went around pretending to be sick which rather detracted from the smartness of the group.

They were equipped with uniforms and at times paraded through the Hawera Streets. Cadets were also in the Parade when the King died and Mr Strack was NOT pleased to find that some of his cadets had actually marched with the Boy Scouts! He showed his displeasure by keeping them in from games. Good shooting scores were often put up by Cadets K. Clout, Karl Strack, Milne, Graham, Blair Robertson, Stevens, Fritz Strack and G. Parrington. On another occasion the top scorer in Cadet Shield competition was Colour Sergeant A. Spratt with a total of 79.

EDUCATIONAL OUTINGS

Mr Strack was a strong believer in the educational value of outings for pupils. In 1906 he took a party to the pottery works of the Quin Brothers. After the visit, Mr Quin kindly donated 40 vases which were placed in classrooms and in brackets in Central Hall.

In 1913 there was a really grand outing. A hundred pupils went to Wanganui to see the Battleship about two miles out from the Wanganui Bar. Unfortunately the sea proved too rough for a trip to be made out to the ship. Still, the trip was not wasted. They all had a ride on the electric cars and went up Durie Hill. They returned to Hawera about 9.30 p.m. after an enjoyable day with no mishap.

GARDENING

Gardening and agriculture were important subjects in this decade and played a large part in school life. Long term gardening projects were undertaken and detailed and accurate records kept. Prices for seed, manure and vegetables sold were all recorded as were the crop weights and the varieties that were tried. The "Octagon" garden was planted about this time, just to the right of the main front gates. Eight cabbage trees were planted out in 1912 and another 30 trees later on. Hundreds of cuttings were set to be planted at later Arbour Day functions.

The elianthus hedge was an Arbour Day project. The vegetable plot projects were a great opportunity for imparting useful knowledge to the pupils and the display at the annual show was a sight to be remembered. Varieties noted in the records include. MANGOLDS: "Yellow Globe," Mammoth Red," "New Large," "Prize Yellow Globe" and "New Golden Globe."

SWEDES: "Monarch," "Superlative," "Keepwell," "Cropwell" and "Pioneer." Then there were: "Mexican Sweet Corn," "Kendall's Corn," "Cou Cale," "Chou Moellier," "Silver Beet," "Touro Pumpkin," "Connecticut Pumpkin," and parsnips and potatoes. The school potato crops varied. One year 12 tons to the acre was recorded and in another the Irish Blight in December reduced the crop to 4 tons to the acre.

At the Dominion Show of 1912 the school won £4.5s prize-money for its exhibits. This was used to finance gardening operations.

In 1913 ten varieties of maize were successfully acclimatised. At the Show, Hawera again did very well, taking the big prizes of £10 for the "Best School District Display" and another guinea for "The Most Artistic School District Display." Root vegetable exhibits took seven firsts and a second and won another £2 for "The Best Display of Products from a School Garden."

In 1914 the Standard 5 part of the garden alone yielded 322lb of carrots, 288lb of swedes, 521lb of mangolds, and 405lb of kohlrabi. Money earned from the sale of garden produce was spent buying native shrubs from nurserymen, Mr Moreshead and Mr Smith. These shrubs were to beautify the school grounds and the "Octagon".

SCHOOL ACCIDENTS

School accidents were always a worry. Once a little girl Robertson from the "Lakes" fell in the corridor and injured an elbow, already sore due to a fall from a horse. The doctor was sent for and he gave chloroform and bent the arm into its right position again, but it remained stiff for some time. One day the cooking teacher, Miss Mallison forgot she was heating a tin of treacle on top of the range. The resulting explosion caused nasty burns on her hand and head and she was off work for three weeks.

But the most distressing accident of all is recorded in the log for November 1907. "An unfortunate accident happened at 1.30 p.m. today. Two cousins, Waldo Stevens and Harold Kirkby were fighting near the flag pole. Both are thirteen. Stevens threw Kirkby and the fall broke his arm (the humerus). Mr Bates was on duty in the playground. Mr Nairn ran and brought the boy in school and informed me. An impromptu splint was obtained and we carried the boy to my house. Dr McGibbon came and ordered the boy to hospital. I got a table top and open tray and drove the boy down and telephoned his mother in New Plymouth. Next morning doctors amputated the arm above the elbow. The break was a compound one. The humerus projected

three inches, and blood vessels, tendons and cartilage were broken." (As a result of this happening an ambulance stretcher was placed in the school.)

SOME EXTRACTS FROM LOG BOOKS

November 1906. "Busy with exams . . . school, matric and civil service. 90% promoted by inspectors. Miss Dowling neglected to write her lesson notes. Warned her of laziness and detained her after school to do the work."

1907. "The primers are making excellent progress under the "Do . . . Look . . . and Say" method. In inspectors' exams the paper on general knowledge was suitable for 18-year-olds and absurd for those under 14 years."

PRIZEGIVING. School Committee chairman, Mr Bone presented Dux gold medals to Karl Strack 617 marks and Dorothy Corrigan 599 marks. (Based on Inspectors' exam and marks.)

"I think it is wrong that the school committee issues exemption certificates so readily (six each week since May) and often for such reasons as wanted at home'."

"HYLOPLATE has been arranged round the classroom walls for freearm drawing."

1908. MATRIC RESULTS. Eunice Johnson, Riti Strack, Alice Mills all passed. CIVIL SERVICE EXAM: Norah Roach, Jack Sargent, Garland Morgan, Miss Dowling.

Telephone installed in the school office. Committee to pay the whole of the cost for the first year £6. Afterwards Headmaster to pay £2 if schoolhouse connected with the school.

April 1908. SWIMMING RESULTS. Genders Foden and Ella Craig were medalists. Pansy Young swam record distance . . . one and a half miles. Several people swam one mile.

The population of Hawera is fluctuating. There have been 110 new pupils since Xmas, but the roll is about the same. That means a third of the school are new pupils each year and it makes it hard to secure good results. The dairying industry is responsible for this "floating, fleeting, fleeing" population.

Mr and Mrs Robins and Dr Smythe were farewelled to Wellington. They were really founders of our District High School in 1901.

18 DECEMBER 1908. Teachers busy with returns every evening. Quarterly returns finished by 5 p.m. Friday.

Saturday, 20 December. I am still busy with returns for swimming, shooting, science and handwork.

EXAM RESULTS. MATRIC, Muriel Morecroft.

CIVIL SERVICE. Harry Milne, Fritz Strack, Dorothy Corrigan, Amy Hall, Kathie Gillanders, Mary Barkla and May Aris.

SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIP. Arthur Foden.

FREE PLACES: Norman Gadsby, Amy Jenkins.

1909. For geography I told the children about my 1400 miles of travel by rail steam and coach in the holidays.

SWIMMING: Harry Milne won the senior 100 yards championship and won the senior distance race with 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles. Karl Strack won the Life Saving Competition. Phyllis Coutts (Standard 4) won the 50 yards championship.

FEBRUARY 1909. Annual School Show. 1600 visitors including pupils from Convent and Fraser Road. Best vegetables from the school garden will be kept for seed, and the rest will be sent to the hospital.

June 25 1909. Mrs Aris (mother of two of our teachers Miss Aris and Miss May Aris) has died. School closed at 2.30 p.m. for the funeral. (Miss Aris later resigned and Mr Strack placed on record his appreciation of her seven years of service. The Aris sisters later opened a private school in Manse Street in what was later Bickleigh Hospital.)

Later 1909. Exams are over. There are 2000 foolscap pages for the Headmaster to mark.

Inspectors. School closed at 2 p.m. Friday when they had finished. All the teachers drove to Betty Guard Island (Strack's Beach) for a picnic.

DUX MEDALS 1909. Arthur Foden and Karl Strack. Kathi Gillanders, Ethel Dabinett.

FREE PLACES. Nine senior free places were awarded to pupils of Miss Strack's class.

1912. Our secondary pupils attended a "Rural Course" at the Technical School, doing agriculture, woodwork, dairying, poultry and veterinary work. I regret that during the two weeks they did not have ONE lesson in arithmetic, grammar, spelling, reading, comprehension, geography or book-keeping.

Bought some pictures for the school "The King" 1/- "The Queen" 1/6 "The Colosseum" 1/6 and "The Forum" 1/6.

Mr Trask and Mr Syme complained about Mr Nairn's punishment of their son and daughter.

Mesdames Tait, Bates, Sheat, Browne and Best came and examined the Standard 6 girls in cookery and needlework. Sixteen passed cookery with first class marks. Seven passed sewing. The ladies said that too much machine stitching was in evidence.

1912. DUX PRIZES, Joseph Sheat, Nellie Godfrey.

1913. The roll is up to 608. The Fete in aid of the PARK LAKE will be held soon. Pupils and teachers are spending far too much time practising dances and drills for it. It is not school time but it is still affecting their work.

Still no partition in the infants' room. I wish I could give Miss Mowbray an assistant.

At last many new desks have arrived. On several days 100% of the pupils did their homework. Morning cocoa is much appreciated in the babies' class. Arranged for boys' bicycles to be kept in the western cellar.

Correction of grammar and comprehension for 77 Standard 4 pupils took three and a half hours.

Pupils are inclined to neglect homework for band carnival practice. Term exams gave headmaster 50 hours of extra work.

1914. Mr Corp taken ill suddenly with paralysis of the eyes. (Away for some time, then resigned and later died.)

April 6 1914. A SIDE SCHOOL opened at Nolandtown. Thirty children to have lessons there and are transferred together with a teacher, Miss Reeve.

NOTES

In 1914 a guardian of a pupil wrote to Mr Strack as follows:

Dear Sir,

I am writing to inform you that Lily came home this afternoon with her hands swollen and was not able to milk. Will you please ask Mr Taylor not to give her the strap as he only makes it worse for himself. Lily will not be driven. If she is left alone she is all right. She is slightly deaf and often gets the strap because of that. Lily has to help with the milking night and morning and if she is kept in or gets the strap it means that we get the punishment by having to milk her cows. If she cannot come out of school at three, we will have to keep her home altogether as we have put up with enough of her being kept in, which she says is because she doesn't get time to do her homework. It is not her fault if we are late milking and she is late for school. Her teacher is making it very annoying for us as it is hard work getting her to school. Please speak to Mr Taylor or I shall have to write to her parents and see what they say.

Mrs E. L.

Kathleen Burton (Mrs Brant) writes,

"I would like to pay tribute to two members of the staff when I was a pupil. I was transferred from a small rural school where one was not restrained from forging ahead on favourite subjects, ignoring as far as possible the less attractive ones. This state of affairs posed problems in the large school where such flexibility was not the accepted standard.

To rectify this situation, Miss Slattery my class teacher, offered to give me extra instruction in maths, during morning recess for a full term. While this was being done a real friendship grew up between us. I have always felt indebted to her and to Mr Strack, for the quality of understanding and guidance given so unstintingly to a shy child. It is this type of dedication in the members of the staff, that remains with the pupils in adult life making the memory of school a warm and pleasant one."

ARTHUR MANNING writes,

"Two teachers who made a great impression on me were Miss Slattery and Mr Nairn. To my child eyes Miss Slattery was an immense woman. I used to watch her arriving at school walking with a particular swaying rhythm to propel her body along. In class she would dominate the scene, standing enormously in front of the class with her right arm raised high to grip a very long bamboo rod with which she could suddenly reach the most distant pupil. It cannot have been my imagination because I knew she had a farmer brother who was so large that he was unable to get behind the wheel when he bought a car.

It was my impression that Mr Strack had an intimate knowledge of the entire roll of pupils. He would often release a teacher and take over a class to see for himself what progress was being made. He kept his staff up to the mark and when later as a young man I was for a time a pupil teacher I heard him laying down the law at staff meetings. I respected him greatly without much affection. He had no favourites.

Mr Nairn was a stern disciplinarian and used the strap freely but he had undoubted teaching ability, and considerable responsibilities.

He certainly taught me to spell which was a prime importance in a journalistic career. His method was simple. A certain number of mistakes without punishment was allowed during the first month of the school year. It was reduced each month so you learned to spell or else.

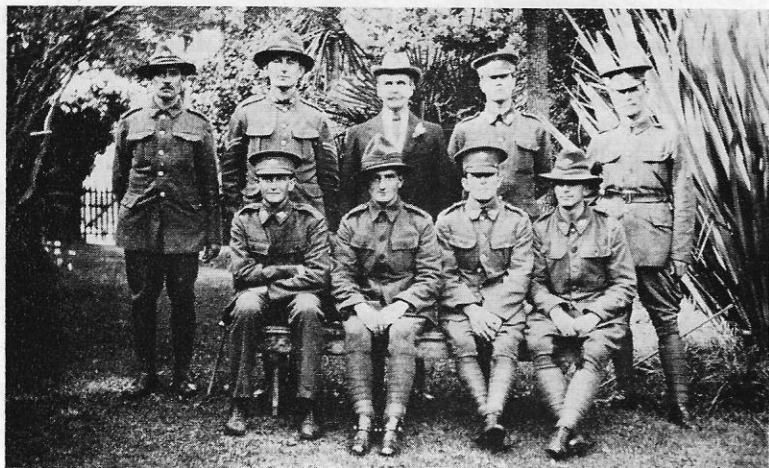
Gladys Hovind (Mrs Julian) says the following poem was current at Hawera Main about 1916-18.

Mr Strack is a very good man
He tries to teach us all he can
Reading, Writing and 'Rithmetic
And never forgets to give us the stick.
He goes to church on Sundays
And prays to God
To give him strength
To whack the kids on Mondays.

Pupils of this decade have been having regular get-togethers ever since the last school jubilee when they renewed old friendships.

Stan Lay was Javelin throwing gold medalist at the first British Empire Games at Ontario in 1930. His British record stood for 29 years.

Mr G. Cyril Burton, O.B.E., worked in East Africa for U.N.R.A. and with United Nations in New York. He has been a Vice-President of the N.Z. Methodist Church.



A group of soldiers with Mr. Strack



Fireplace in the Central Hall

The decade which began in May 1915 saw sorrow and loss come to almost every family as the war continued. At school, things were far from easy. Manpower problems meant large classes, frequent staff changes, disappointing exam results and a great strain placed upon the staff members. With so many men away, the children were expected to help more at home, and many could hardly keep awake in lessons, while others attended irregularly. Since the school was staffed for the following year on the average attendance, and teachers' grading depended on their results, it was a frustrating time and health and tempers often suffered. Many log entries disclose that punishments must have been meted out while the teacher was under stress. "THE BOYS AT THE WAR" were always close to everyone's thoughts. Patriotic feeling ran high and there were frequent ceremonies round the flagpole, when the flag was saluted and patriotic songs sung. Soldiers going to, or coming home from the war were warmly welcomed as heroes at the school.

More emphasis was being placed on professional qualifications for teachers. The young ones attended Saturday classes until they qualified. At the end of the decade promising teacher trainees went away to Training College.

School still began at 9.30 a.m. and dismissed at 3.40 p.m. and the school year was still in four terms. Basketball gained popularity for girls, and groups of boys worked to prepare courts for it. The iron rings for the goals were priced at 7/6.

STAFF 1915

Mr C. A. Strack, Mr J. R. Nairn, Miss Lanyon, Mr Henderson, Miss Lavery, Miss Cody, Mr Taylor, Miss Ellis, Miss R. Tait (Junior Assistant), Miss Bates (Junior Assistant), Miss Reeve (Junior Assistant), Mr Murphy (Pupil Teacher), Miss Pinny (Pupil Teacher), Miss Morse (Pupil Teacher), Miss McLeod (Secondary), Mr Johnston (Secondary), Mr Jackson (Woodwork), Miss Holford (Cookery), Miss Slattery (began September), Mr William Sheat (began October), Miss Strack (Extra Assistant, began November).

The "SIDE SCHOOL" at Nolantown was still part of Hawera School and two lady teachers were in charge. Mr Strack paid regular visits there and to the secondary department under his care.

1915 LOG ENTRIES

MAY: Visit of inspectors Milne and Stewart. (More time is to be spent on composition and grammar and less on writing in senior classes. Pen writing is to commence in Standard 2.)

JULY: Special sewing classes. Seniors and lady teachers are making handkerchiefs for soldiers. On Friday we had a farewell afternoon tea for six old boys going to the Dardanelles. On Monday senior scholars allowed to see old boys farewelled at the station. Record attendance 707.

AUGUST: "Soldiers" Afternoon. Enthusiastic and loving meeting in central hall. Trees planted near gates by soldier boys and we say "Kia Ora" to them as they respond to the call of duty.

Nine soldiers and five old boys farewelled and presented with cakes of soap and handkerchiefs. Corporal Tait replied. Rev Blamires spoke, and the flag saluted. Mrs Strack entertained to afternoon tea.

SEPTEMBER: Montessori Method begun in the infant room.

OCTOBER: Mr Wilson relieving owing to increased average attendance.

NOVEMBER: The experimental vegetable garden of 60 square yards thoroughly trenched. Examined Standard 6 in every subject before the proficiency test begins on 17th.

DECEMBER: Disappointed with the exam results. By now nearly eighty old scholars have gone to the war and "The Silent Messenger of Death" has come to twelve of the bravest and best boys from the school. Dux of the school: Edith Squire and Fergus Doig (who in six years has not missed one half day).

EPIDEMICS

1916 opened with many cases of the dread diphtheria and infantile paralysis. Scarletina was also about. Rooms were regularly fumigated with formalin.

At the suggestion of the board pupils were sent out in the summer weather to gather grass seed which was later sold to Mr Gillanders, a seed merchant and the proceeds sent to the Wanganui Education Board's patriotic fund. The 47lb of cocksfoot seed realised 1/- per lb, the 24lb of prairie grass, 4d lb, the 1½lb of cocksfoot 8d a lb and the cowgrass, 1lb at 10d.

Log Entries record:

FEBRUARY: The new probationer, Miss C. G. Robertson is showing aptitude for her work. A special display of war curios and objects from Ceylon, Egypt and Gallipoli was staged. Returned wounded soldier Duncan showed a belt made of regimental badges and buttons. Cheers for our King and our soldiers.

"Visit from Mr Threadgill, Physical Education Instructor, who held separate classes for the teachers. Ladies from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. Men from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m. Reprimanded Mr Henderson who reported giving a boy twelve strokes for misbehavior.

MARCH: Gave buglers twenty minutes instruction in playing "Last Post."

APRIL: On instructions from the board "ANZAC DAY" was celebrated. All scholars from the three schools gathered in central hall. Four old boys were welcomed home from Gallipoli and four going to Egypt farewelled. The Maori, Awatapu, gave a most interesting account of his doings at the seat of war. Presentations to the boys and patriotic pieces recited. Scholars and staff saluted the flag and repeated the declaration. Mrs Strack entertained afterwards. On Friday Mr Brown, the Agriculture Instructor came and took Standard 6.

"Mr F . . . called about my punishment of his son for playing in the horse paddock. (Four strokes on the hands and one on the legs.) It seems the two brothers had agreed to tell their father that he got fourteen strokes. I had sent for their father to show him that the boys told falsehoods. I also told the assembled scholars that if pupils told falsehoods at home about punishment I would make an example of them before the whole school.

"Mrs P. complained by telephone, that a lady teacher had struck her child ten times on head and shoulders with the strap. I feel sure it is another falsehood but will make inquiries at once.

"Mr Murphy, pupil teacher is leaving, and a presentation was made to him. Two of his brothers were killed on Gallipoli and he is leaving to help his parents on the farm. Mr Sheat absent (eyesight trouble). Miss Pinny absent owing to the death of her mother and no-one has been sent to replace Mr Murphy.

"School teams played in hockey tournament. Pulled carrots and sugar beet from Standard 6 garden. Very poor crop.

JUNE: On 23rd we had our last visit from an inspector of the Wanganui Education Board (Mr Strong). 30th, Miss Strack absent attending Otago University Capping ceremony for her B.Sc. Congratulations to an old pupil. Spoke to a teacher about discipline, keeping his room tidy and thorough supervision.

UNDER TARANAKI BOARD

4 **AUGUST:** My first week as a servant of the Taranaki Education Board. We had a visit from the board members, Messrs Masters, Chapple, Dixon, Trimble and Smith.

"Spring Holidays commenced. The Board Architect, Mr Moore, came and saw the need for twenty more double desks and need to lower the gallery floor in the infant room.

"Patriotic Work: During this week scholars gathered 15,600 bottles. Proceeds from the sale of them will buy Xmas puddings for our soldiers at the front. Miss Morse transferred to Okaiawa and no-one has been sent in her place.

DECEMBER: Old boys, Kendrick, Spratt and Clout came to say goodbye one day and later Privates Wills and Gungall. Record attendance 656 for Main School only. I suggested to the school committee that they close the school on Wednesday for the Xmas holidays to safeguard the attendance average needed



Miss Sartori and a group of her pupils, 1917

———— E. Thompson, M. Rudge, ———, W. Rudge.
M. Leighton, Kath Robertson, D. Garnett, Miss Sartori, ———, G. James, A. Broadley.



Secondary Department of the Hawera District High School, 1917

Back row: Walter Cornwall, Cliff Wills, Hone Riley, Neville Martin, Roland Jensen, Tom Hannah, Cecil Wills, George Grey.

Second row: Ted O'Regan, Maurice Brown, Vernon Burton, Olive Grinrod, Dorothy Clement, Mary Death, Dorothy Sage, Nan Anderson, Millie Hobbs, Elsie Beauchamp.

Third row: Miss McLeod, Eileen Vooght, Ruth Sheat, Doris Petersen, Effie Kirk, Dorothy Benton, Mollie Laird, Linda Hight, Linda Grant, Teresa Renowden, Mr. Strack.

Front row: Gordon Carter, Marshall Grey, Frank Grant, Ken White, Bruce Hensen, Roy Tait, George Sturrock.

for an extra assistant. Side-school averaged 49 and the secondary department 19. EXAM RESULTS: Standard 6 (50%), Standard 5 (68%), Standard 4A (84%), Standard 4B (90%), Standard 3 (79%), Standard 2 (85%), Standard 1 (84%), Primer 4 (93%), Primer 3 (86%), Primer 2 (94%), Primer 1 (92%). (It is hard when big boys and old boys must be kept back.)

1917

REORGANISATION. Standard 6 Mr Nairn (60); Standard 5 (boys) Miss Bourke (42); Standard 5 (girls) Miss Sartori (41); Standard 4 Mr Henderson (70); Standard 3 Miss Slattery and a pupil teacher (78); Standard 2 (boys) Miss Palmer (42); Standard 2 (girls) Mrs Ellis (43); Standard 1 Miss Barkley and a pupil teacher (78); Standard 2 (boys) Miss Palmer (42); Anderson and a probationer (180); Side-school Miss James and Miss Scott (50); Secondary Miss McLeod (30).

MARCH: Mr Sheat returned after a month's sick leave. Spoke to the caretaker Mr Chadwick, re starting to sweep before teachers have finished their work,

"Returned soldiers Keen and P. Lewis came to school and Gunner Finlay on final leave. A cheering welcome given and a parcel was handed to Gunner Finlay. (Enough soap to last a lifetime, he recalls.)

"The press reports indicate that Otago province topped the 1916 Proficiency results with 76%. (In spite of Mr Strack's disappointing exam results, Hawera did well gaining 75% in the 1916 Proficiency exams.)

APRIL: The Ponsonby Boys' Fife and Drum Band visited and played for half an hour in the hall. A penny collection raised 27/6. The headmaster gave them a case of apples.

"A railway excursion. Many parents allowed their children to be away to take advantage of the half fare.

"Mr Campbell, who lost two sons at Gallipoli, complained that a teacher had called his son "a shirker" for having eight mistakes out of forty-one for dictation. The school committee agreed the use of the word "shirker" was objectionable. (This word had become almost a dirty word in N.Z. It was applied to those who were not in favour of our country's declaring war.)

"Wounded soldiers Foden and Epping visited school, also Corporal Potter on final leave. We welcomed home this month Privates Coleman and McDowall and farewelled old boys J. Bailey and Morsehead.

JULY: We held an exhibition of five thousand shells. It was seen by 300 adults and 700 pupils. Diphtheria cases reported. Miss Hosking in quarantine, therefore Miss Strack, Miss Graham, Mr Sheat and myself must teach the secondary classes.

SAD NEWS

12 OCTOBER: On Friday very sad news arrived from the seat of war, "somewhere in France."

ON 4 OCTOBER. KILLED IN ACTION—

Lieutenant Karl Justus Strack.
Private Wells (Lake Road)
Private Percy Rain

ON 12 OCTOBER KILLED IN ACTION —

Lieutenant Roy Foden.

I was absent for three days meeting my son Lieutenant George Strack at Auckland. He was invalided home. Oh the horrors of war! My dear son and my many many dear scholars have made the supreme sacrifice for King and Country. Brave good lads they were and sweet and loving is their memory."

C. A. STRACK, Headmaster.

(A pupil of the time recently recalled that both Mr Strack and his daughter shed tears when the news came through. The pupils were deeply affected by their grief which they all shared. In addition the Strack family had to bear the hostility of many townfolk because of their German ancestry.)

NOVEMBER: Mr Henderson's little daughter seriously ill. Private Tarrant of the 31st Reinforcement farewelled and Private New and Lieutenant George Strack welcomed home.

"Senior boys taking well to cricket. A tennis lawn for the senior girls would be very acceptable.

DECEMBER: On the 20th the chairman of the school committee rang and demanded an interview although I was very busy. A deputation came and put the following questions.

1. Why did you not report on the work of the caretaker?
2. Why did you refuse to give the exam results to the press?
3. Could the committee have a list of work to be done in the District High School next year?

We consulted the Education Act and the board's regulations. We found.

1. There is no need to report if the caretaker's work is satisfactory.
2. The press had not ASKED for exam results.
3. The committee are at liberty to see the exam results at reasonable times. (At the time, results were not finished and I usually advise the children first, just prior to the break up.)
4. The work covered in the District High School is the syllabus of the Public Service, Matriculation, and Scholarship Examinations.

On Friday, in the afternoon I read to the pupils the very pleasing exam results. Standard 6 (90%), Standard 5 boys (88%), Standard 5 girls (100%), Standard 4 (83%), Standard 3 (89%), Standard 2 boys (81%), Standard 2 girls (89%), Standard 1

(90%), Primer 4 (95%), Primer 3 (88%), Primer 2 (90%), Primer 1 (98%).

IMPROVEMENTS

When the school reopened in 1918 improvements had been made to the infant rooms which were much appreciated. There were extra doors for fresh air and the galleries had been lowered to the floor level. New staff members were Mrs Hosking, Miss Foy, Miss Surgenor (Pupil Teacher), Misses Luman and Anderson (probationers) and Miss Scott (relieving).

LOG ENTRIES

"A Military Medal won by Mr Edwards (father of John and Sara) shown to the school. Cheers for the Hawera hero. Children dismissed early on two race days and warned about the traffic. Lifesaving: Two teams of girls and four of boys coached by Miss Strack and Mr Henderson passed their proficiency certificates.

MARCH: Carpenters busy with additions and alterations. Special playground supervision because of the old iron and timber about. Sixteen boys from secondary department visited the Model Farm at Stratford.

MARCH: Fifteen desks came for the "open air" classroom. Miss Strack absent on account of bereavement. (Mr Hogben, killed in action.)

MAY: Through the kindness of Mr Riley, the boys had the use of a horse and cart twice while filling in hollows in the football field. Took 400 pupils to a matinee (The Kid from Timaru). Inspectors Moreton, Ballantyne and Dempsey came.

JUNE: Spoke to the staff re coal. There must be no picking over for big lumps. When fire is taken from the fireplace in central hall, FUEL MUST BE PUT ON.

JULY: Winter Show Week. School won thirty prizes. Still diphtheria cases about. Turuturu-mokai Jubilee. Local school pupils met the veterans in the show buildings.

"Twelve teacher trainees from Hawera, Manaia, Normanby, Eltham and Kaponga examined by Headmasters Thomas of Eltham, Mitchell from Normanby and myself. For their class-lesson Hawera candidates chose, "The Noun," "Writing," "Signs of Winter" and "The Battle of Hastings."

"Each day now thirteen fires are kept burning until noon or later. This uses much coal but economy cannot be practised to the detriment of the children's comfort. Mr Watt and Health Officer Caudrey came and administered Chloromine T. inhalations to all pupils at both schools on four mornings and fumigated the cupboards. Drill Instructor Miss Blackie here for three days. Today High School played Technical School at football and girls' hockey.

"£50.13.6 collected from donations and sale of vegetables and plants. (This included 160lb onions and 150lb potatoes and beans harvested in March.) This money was sent to the Mayoress of Wellington, Mrs Luke, and will buy a thousand Xmas puddings for soldiers.

SEPTEMBER: "Miss Foy away sick, Miss Farquhar missed the train from the Auckland steamer and the relieving teacher sent has had very little experience.

OCTOBER: Two messengers sent from school to learn the meaning of continuous ringing of the firebell. They brought good news of a splendid victory of British and Allied forces and the downfall of Bulgaria. Scholars assembled and gave three cheers.

"Turks have surrendered. Hurrah for speedy end to the staff. (Once or twice Mr Strack was disturbed to note signs of war." National Anthem sung and the flag saluted by pupils and disloyalty in his school when a teacher was observed NOT to join in saluting the flag. These staff members had possibly tired of war and sacrifice.)

2 NOVEMBER. HURRAH FOR GLORIOUS NEWS

Germany has signed the armistice. THE GREAT WAR HAS ENDED. Victorious peace has been gained and now brings joy to millions. Wild vociferous cheering filled central hall from seven hundred happy pupils and teachers. Scholars took part in a grand procession three quarters of a mile long, around town and to the show grounds. School then closed for a week by the Government because of influenza. (In actual fact Hawera did not escape the great influenza epidemic which swept the world after the war. An extra hospital was set up in the winter show buildings and extra staff pressed into service. It is said that in our district there were a hundred Maori deaths and thirty-five European ones due to influenza. School was very late in reopening but when seven teachers and a hundred scholars contracted it, school was closed for another fortnight.

When the exam results came to hand it was learned that Scholarships had been won by Marjory Leighton, Marjory Beardmore, Doris Garnett and Keith McClellan.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAM: Bruce Henson, Doris Petersen, Ruth Sheat.

SENIOR FREE PLACE: Effie Kirk, Bruce Henson, Olive Grinrod, James Simpson.

1919 NOTES

In February a welcome home was extended to Private Gunderson, Private P. Lewis, Sergeant Hardley, Major Bishop, Sergeant Harry Brown and Signaller Tong. Miss Strack was farewelled on her appointment as Domestic Science teacher at Hamilton. A panic drill was held and 755 scholars were clear of the building in 60 seconds.

APRIL: School closed on polling day (Continuance . . . or Prohibition with Compensation.)

2 MAY: A FAREWELL SOCIAL HELD TO MARK THE DISESTABLISHMENT OF THE HAWERA DISTRICT HIGH

SCHOOL. (The Council of Education had announced some months before that the Technical School and the Secondary department would together form a new TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL.)

Mr Strack placed on record his appreciation of his staff of secondary teachers Mr McKenzie, Mrs Hoskings and Miss Hilder.

MAY: When the inspectors visited I spoke to them about the recent appointment of two inexperienced teachers as junior assistants. Both are uncertificated. One has had a year and one a month of experience. Sergeant Hurrell and Corporal Mitchell visited.

JULY: Lieutenant Harry Laurent V.C. was welcomed home. Mr Sage, Chairman of school committee spoke and at Headmaster's request Mr Laurent explained the action for which the King has awarded him the Victoria Cross. At the ceremony were the hero's parents and grandparents, one of whom is ninety-three. Cheers for the hero and Hawera's other V.C. winner Lieutenant Grant.

25 July: Big Peace Celebrations. 850 children from our school, 250 from the Convent, 110 from St Mary's, and another 300 from Normanby, Ararata, Matapu and Meremere marched in costume and celebrated with a dinner and a wreath laying ceremony.

"Miss Lanyon presented with a handsome escritoire and bookcase in N.Z. oak as she leaves for Hamilton. She and Mrs Anderson have made our infant department equal to the best in the Dominion."

"Mr Con Strack came and spoke to the scholars about his work with the Y.M.C.A. among the members of the N.Z.E.F. On 31st, Lieutenant Grant V.C. was given a grand reception at the school. He spoke highly of the "Good Old School", and urged scholars to submit to the discipline of the classroom. No victory could be won without discipline, he said.

DECEMBER: Miss Sartori who always achieved spectacular exam results had a record of 100% passes with her class of Standard 6 Girls, whom she taught for three consecutive years.

THE PRINCE OF WALES VISITS

Everyone looked forward tremendously to the visit of the Prince of Wales in May 1920. The sewing classes made seven hundred rosettes. Two and a half thousand children marched to meet him but railway troubles prevented his arrival and nine hundred juniors saw a free picture show as consolation. On the 7 May however, he DID come. The band led the local children in a grand parade to King Edward Park where they lined the route from the gate to the platform, four deep each side, cheering, waving flags and strewing his return path with flowers.

At about this time new schools were opened at Whareroa and at Tawhiti which reduced Hawera's roll. With the opening



School Queen Carnival 1921

Back row: Joyce Grinrod, Edna Death, Maisie Ekdahl.
Front row: Trixie Lamb, Piki Tamaka, Maisie Patten.



Children in Fancy Dress for Queen Carnival 1921

of Tawhiti and the earlier loss of the secondary department, Hawera Main had no "side school" and no High School and the word "MAIN" became superfluous but has persisted.

JUNE: Parents invited to meet Dr Elizabeth Gunn. I asked her to speak about the very short dresses and stockings worn by the girls. I hope that in the near future pupils will receive free medical and dental attention as well as advice. Big boys stacked ten cord of wood in two cellars. A case of apples distributed among them. A presentation made to Miss Sartori who leaves to be Headteacher at Stanley Road.

NOVEMBER: On Saturday an aeroplane piloted by Captain Russell passed over the town and the scholars waved flags as it flew close to the grounds. (A few days later they wrote essays on "The Plane and its Sad Accident.") In 1920 the Teacher's grading list was made the sole basis for teaching appointments.
1921

MARCH: I spoke to Miss Foy re leaving her horse unattended in grounds and allowing small boys to harness the pony. Singers tested for a choir.

25 MAY 1921: Mr Strack wrote — "Forty-two years today since I came from Training College in Victoria and began teaching in N.Z."

"A **QUEEN CARNIVAL** for the school is being arranged. Funds will help improve the grounds, provide a drinking fountain and go towards baths for the school. Carnival tickets distributed. An egg collection for the **SCHOOL QUEEN, JOYCE GRINROD** was a great success.

DECEMBER: A very successful concert "The Merry Party" presented in the Opera House. Hawera Star praised the conduct of the pupils.

On the 9th a **DEMONSTRATION** Day was held at which maypole dances presented by Miss Allen's group were very well received.

Early in 1922 the benefits of the Queen Carnival began to be seen as men were busy at school asphaltting the playground. The roll was up to a grade 7E again and all teachers as required by regulation took the oath of allegiance.

PROTESTANT-CATHOLIC MISTRUST

The widespread Protestant-Catholic mistrust of the twenties erupted in Hawera when His Excellency Archbishop Cattenot, the Papal Delegate visited Hawera. The car of this distinguished visitor was seen to stop by the pupils of the Hawera School as he drove through the streets and Protestant uneasiness grew into many rumours. These led to angry words at the Householders' Meeting of April 1922 and the sudden resignation of the school committee. The local press was bombarded with correspondence, many letters urging moderation, good sense and brotherly love towards one's fellow Christians. The affair

soon died down on the surface, leaving a somewhat bewildered new committee in office and wiser heads, sad to have lost the old committee.

Another popular movement of the day, the "Prohibition" movement, also made itself felt in the school. The Board pamphlet No 12 warning of the dangers of abusing alcohol was distributed and teachers were told not to shirk their duty in this respect. A compulsory question on it was in each Proficiency test.

MARCH 1922. The log book records with astonishment: A new girl was admitted from a large school in the province. She had twenty-two books in all. Three drawing books, one copy book, one atlas, nine exercise books, three note books, one reader, one geography, one arithmetic and one pad! Is it any wonder parents call out at the cost of books?

"A combined schools picnic held at Ngaere Gardens. A near fatal boating accident was averted by the prompt action and bravery of Walker of Tawhiti, and A. Pokau and D. Miller of Hawera.

It has been said that following the post war boom in land prices almost half the farmers were bankrupt by 1922. Possibly that was so but the children were still interested in agriculture for the BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB movement began to take shape. There were fifty four schools involved and hundreds of children reared calves and grew plants.

1922: End of term. All inkwells cleaned out and refilled. A framed certificate to go to Maisie Patton who has been Dux of her class in every year. The committee men are erecting twelve new seats in the playground.

1923 STAFF

The roll reached an average of 778 at the end of 1923 and the staff included Mr Nairn, Miss Slattery, Miss Barkley, Miss Bourke, Miss George, Miss Foy, Miss Renowden, Miss Frank, Miss Mountford and Miss Robertson. In addition there were probationers and pupil teachers Misses R. Beauchamp, Wood, Windelburne, A. Sheat, Leighton and Mr Reid.

FEBRUARY: Three diphtheria cases reported. Commenced "Tooth Brush Drill" this week. A hundred and sixty plasticine boards arrived.

MARCH: A school picnic by train to Ngamotu Beach, New Plymouth. Children treated to fruit and refreshments. Mrs Anderson resigned after eight years of excellent service. (She later died.) Mr Baker arrived.

"Boys are enjoying the "Big Playgrounds." The committee has two men clearing thistles from the girls' hockey field. Three more diphtheria cases.

Drinking fountains fixed. One for juniors at the front of the school and one each for girls and boys on the east and west sides. Miss Foy presented with a case of forks as she is leaving.

"School closed Tuesday afternoon. Death of Mr Nairn's wife." "Committee discussed furnishings for a "Teachers' Room." Mrs Corcoran replaced Miss Foy.

MR STRACK LEAVES HAWERA SCHOOL

7 MARCH 1924, Mr Strack recorded on his last day:

"My last week at this school where I have spent so many strenuous though happy years. I leave . . . under the happiest of circumstances. I have a splendid committee, a loyal staff, kind parents and most loving children (the parents of many of them I taught many years ago). The grounds are in excellent condition and the new concrete fence shows off the school to advantage. "Kai Ora" to my successor, and to my scholars . . ." Be thoughtful. Be thorough. Play the game. "Kanui taku aroha, ki a koutou."

C.A.S.

Mr and Mrs Strack were accorded a public farewell by the citizens of Hawera at which Mr Strack admitted that he had not punished a child in three years. They made their home in the South Island.

MR NAIRN IN CHARGE

Mr Ralph Nairn took command of the school for three weeks and as Mr Strack was not replaced and several teachers were absent the school was very short staffed. As well Mr Nairn discovered there were several discrepancies in the attendance register which he regarded as extremely serious. After three days of painstaking search he located the errors in the rolls and registers.

When the new Head, Mr F. A. Bates M.A. arrived he found everything going extremely well and complimented Mr Nairn and the staff. He knew the school well of course having been both a pupil and a teacher at Hawera. At mid year he quietly did away with the sex divisions in classes and divided classes where necessary into upper and lower divisions. Class meetings were organised to form football clubs and girls sports teams. Playing grounds were reorganised. Self-government was discussed with the staff and five girls and four boys were elected for the first council.

DIPHTHERIA AGAIN

MAY: Another outbreak. Dr Gunn came and swabbed all suspected sore throats, and tested all the teachers, but during the holidays, one of Mrs Corcoran's daughters died and another entered hospital. Several cases in the holidays meant the school may not have been the source of infection but each class had to gargle daily. The committee felled seven trees on the east side and some on the north-east and repaired the new front fence on which a tree had fallen. The now unused shed from the girls' horse paddocks was shifted to be used as a shelter shed.

DECEMBER: Misses Alice Sheat, Leighton and Francis, who are all well above average students left for training college.

INFANTILE PARALYSIS

Schools remained closed owing to the epidemic in 1925. Lessons were printed in the newspapers in a daily, and then a weekly column by Mr Bates and Mr Jackson of Tawhiti. Lessons were corrected by mail. Mr (Paddy) Lawn joined the staff and new probationers were Misses Eileen Sage and Dorothy Duke.

School Council President was Frank Brown and the secretary Zelda Spragg.

At the 1925 Householders' Meeting Mr Bates raised the matter of the school's starting time. He suggested Hawera was probably the only school on the West Coast starting at 9.30. He had found children to be alert in the mornings but drowsy by afternoon. Mr Nairn said 9 a.m. had been given a three month trial once but Mr Strack had not been in favour of it. A Mrs Ashton said that when her family first came to Hawera, she took the children to school and found the playground already crowded at 8.45 a.m. The meeting voted 20 : 5 in favour of 9 a.m.

"Mr Rod Syme, Agriculture instructor came to arrange for winter work. The conductor of the Borough Band, Mr Fox, was invited to visit the school and discuss forming a school band."

Plans were made to celebrate the jubilee of the school as this decade closed in May. Unfortunately it ended on a very sad note. Prime Minister Massey died and school closed for a day, but sadder, Joyce Grinrod who two years before had been School candidate for the Queen Carnival died. Her sister Miss O. Grinrod was on the staff still and the pupils sent wreaths and messages of sympathy.

REMINISCENCES AND NOTES

"... Children who lived some distance from school often used to hold on to the dashboard chain on a milk waggon and hitch a ride in the early morning. Sometimes they were nearly run off their feet. This was quite dangerous when cars became more common.

A pretty fair young teacher named Queenie Foy lived near us and she went to school in a smart horse and gig outfit. We liked to be the one to open the gate for her as she usually offered a ride with her, which was a great treat. It was a highly competitive business and a great gamble because, if you lost, you were so late for school, you had no time to look in at the bakery, excite the green parrot on the Doctor's verandah or shout 'Cattle-dog Catholics' as you went past the convent.

On wet days we were all allowed to play in the large unvarnished assembly hall and we shrieked and shouted and played gloriously uninhibited games with our wet coats hanging all around us until the bell rang and the drums and bugles played and we were silent and it was "work again."

It was the great delight of the girls to "Play house" with the pine needles under the trees, using these needles for walls, furniture and everything else. If a boy got the chance to run through the forbidden territory of our playground he might well laugh and kick our precious houses to bits as he ran. The Gymnasium was for boys only, for it would have been considered "rude" for girls to tumble over the bars and show our bloomers, which were often made of flour bags still carrying the brand names. I still remember the thrill of daring when I was once asked to take a message to a MAN teacher in the saw-dusted gymnasium.

—Jessie Henson (Mrs Anderson)

The boys were always happy to take liberties with the young men who were pupil teachers. When Mr W. A. Sheat was a pupil teacher, they loved to say — "Hey Bill . . . I can't do this sum. Could you help me?" (but of course, not when Mr Strack was about). One day a bright lad was just beginning, "Hey Bill . . . could you . . ." when somebody fetched him a hefty thump over the ear from behind. Miss Slattery had entered unannounced.

One of the passing fashions in playground games was "Blanket Tossing." On one occasion a lad who was small for his age was being tossed, when his mates failed to catch him and he landed with a sickening thud on his back. For a dreadful moment they thought they had killed him and the game palled.

Miss Bourke ("JINNY") was a good teacher who took no nonsense and was reputed to have a temper. One day she attempted a sarcastic remark which rather backfired. Seeing a boy named John Weihe looking sleepy she said "You're looking dreamy today John. What time did you get up?"

"Half past two," said John. "The other sharemilker is sick and we are milking two herds."

The inspectors' annual report for 1924 notes that of the 248 teachers in Taranaki schools only 227 were fully certificated. Most others were making an effort to study at Saturday classes and summer school for their D Certificate. Teachers not prepared to do this were to have their positions advertised. The Education Board Budget included £87,610:7:11 for salaries and half the cost of the Training College Staff.

DIXON BANNER

After Mr. E. Dixon completed his term as Mayor he donated in 1920 a Banner to be competed for annually by South Taranaki Primary Schools. Competition was open to schools in the counties of Hawera, Egmont, Waimate, Eltham, Opunake and also included Patea school and Ngaere school. The Banner could never be won outright.

Officials of the organisation in 1922 were: Patron, E. Dixon, Esq., M.P.; President, M. F. Purser, Esq; Committee, Messrs J. Winks, B. C. Bennett, J. E. Campbell, W. J. Shepherd, J. Gray, W. T. Bailey, J. W. Black, A. Kean, W. V. Patterson, F. Quin,

F. Perrett, B. Seaver, J. Scoon, J. W. Harding; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Fred Stevens.

It was competed for at the end of 1920 and was won by Manaia Convent. Hawera Main was the second winner.

After four years Bennett and Sutton's donated a Shield which was competed for by the Country schools leaving the Banner for Town Schools.

Prizes were donated for first and second place in each event which included a one mile race. This was later deleted as being rather much for primary school competitions and replaced by a 220 yard Hurdles for senior boys and a 440 yard relay for each section. The three sections were: Senior Boys (nine events for boys aged 12 to 15); Junior Boys (seven events for boys under 12 years). Girls Championship (50, 75 and 100 yard races and the relay for girls).

The 1922 meeting was held in King Edward Park on December 13th.

The "Old-Boy Returned Soldiers" afternoons, when they addressed the pupils brought forth many interesting anecdotes as the one Harold Finlay told them.

"Germany had begun to exploit the possibilities of propaganda. German soldier boys were told that New Zealanders were in fact cannibals who prepared human flesh for food by offering their victims a special kind of cigarette to smoke just before killing them. When Harold Finlay offered a cigarette to a young German chap just taken prisoner, he slid to the ground at his feet in a dead faint.

Mr STRACK'S FAMILY

Mrs. Uriti May Strack-Torrie of 19 Fairway Drive, Whangarei, writes:

"I am the only one of our family now living. Three of my brothers went to the war. Karl was killed in France in 1917 the same year as George was invalided home. Con who was in France with the Y.M.C.A., later married Miss Clara Mander. He taught at Napier and Dunedin where he was killed in a motor accident in 1933 leaving two young sons. George married and taught at Palmerston North and Christ's College, Christchurch. He died in 1959. Fritz taught at Whatatiri and was killed while cycling home from his school in 1930, by a motor accident. Taia married G. W. Reid and lived in Dunedin until her death in 1969. Taia and Con gained their B.A. degree at Victoria University and George his M.A. I gained my B.H.Sc. in Dunedin in 1915, and then taught again at Hawera and Hamilton. In 1920 I returned to University to study medicine and gained M.B. Ch.B. I married Ralph Torrie, County Engineer of Kaitaia and I practised there until 1945 when we moved with our four children to Otahuhu. I continued a busy practise until 1964. My husband died in 1971. We were a family of teachers but only one of my three sons, James, has followed the teaching profession.

World War I took many of our Hawera pupils, some very young, in their late teens or early twenties. In the School Visitors' Book which was kept by my father, are the names of many pupils who were farewelled at the school and had afternoon tea at our home. I have photos of some of the boys with their mothers. The first name is R. J. Seddon, Prime Minister, 3 February, 1904. I am presenting this book to the Centenary Committee of the Hawera Primary School. There are many famous names in the book.

The last pupils when the District High School was disestablished, signed on 30.4.19.

I remember so well, the fine Bugle Band and the drums which used to play as the pupils marched to their rooms. I am sending a photo of my group of young teachers. I am pleased to see Robina Tait, one of the group will be attending in October. I am so looking forward to being in Hawera for the Centenary.

The schoolhouse was newly built and the old one had been shifted to another site on South Road when we came in 1896. About 1914 or '15 Father and I bought a small Kauri tree at the Winter Show. We wondered if it was too far south for a young Kauri but we planted it among small trees lining the path from our back door to the school. A few years ago I noticed as I passed through Hawera, that the Kauri is flourishing though the schoolhouse has gone. I was glad to see it was still there. I would like to donate a tablet to be placed on or near the tree stating that it was planted by my father, C. A. Strack. I would like to do this in memory of my father and his six children who all attended the Hawera Main School.

The class of 1915 has been having a get-together in each other's homes every Labour weekend since the last jubilee in 1950.



Miss Slattery's farewell

From left standing: Mr Baker, Mrs Baker, Mr Nairn Miss E. Kirk, Miss Grinrod, Miss L. Carrol, Miss Burgess, Miss Robertson, Miss K. Grant, ———, Miss Petersen, Mr Lawn.
Seated: Miss Hunter, Mrs Nairn, Miss Slattery, Mrs Bates, Mr Bates.
In front: Miss Brunton, Miss Jackson, ———.



Standard 6 1925

Back row (l to r): Hugh Westwood, Eric Spavin, Bert Appleyard, John Brough, Mick Riley, Rangl Carson, Ken Foy, Frank Kendall, Rob Lendrum.
Third row: Bob Pettitt, Maurice Shaw, Roy Miles, Bill Dymond, Roy Smith, Albert Prime, Stan Riley.
Second row: Jim Jordan, Hubert Harvey, Ron Evans, Rupert Griffin, Lou Hulbert, Ron Hancock, Fred Rodie.
Front row: Clyde Griffin, Jim Moloney, Hugh Roberts, Clive Sage, Harold Woollett, George McGlashan, Caleb Walker.

Sixth Decade 1925-1935

The decade began with a flourish when three days after the 50th jubilee, a grand celebration began on 16 May, 1925. About five hundred ex-pupils and ex-teachers gathered. On Friday afternoon classes demonstrated the marching and physical drill which had become so much a part of the school day.

Then the pupils marched into the hall, the visiting dignitaries took their places on the stage, and the visitors squashed themselves in around the edges of the hall and into the corridors as closely as they could. Among the guests were several pupils from the seventies, and a few from the Blockhouse days. Mr F. A. Harkness and his sister Mrs Oughton, Mr T. Tait, Mr A. Tait, Mr W. R. Butler, the Treweek sisters, Dr Home, Mr E. McAneny, Mr C. A. Innes, Mr H. Sutton, Mr A. E. Sargent, Mr V. C. Ekdahl, Mr W. McFarland and Mr H. Webby were among the earliest. The earliest teacher was Mr C. H. Warden.

Headmaster Bates in welcoming the guests paid a special tribute to headmaster Harre, who had given him such a fine grounding. He mentioned ex-pupils like J. Hunter and F. Roberts who excelled at sport, doctors Home, Young and Gadsby and the Hutchens family and F. Foster in the world of music who had all brought credit to the school. He told the children the back part of the building was the original school.

Mr B. McCarthy spoke kindly of his headmaster, Mr Mair, in whose day Hawera was the top-rated school of the Wanganui Board. Mr P. O'Dea said that Hawera had some of the Wanganui Board's best teachers and no school had turned out more pupils who had taken honours in scholarship or in other walks of life. The School Committee Chairman, Mr J. W. Harding (who did so much for the school during this decade), then spoke, followed by the Mayor, Mr Pacey, and Mr Collins and Mr Swanger of the Wanganui Board who congratulated the school.

The evening was a monster get-together, concert and dance in the Winter Show Buildings, which were gay with greenery, palm fronds and coloured lights, and Union Jack's draped over tables and stage. Down below, the ball room and supper room were decorated in school colours, black and gold. Mr Harding told the gathering how generous the town had been and how the Queen Carnival and subsidy had raised £2 500. He thanked Mrs J. P. Page for her enthusiasm and help with the jubilee. There were more speeches and tributes to Mr F. Pirani and Mr G. S. Bridge of the Wanganui Board who had achieved so much.

Highlights of the concert which followed were a couple of humorous sketches from Dr Home and Mr C. H. Warden on life at school in "The Good Old Days." Vocal solos were sung by Miss

O. Tait, Mr B. McDonald and Mr Eddie Sargent. Miss M. King played her violin and Mr W. Watts his flute. There were elocution items from Miss M. Dixon and Miss Carroll and then McDonald's Orchestra and the Hawera Municipal Band entertained. After a fantastic supper, McDonald's supplied music for dancing and reminiscing and a great time was had by all.

When the Taranaki inspectors presented their 1925 report to the board they expressed the hope that teachers of history would dwell on worthwhile peacetime achievements and stop placing any emphasis on battles. They were happy to notice a new emphasis on keeping classrooms clean and bright and an interest in the environment and beautifying school grounds. They were also pleased that cursive script was replacing script printing for lessons.

In this decade the old rigid system was relaxed a little more, and music took on a new importance while the demands of arithmetic were eased. Saturday classes for teacher trainees were abolished in 1927 and any uncertified teacher refusing to study lost his position.

At school, Mr Bates proved a great asset. He was the highest qualified academically of the headmasters we had had and was also a keen sportsman, being very enthusiastic about surf live-saving and swimming.

STAFF 1926

Mr F. A. Bates, M.A., Mr J. R. Nairn, Miss C. M. Robertson, Mr E. S. Baker, Miss Julia C. Slattery, Miss H. H. Hunter, Miss Mary Bourke, Miss C. G. Robertson (Katie), Mr A. W. Lawn, Miss Olive Grinrod, Miss Doris Petersen, Miss Lucy M. Carroll, Miss A. Fleming, Miss E. B. Nutting, Miss E. A. J. Kirk, Miss K. I. Buckeridge, Mr Charles E. Hucker, Miss D. E. Duke, Miss Louisa McLean, Miss Eileen F. Sage.

During the twenties, teachers were allotted grading marks by the inspectors, young teachers being rated at about 200 and headmasters and old teachers from about 40 down to about 10, the highest possible grading being 1.

Approval for nine a.m. starting was rather slow coming to hand, but it officially began on 29 June, 1925. The flutes for the boys' band arrived and tuition began. Their first appearance was on 14 August, when they provided playground music for the march-in after drill.

The orchestra just grew and grew from its flute band beginnings, and it was just a hobby for Mr Fox at first. On two days a week they played as school came in from morning and afternoon assemblies, the flute band playing on the other days. They practised an hour a week after school and were in great demand. Mr Bates proposed a charge of 3d per player a week so that Mr Fox could be rewarded in some way for his services. The following year the orchestra went to Wellington where they broadcast a concert. The N.Z. Education Gazette even carried a

photo of the group. In October, Dr McLagan, a lady doctor from Canterbury came and examined several classes for goitre and took away soil samples and several products for analysis of the iodine content. Examinations were conducted in December for Proficiency, Endorsed Competency and Competency, by inspectors Griffin and Ballantyne. The school concert in the Opera House drew very favourable comment from the press and raised over £100. It featured the school orchestra and flute band and the Whareroa School dance group. Joan Tonks and Mervyn Dymond recited and Doris Gilmore sang, "There are fairies at the bottom of our garden". There was also a polished instrumental trio from Louis Fox, Marion Archbold and Betty Pinson.

1926 LOG ENTRIES

12 FEBRUARY: School excursion to Ngamotu Beach saw the longest passenger train ever to leave Hawera with a thousand passengers in twenty carriages. High School, Whareroa and Tawhiti joined in too and the fares were very reasonable. Adults: 4/- return, children 2/- return. For adults and young people aged 15-23 who were pupils or pupil teachers it was 2/6. The committee provided drinks and fruit on the train.

25 FEBRUARY: Carpenters arrived from the board with materials at 11.30 a.m. and by 5 p.m. had completed a small room for a dental clinic.

1 MARCH: Carpenters fitting up interior of the clinic. Miss E. M. Burgess commenced as 6th assistant. A baloptican arrived for class teaching.

SWIMMING SPORTS: Betty Powdrell won the Championship cup donated by Mrs Arnold Thompson an old pupil. D. Hammond won the Boys' cup donated by Technical High School Principal, Mr Gray. With the £6 profit, books will be bought for the class libraries and inscribed with the winners' names.

APRIL: Miss Whittington arrived to take charge of the dental clinic. A long awaited gramophone has come to hand. Contractors for the school tennis courts have excavated half the area and begun concreting.

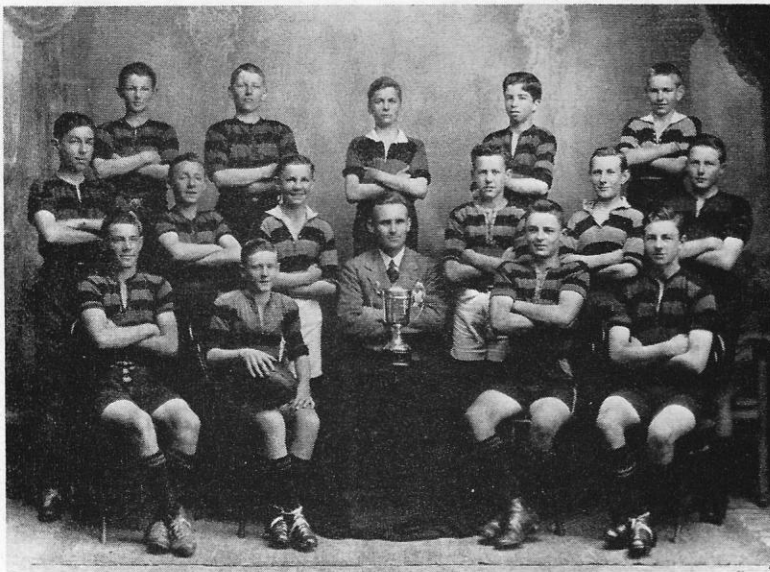
16 APRIL: Formal opening of the dental clinic by Mr Dickie, MP for Patea.

22 JUNE: Visit from C. A. Strack and his wife. An enthusiastic welcome in the hall from his former pupils.

JULY: Three half holidays for the Winter Show. Dental nurse reported 133 treatments for June. (101 fillings and 70 extractions — only one a permanent tooth.)

Mr Baker absent, his father died on the 1st and his mother on the 29th. Two hundred pupils out of six hundred and sixty away with influenza.

AUGUST: Dental treatments for July included, nine permanent teeth extracted.



Hawera Main School First XV. Winners Linkhorn Cup, 1926

Back row: E. Smith, R. Ashton, W. Ewington, R. Carson, J. Sargeson.
 Centre row: L. Wise, D. Hayward, H. Woollett, J. Campbell, W. Wilson, H. Harvey.
 Front row: H. Meharry, F. Kendall (Captain), A. Lawn (Coach), C. Meharry, A. Dowdle.



School Staff 1929

Back row: Miss Cate, Miss Burgess, Miss Fleming, Miss Robertson, Miss Petersen,
 Miss Tully, Miss O. Grinrad, Miss Trewin.
 Centre row: —, Mr Nairn, —, Mr Bates, —, Mr Baker.
 Front row: —, Mr Lawn, Miss Campbell, —

SEPTEMBER: Mrs Judd (nee Miss Queenie Foy), relieving for Miss Grinrod who is ill.

OCTOBER: Three children who were successful at the recent Competitions Festival gave a concert and raised £4.12.11 for library funds. Ten permanent teeth extracted last month.

NOVEMBER: Proficiency exams again (except for the twenty-five who were exempted.)

DECEMBER: Farewell to over a hundred Standard 6 pupils. Also Miss C. M. Robertson and Misses Kirk, Nutting, Simpson and Clarke.

ENERGETIC ACTION

When Mr Bates reported to committee at this time (the end of 1926), he was a very worried man. Epidemics had continued to strike the school. A hundred and fifty-three had been in quarantine in October and two hundred over the winter. The attendance averages were so poor that possibly three teachers would have to leave and only one probationer would be coming. There were already six classes with 50 pupils and others of 55, 57, 59 and 67. In conversation with headmasters from Tawhiti and Normanby, Mr Bates learned that they had not suffered from these epidemics. He blamed the old buildings with all their shortcomings and urged the committee to take **ENERGETIC ACTION**.

There were sixty new entrants at the start of 1927 and the roll was at 641. Pupil No 10 000 was admitted on 23 February. New staff were Misses Grant and Henry and J. Tonks, (probationer), and Miss Kirk came back as relieving infant mistress.

MISS SLATTERY RETIRES

Miss Julia Slattery retired after a decade of service to the school and a lifetime of strenuous and devoted service to education on 28 February, 1927. The staff entertained her on the lawn at the schoolhouse. Mr Bates and Mr Nairn referred to her faithful and long service and presented her with an attache case. On 27 March committee members, old pupils and friends held a social evening in the Savoy tearooms for her.

1927 SWIMMING: Betty Powdrell and Wiremu Chadwick were the winners. £5 was raised for library books. Dr Thompson entertained at his home, Nurse Whittington and her successor Nurse Cato (who incidentally, went down with mumps a fortnight later).

Meanwhile the school committee **HAD** taken energetic action. A Health Department report on the state of the school was obtained which read:

"The school appears to have been built over various periods with little regard for aspect. Rooms D, F, and G and the infant room get practically no sunlight and four others get very little. Two rooms do not have adequate lighting and two have ventilation through central hall and have only one exterior wall.



Hawera School Fife and Drum Band—late 1920's

FLOOR SPACE: Twelve square feet per child is the standard, but one room has only 8.4. Some rooms are very large while six are too small. **SANITATION:** The tip-up galvanised iron hand basins are rusting and unsanitary. They cause splashing and are situated in the passageway where they block the traffic. **CONVENIENCES:** The boys ten-hole plastered-trough convenience has rotten worm-eaten seats. The thirty feet long plastered-wall urinal has a build up of salts and a very perceptible smell. It is twenty-seven feet from classroom windows which must be kept shut when the wind is in a certain direction. We have the same objection to the girls' privvy.

The headmaster's room appears to have adequate light and ventilation but has been boxed in by the growth of the building.

The committee told all this to the hundred householders at the annual meeting and a resolution was passed calling for the immediate construction of a new school, and new latrines for boys and girls. They also asked for improvements in the meantime. Mr J. W. Harding, supported by Dr Thompson wanted a healthier type of school building altogether, and the board's architect agreed with them. During the late twenties there were always enough candidates to warrant specially printed voting papers for committee elections.

LOG ENTRIES

"Concert by school orchestra and Municipal Band. Miss McCartie replaced Miss Carroll who is to be married."

"Dr Mecredy came to select children for the proposed class for the physically unfit. School ball netted £44 for the committee.

AUGUST: School choirs won a second and two firsts at the competitions.

Mr Fox took our boys band to Wanganui for the school bands competition. We were defeated by Wanganui East Bugle Band.

12 SEPTEMBER, 1927: TURUTURU SCHOOL OPENED TODAY, with eighty-eight pupils, thirty-nine of whom were formally on our roll. They are under Mrs Carter, (formerly Miss Sartori), as acting head teacher. I visited and conveyed our best wishes. "Marching competitions won by Mr Nairn's senior boys squad.

13 OCTOBER. Sad news received today of the death of Mr Strack. Message sent at once from the school.

14 OCTOBER: Special mention of Mr Strack. Music dispensed with. Scholars marched to their classes in silence.

5 NOVEMBER: Two hundred and forty letters sent to Warrington School in England.

"Summer Time" commenced in N.Z. for the first time. (The forerunner of Daylight saving). School began at 9 a.m. by the clock. We revert to solar time on 5 March.

NEW INFANTS SCHOOL

Work began on 5 December, 1927, and it was ready for occupation by April 1928. The infants moved in on 2 April and all the other classes lined the big playground as a guard of honour as they marched to their new school led by the band. The carpenters then turned their attention to remodelling the old rooms to make them more suitable. They put in new windows altering the appearance of the school, dismantled rooms C and D and made the headmaster's room into a storeroom-broom cupboard for the caretaker. The head got a new office. The board planned to ask for departmental permission to establish a special "Health Class" and an "Art and Craft" class for backward children.

The board and the school and the parents were very proud of the new "Open-air" Infant School. It was officially opened on 22 May by Hon Mr McLeod, Minister of Lands and Mr Dickie, MP.

There were five classrooms each to take forty children and they measured 24 feet by 21ft 6". There was a free room of 33ft x 24ft to be used as a hall and two rooms of 33ft x 10ft to be used as a teachers' room and a cloakroom.

A suspended verandah five feet wide ran the full length on each side. The side walls were four feet high and above that was five feet of window space. These windows could be dropped enabling the room to be thrown wide open. In the roof was six feet of "Vita glass" which completed the impression of sunlight and fresh air. In charge of the Infants School was Miss R. McAllister, with Mrs Lee, Miss Simpson, Miss Campbell, and Miss Terry.

Thirteen hundred went to the 1928 picnic at Moturoa by train and car.

Wireless sets were becoming more common. Davy Electrical Co. wrote offering to install a wireless temporarily for a children's broadcast but the staff thought the children grew very weary while listening. Senior pupils were later allowed to stand on the headmaster's lawn to hear the wireless description of Kingsford Smith's arrival in New Zealand after the first trans-tasman flight. A week later he visited Hawera and all South Taranaki schools were granted a holiday. Young teachers leaving training college at this time, were told that there could be no guarantee of employment.

Senior boys helped to lay out the grounds for the Infant School and they planted tree lucerne on two sides for shelter and also forty-seven pinus muricata trees. At the end of 1928 the probationers, Miss Brett and Miss Horsley went off to training college and Miss Death, Miss Trewin and Mr Lovegrove were farewelled at the end of year fete.

Early in 1929 the Hon Harry Atmore visited Hawera school. Mr Atmore was Minister of Education and his wife was the former Dorothy Corrigan of Hawera. (Mr Atmore was responsible for the "Atmore Report on Education" in which it was

advocated that the leaving age be fifteen and that primary schooling finish at Standard 4 and INTERMEDIATE SCHOOLS be established to enrich the learning of Form 1 and 2 pupils. It also recommended that more emphasis be placed on agriculture.)

1929 SWIMMING CHAMPIONS were Ron Buckland and Jill Hunter.

The combined orchestras of Hawera Main and High School gave a polished concert which they repeated a few days later over 2YA, Wellington.

When a motor gymkhana was held at the show grounds the pupils were granted a half holiday.

There were twenty at the 1930 householders' meeting and they were told that the capitation grant was inadequate. A committee of ladies had raised most of the £150 in hand for improving the infants' grounds which with the subsidy was worth £300. Delegates from neighbouring schools agreed to try to raise £250 to provide the capital cost of an A Type dental clinic. The committee secretary, Mr H. Collier was also secretary of the clinic committee. (Hawera Main's share would be £100.) The 1930 picnic was not a combined affair, and showed only a small profit. Combined schools shared up the profit from previous combined picnics, Hawera receiving £26 as its share. Mr Herbert Webb was thanked for carrying on with music tuition while Mr Fox was away in England. It seemed Miss Terry's practice of allowing the primers to dry wet socks and shoes on the warm pipes until hometime, was much appreciated by the parents.

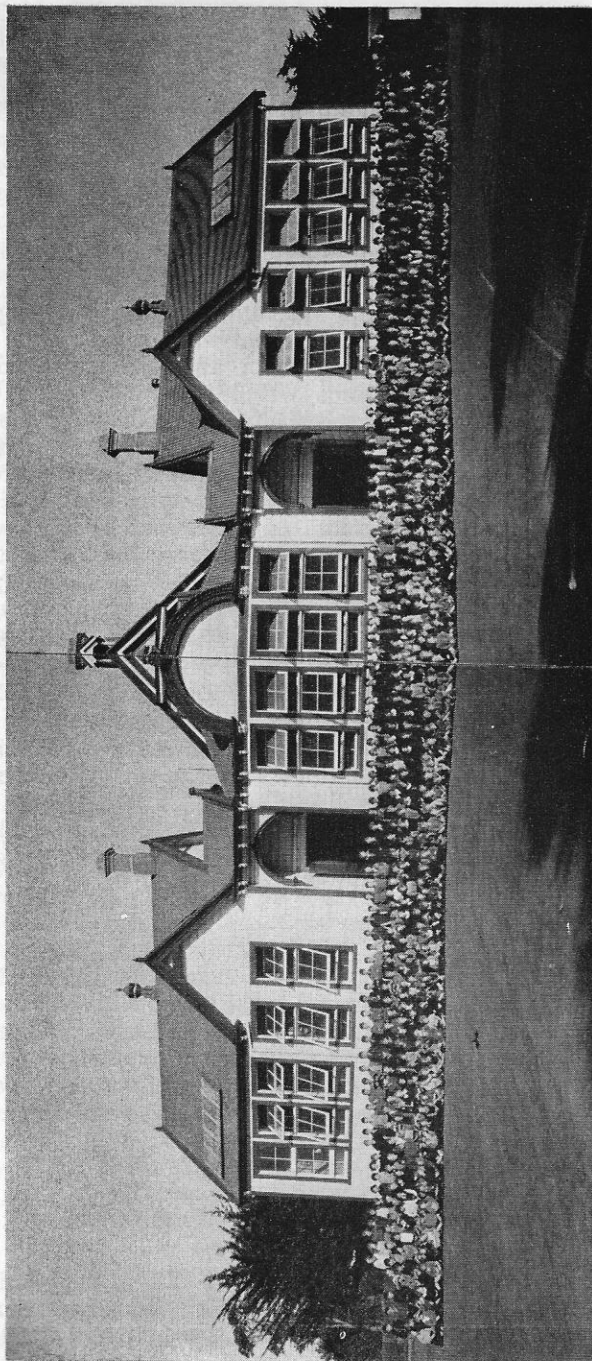
At this time, Mr Bates, having been offered a position as an inspector decided to accept it and left Hawera after what he described as a very happy five years.

Mr Nairn was again in charge and as no teacher was living in the school house he had the grounds cleared by 4 p.m. which some pupils were very reluctant to accept.

MR J. W. THOMAS

The new committee chairman, Dr Thompson and Mr Nairn introduced the new headmaster after the May holidays. Mr J. W. (Joe) Thomas who came from West End School at New Plymouth was a member of a well known pioneer family at Ngaere which produced many well remembered teachers in Taranaki. He had been a Rugby representative in his youth and was keen to see sporting activities flourish. (To the small children Mr Thomas seemed like a kind policeman with policeman's feet.) Mr Thomas's log book entries are few and far between and his writing is difficult to decipher. His discipline was pretty firm and he kept a good school.

We know that another Fancy Dress Ball was held and that a concert raised £6.10 towards furnishing the office for the headmaster. A bazaar just before Christmas raised £36.5.10 for infant material and library books. Times were getting hard and



Pupils in front of the renovated school about 1928 (note new style of windows)

the committee had come to rely on revenue from pupils' functions and concerts.

The highlight of 1930 was the arrival of a set of second-hand military band instruments. (While on holiday in England Mr Fox had heard that the instruments were for sale. £100 was raised and Miss Doris Swadling (an ex-pupil in the Hawera Orchestra), had generously donated the other £100 and Hawera became the first primary school in the country with a military band.

LOG NOTES

Bible-in-schools began in 1930 in response to pressure from the Bible-in-schools league

13 MARCH: Miss O. Grinrod absent. Death of her sister.

18 MARCH: Pupils heard wireless account of Byrd's expedition.

APRIL: New dental nurse is Miss Cousins. A visit from Mr Douglas Taylor, director of Music in Schools. Infants' Paddy's Market raised £17.8.

SEPTEMBER: Bayly Memorial Sports held. Inspectors McKenzie, Hawke and Henry visited, also the Drill Instructor, Mr Roydhouse, who gave a lifesaving demonstration. Another concert and operetta presented.

THE DEPRESSION

1931 marks the start of the really hard years. Civil servants had several wage cuts. A lady teacher of this time says she had three cuts of 15%, 10% and possibly again 10%, and that her wages dropped from £18 a month net at the beginning of 1931 to £13 in around twelve months.

The "MARRIED WOMEN TEACHER'S EXCLUSION ACT" came into force whereby a married women teacher received three months' notice when she advised the board of her marriage, unless she could supply written proof signed by a J.P. that her husband earned insufficient for her upkeep.

A "SUBSTITUTED ASSISTANT" scheme which seems to have been operating since about 1928 was in operation. Under this scheme, the board substituted "One year only" appointments instead of permanent appointments for a few teachers whose services they did not wish to lose. Probationary teachers were an embarrassment. They had been warned that positions could not be guaranteed, but they had to take turns at a few months' work each.

There were said to be two hundred and fifty persons out of work in the Hawera district alone. Many were reported to be down to their last and best suits of clothes. Rotary and Savage Clubs organised a big relief collection of clothing and blankets and shoes tied together in pairs. People in employment were asked to leave parcels near their front doors for collection.

The log book records the sorrow of the school at the death of a teacher, Miss O. Grinrod described as a most kindly, conscientious, and efficient teacher, just exactly a year after the death of a second sister.

MR NAIRN RETIRES

On 6 May, 1932, Mr J. R. Nairn retired after twenty-seven years at Hawera. Many wondered why he had not moved on to a headmaster's position but he owned a few acres and seemed content to settle in Hawera. Bruce Henson remembers him as a very fair man. Everyone knew exactly where he stood in so far as the number of mistakes permitted before punishment was meted out.

One thing Mr Nairn would not tolerate was insolence. The instances where the committee held an inquiry into Mr Nairn's alleged undue punishments were usually the result of insolence. He was an acknowledged top teacher who achieved very good results with very large classes under conditions which were often almost impossible.

Past pupils were invited to Ralph Nairn's farewell and Harold Finlay writes, "Bob had given me more than my share of the strap, usually for being late. I had to ride 4½ miles to school over roads where it took six horses to tow a ton of cheese from Inaha to Hawera. Rod Syme had been asked to represent the old pupils at the farewell but he was unable to be there so Dr Thompson asked me to be the speaker. I had heard that the last boy to get the strap would put in a claim for it, so I thought I'd be in too. I asked the last boy to be strapped to go and fetch it. When he gave it to me I asked "Bob" to stand up and hold out his hand. Then . . . I GAVE HIM A SMALL TASTE OF WHAT WE GOT . . . to the joy of all and sundry. The folk across the road later asked me what caused all the noise over at the school. (More than they'd ever heard from there.) I didn't hurt "Bob" much. I was enjoying myself. I turned to the Chairman of the Taranaki Education Board and I asked him, "Does this strap belong to the board?" "No, it doesn't", he replied. I asked Dr Thompson, "Does this strap belong to the committee?" "No", he said. I asked Mr Thomas, "Does this strap belong to the school?" "No". Then I said to the boys and girls, "Since this strap is unclaimed property, "I CLAIM IT."

Mr Finlay says he will bring this famous persuader to the centenary celebrations. (Many boys vowed it was soaked in kerosene or methylated spirits over the holiday periods.)

Mr Nairn was replaced by Mr G. H. Percy as first assistant and Mr A. E. Gilliver joined the staff in 1932. Teachers did not move often as a good position was worth holding on to.

By 1933 the economic situation can only be described as grim. Five-year-old children were not permitted to start school as an economy measure. A "RATIONED TEACHER" SCHEME was operated whereby teachers surplus to the board's requirements were offered four month's employment a year and spent the remaining months idle. For this they were paid £60-less wages

tax, less unemployment tax, less superannuation deductions. No new teachers were trained and training colleges were closed for a time. The log book records the arrival from the board of half a gross of inkwells and the replacement of the thirty-year-old piano. Miss Terry left after seven years of excellent work. The special class was closed down. Five year olds were still excluded in 1934 and school was closed for a half day to enable pupils to take part in a competition in aid of "The Unemployed". The log book mentions that Mr Lawn and Mr Gilliver were away at military camp early in each year. The board sent a gross of pastels and 4 lb of grey plasticine. It was well known that much teaching material was made or bought by the teachers themselves.

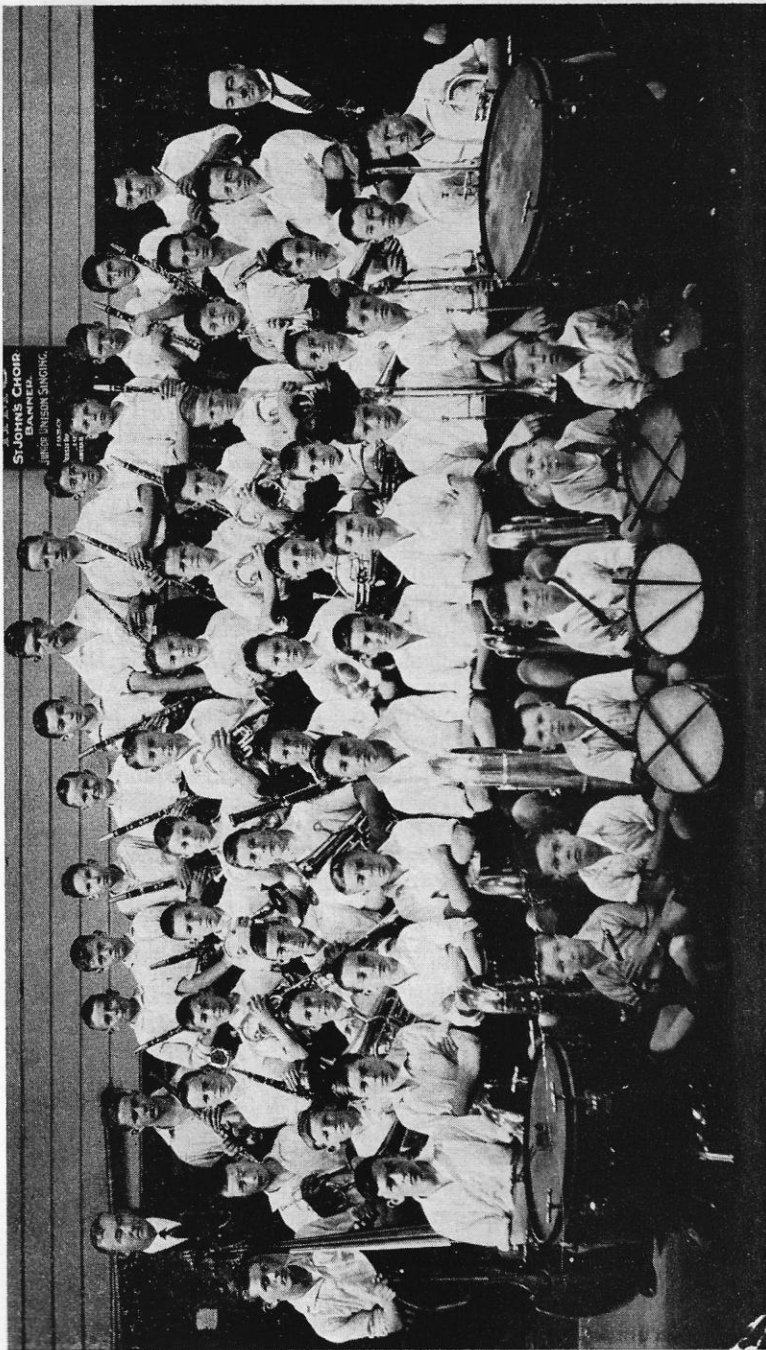
Life was very difficult for the school committees at this time and householders' meetings were very poorly attended. Ten attended in 1931 and only three were not on the school committee. (School roll was 610 at the time.) The 1932 meeting was told that in spite of buying only the barest essentials the committee had spent £100 more than their capitation money. Only the school concert had saved them from ruin. Dr Thompson criticised the report of the National Expenditure (Economy) Commission. One proposal was to cut by 10%, allowances to school committees, thus saving £10 000. It also suggested suspending for a year all school maintenance, thus saving \$25,000, and charging 1d a copy for school journals which would defray the £7 000 printing costs.

He also referred to proposals to abolish Education Boards. Committees, he said, had been stripped of much of their former power until now they were reduced to being beggars, and this would remove their last right, of electing the boards.

Headmaster Thomas said that under the economic crisis measures, staffing had been reduced, no additional assistants and no trainees had been appointed and unless a teacher was away for a whole month, no reliever would be sent. Mr Maunder and Miss Joyce Dix were thanked for helping Mr Fox.

Talk of monetary reform was widespread and five year olds were again excluded in 1935. A National School Committee Federation of N.Z. was formed in 1933 to put forward committee claims. The "Rationed Teacher" scheme ended about 1936. The roll at Hawera (and indeed for all Taranaki), fell steadily from 1931-1935. Hawera roll fell from 638 to 522. This was blamed on five year olds exclusion, the falling birthrate and immigration cuts. Badly needed repairs to the school asphalt were only accomplished by the use of "unemployed labour." The 1934 meeting was the last of the ANNUAL Householder meetings which then became biennial. The decade ended on a decidedly impoverished note.

Staff of 1930-35 were.—Mr J. W. Thomas, Mr Nairn, Miss Terry, Miss Fleming, Miss C. G. Robertson, Miss E. M. Burgess, Mr Baker, Mr Gray (P.A.), Mr Lawn, Miss I. Tarrant (P.A.), Miss H. Murray, Miss Rawson, Miss Trewin, Miss Sage, Miss E. Kennedy (Dalton's class), Miss O. Grinrod, Miss N. S. Brown



Mr. J. W. Thomas (Headmaster) and Mr. H. C. A. Fox (conductor) and the School Orchestra. Early 1930's

(P.A.), Miss Beechy (P.A.), Miss J. Tonks, Miss Peggy Morris (pro), Miss Lorna Campbell, Mr Dan O'Dea, Miss S. Pickett, Miss Ethel Briggs, Miss N. Griffin, Mrs M. Roberts, Miss L. Corlett, Miss Potter, Miss Caigou, Mr J. O'Dea, Miss Flo Campbell, Mrs Lee, Mr Gilliver, Mr G. H. Percy, Miss Harkness, Miss McAllister, Miss Mary Garvey, Miss M. D. Patterson, Miss W. Z. Donnelly, Miss M. E. Murray, Miss Melba Jackson, Miss W. Hall, Miss G. Leech, Miss Downs, Miss Harley, Miss Wytkin, Miss Tully (pro), Miss Callaghan (pro).

NOTES

The Dixon Banner Programme carried an advertisement from DIXONS which read, "Why not listen in? Good Programmes every night.

Five valve set in oak case	£20. 0.0
Two 45 volt batteries	£2. 0.0
Six volt accumulator	£4.10.0
Five valves at 12/-	£3. 0.0
One earth clamp	1.6
100 ft of aerial	7.0
Six insulators	6.0
One lead-in tube and wire	3.6
One loud speaker	£3.10.0
	<hr/> £33.18.0

Loud speakers may also be had at £4.10, £6.10 and £9.00



Staff 1935

Mr Lawn, Miss Campbell, Miss ——— Mr Gilliver, Miss M. Murray, Miss "Katie" Robertson, Mr Percy.
Front: ———, Miss Burgess, Mr Thomas, Miss R. MacAllister, Mrs Lee, Miss ———.



1937 Class Group. Teacher Mr G. H. Percy

Back row: R. Morgan, Stuart McLean, Dave Roberts, B. Pierce, A. McKay, ——— Bill Jones, E. Arnold, R. Wynne-Jones, G. Pierce, C. Frampton.
Third row: L. Bayly, Josie Smith, C. Wylds, Naida Sorenson, Betty McGregor, Lottie Waterland, V. Walsh, Francis Fyffe, B. Coombes, Pat Cummins, P. Ross, Shirley Walters, Gwen Archbold, Harvey O'Neill.
Second row: S. Flack, S. Thomas, J. Arthur-Worsop, B. Clement, A. Gabbie, R. Collins, Veta Chapple.
Front row: T. Bremner, D. Horton, I. Chisholm, P. Markham, George Sargent, P. Cressey, G. Wills, J. Young, I. Rowe, P. Nathan, Leo Marter.

Seventh Decade 1935-1945

War Again

As this decade began, the very bad economic situation seemed to be improving a little. The five-year-old children were still excluded as an economy measure and school committees and staff alike were feeling the pinch.

School log books of this decade contain very little information but "Hawera Star" reports of biennial householders' meetings and break-up functions contain many items of interest.

A sixtieth (Diamond Jubilee) celebration was held in spite of the economic climate, in mid July. Between five and six hundred people gathered even though it was only ten years since the last renunion.

A ball on the evening of the 12th drew a large crowd. Wills's Orchestra supplied the music and Mr R. Morrissey was M.C. The "Hawera Star" devoted a column and a half to the description of the dresses of the ladies present, and gave similar space to the Fancy Dresses worn by the large number of children at the school pupils' function. (Margaret Buist was "Jack Tar" and Cora Gribble and Marjory Butchart "Chinese Twins".)

At school on the 13th, each old pupil wore an identification card and those first decade pupils present were again honoured. Mr A. V. Tait tolled the bell at 2 p.m., Mr W. Douglas unfurled the N.Z. Ensign and Mrs M. J. Campbell and Mrs Oughton planted a kauri tree in front of the school to commemorate the event. Mr J. A. Valentine, speaking for the Education Board, suggested that as so many people had come to the jubilee, it would be a good idea to form an association of friends to help the school. The Mayor, Mr Jim Campbell welcomed Mr George Davidson an ex-pupil who was a great, great nephew of Headmaster Alex Mair. Mr Tait also spoke and recalled the arrival of Hawera's first two loads of metal. A bouquet was presented to Miss J. Slattery and a warm welcome extended to Mr Ralph (Bob) Nairn.

Other first decade pupils present were Mesdames T. Botten (Naomi Goodwin), A. Phillips (Rhoda Bashford), A. Hannah (Bessie Ecclesfield), Mrs Hendle (Annie Beamish), A. Gudgeon (Agnes Clarkson), W. D. Linn (Bernice Ecclesfield), W. G. Bishop (Bertha Nicholas), M. Walsh (M. Evans), A. E. Death (Alice Winks), W. Jobson (C. Adamson), P. Petersen, Miss B. Hobbs, Miss Cowper, Miss J. Buchanan, A. G. Larcom, G. S. Watts, Alex Hunter, F. Castle, R. Castle, Jim Winks, Horace E. Nowell, Chas. T. Nicholas, Walter Syme, Guy Livingston, Victor Elliot, H. B. Nicholas, F. A. Harkness, W. H. H. Young, J. H. Hobbs, J. Syme and W. McL'Dowie.

Young school pupils, Shirley Henderson, Shirley Horton, Thelma Trask, Beth Bayliss and Barbara Excell were chosen to present sprays to the old pupils.

The log records visits from inspectors Haslane and Henry and Warren, and from Dr Champtaloup and Dr Dawson. More "rationed" teachers joined the staff for the last four months of the year. (Teachers offered four months of employment only per year.)

The Annual Contest for players of Brass and Woodwind instrument players who were members of the school military band or orchestra was held in December. Mr H. C. A. Fox and Mrs K. Anderson were the tutors of these young players. Prizes awarded were: Champion Band Soloist (Brass) B. Marshall, tenor trombone. Champion Soloist (woodwind) Murray Findlater, clarinet. Most industrious students: Miriam Goldstone (senior), Nola Cross and Betty Evans (intermediate) and Dorothy Lyons and Jim Walker (junior).

FIVE-YEAR-OLDS ADMITTED

1936 saw five-year-old children once more allowed to start school. For the previous three years, they had had to wait for their sixth birthday. The sweeping victory of Michael Joseph Savage and his Labour party may have had something to do with it, or perhaps it was just the improving state of the economy. Married women teachers were re-employed at this time too.

In the light of Mr Valentine's suggestion at the Diamond Jubilee, a meeting was called to form a Hawera Main School Parents' and Wellwishers' Association. Forty-five attended and a committee of twenty three was elected with power to add (believe it or not!). Subsequently more were added and the committee comprised the following public spirited citizens, President, Mrs Alice Collins; Secretary, Mr S. F. Prosser; Committee, Mesdames A. M. Young, C. K. Cressey, R. H. Leece, E. J. Yearbury, A. H. Larkman, V. Lord, W. Marshall, J. B. Rowe, E. Evans, E. M. Lendrum, P. O. Veale, S. F. Prosser, S. T. Hunt, H. D. Caplen and C. G. Trotter; Messrs C. G. Trotter, M. J. Burns, W. C. Fyfe, S. Hunt, H. W. Lacey, A. H. Larkman, P. Trim, A. K. Fyson and M. R. Jones, plus teachers, G. H. Percy, A. E. Gilliver and A. W. Lawn.

This committee divided into sub-committees on "Houses", "Library", "Garden" and "Social" interests. The meeting was told how inadequate was government aid especially for library books and art and craft materials, also for the repairing of band instruments. An annual sub of 2/6 was decided on. Unfortunately parents generally viewed this request for 2/6 with suspicion and very few paid it. Only about seventeen attended subsequent meetings but those who were enthusiastic were really enthusiastic. They organised a Parents' Day for August and many shy parents responded to the invitation. Opportunity was taken to present the Syme Afforestation Trophy won by the school at

the Winter Show. Other awards were also presented: Swimming: Bruce Clark and Lillias Smith (seniors), Peter Dymond and Jetta Trotter (juniors). Dixon Banner Certificates: Colin Boyce (2), Eva Stewart, Margaret Craigie, Audrey Brown (2), Bill Marshall, Don Bailey, Lola Davies, and Bruce Clarke (2). Corrigan Cup (Champion Garden Plot): Marion Bernard. Calf Rearing: Ray Prestidge, Rodney Langdon and Alan Tozer.

As parents had demonstrated that they would come in a crowd, another day was planned for December, with a pleasing attendance. The Mayor, Mr J. Campbell, officially "switched on" a wireless set given to the school in memory of his mother, a foundation pupil.

Infantile Paralysis closed the school early and it did not reopen until March the following year. Shortly the school was again closed and correspondence lessons were published in the press and corrected by post. During 1937 the Government was able to increase Capitation allowances and grants to schools which was a cause of much rejoicing. In May the Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth was marked at school by yet more tree planting. This time, Mr H. Dickie, M.P. planted a totara and Dr Thompson an oak.

PROFICIENCY GOES

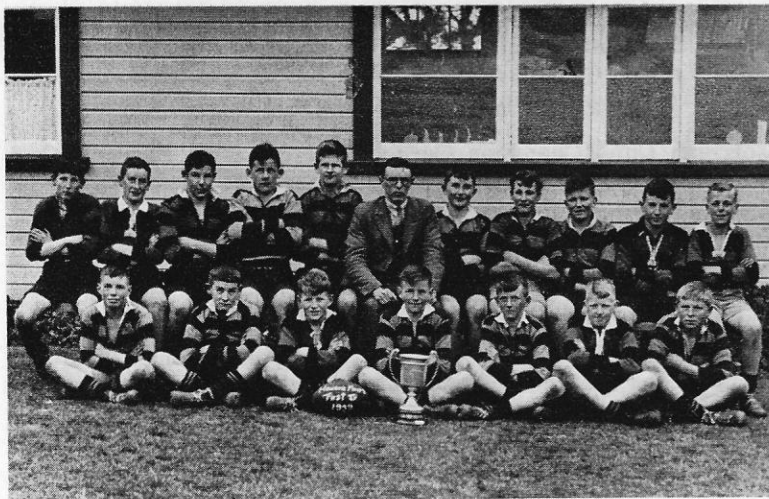
The Standard 6 Proficiency Exam was abolished in 1937. Paul Mountford, the youngest pupil in Standard 6 was successful in winning the Andrew Lees Memorial Scholarship. The Parents' and Wellwishers' continued to work hard and five hundred library books were added to the collection. Only forty families paid their 2/6 but Gala days and Fancy Dress Balls were arranged and the parents of the other five hundred or so children enjoyed them very much.

The Milk in Schools Scheme began in 1938 and each child was offered a half pint bottle of milk and a straw each morning. During the very hot weather large classes were taken to the Town Baths in Albion Street. The sixteen persons present at the biennial Householders' meeting passed a resolution "That we go immediately into the question of Baths for the School". The school committee after so much scrimping and saving, found itself in the best financial position for eight years. Musical activities continued to flourish and there was a large stringed instruments class as well as a band of twenty players.

The log records, "Pedestrian crossings placed near the school". "Maps arrived from the Board . . . two of Europe, one of the British Isles, two of the world, two of Australia and one of New Zealand".

May: First assistant Mr Percy farewelled after six years of very good work,

In June the school at Whareroa was closed and the children were brought in to Hawera Main by bus each day. A Parents' Day in July resulted in an attendance of a hundred and fifty.



**School Team 1939. Winners of Taranaki Primary School
Rugby Championship**

Back row: K. Mitchell, R. Lenz, A. Armstrong, G. Davidson, G. Walker, B. Wills, J. Linnell, J. Hurrell, S. Oakes, B. Hayter.
Front row: D. Robertson, W. Marshall, N. Dymond, P. Dymond, R. Leece, E. Coombes, A. Travis. Absent: J. Goodwin.



1936 Form 1 and 2. Teacher Mr A. Gilliver

Back row: Cora Gribble, Margaret Buist, Lola Davies, J. Zinli, Mervyn Leece, Eva Stuart, Valda Baker, Lilian McNeil, Poppy Marter, Sadie Haym, Betty Shore, N. Wilkinson.
Third row: Elsie Hartmann, M. Butchart, Ian Cameron, Colin Boyce, Jack Bernard, S. Shore, Don Tait, Eddie Yearbury, W. Glenn, L. Beaufort.
Second row: _____, Paul Swinburn, Murray Findlater, Brian Dash, I. Baker, Don Egglestone, Doug Rawson, — Struthers, G. Carter, L. Ackroyd, Bruce Wills, Ray Muir.
Front row: Pauline Purser, Dorothy Bull, Shirley Walker, Joyce Warcup, Margaret Fincham, Maefyny Marter, _____, Merle Fairweather, Joan Schweiters, Betty Sage, Muriel Openheim, _____, M. Irvine.

Another Gala in December was held just before Mr Thomas the headmaster left. He wrote in the log:

"On retiring, I wish to express my sincere appreciation of the very great assistance that has always been given the school so willingly by the committee, parents and Parents' Association. Mrs Thomas and myself will always look back with pleasure on our long term in Hawera where I have been Headmaster for the last ten years."

Mr H. E. Webster, the new Headmaster took up his duties at the beginning of 1939. Though a small man, he had quite a reputation as an athlete. As a young man he had represented Auckland at tennis in 1920-22 and at soccer in 1911-12. While at Te Puke and at Greytown he had won their local golfing championships. Naturally he was keen to see the school do well at sporting activities. He spoke very precisely and soon decided to try to remedy some the "Kiwi" speech of the children. Many will remember his efforts to have pupils pronounce correctly the days of the week and words like "women" and "milk".

War broke out in 1939 but in contrast with Mr Strack's war time log books, the war this time is hardly even referred to in passing. The log does mention the visit of some musicians from the Blind Institute and the fact that only four calves were presented for judging. Warwick Harris won the Andrew Lees Scholarship for the year.

With the outbreak of war, people's interest in the Parents' Association fell off markedly and it went into recess.

The Hawera Main School Band and Orchestra came under the auspices of the Hawera Orchestral Society in 1940 when it took over the administration of school music from the old Hawera Main School Band and Orchestra Committee. The school committee secretary, Sergeant Collier resigned after ten years' service. The popular school festivals featuring music, drama and dancing continued. These began about 1937 and the proceeds went to provide the free library service of participating schools. Ron Trotter won the Lees Scholarship in 1940.

Free apples as well as free milk were distributed in 1941 and it was noted that where 70% of the children took the milk, 100% wanted the free apples. The dental clinic re-opened at this time with Nurse Pallairet and Nurse Logan. The staff seems to have been very stable over a two year period. Mr Murphy who went in to military camp, was replaced by Mr Mills, a keen football coach.

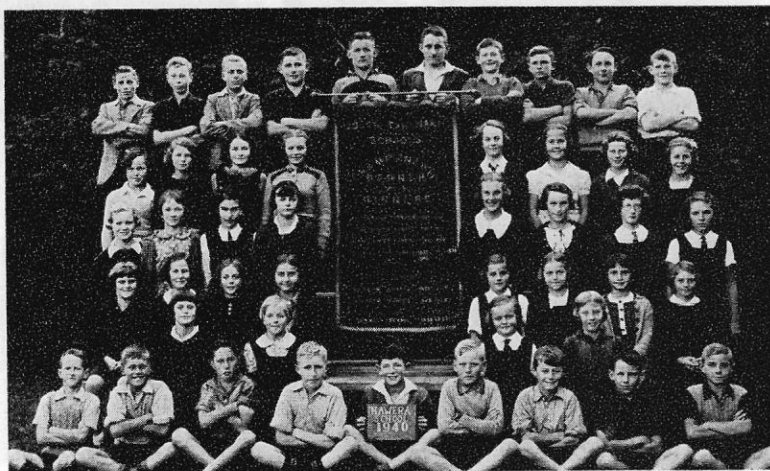
Swimming Championships: Des Wilson and Marie Illingworth (seniors); John Veale and Doris Veale (juniors).

On Parents' Day, Miss Blake's choir sang and Mr Rex Head's class displayed the new physical exercises. The drill squads and marching competitions were judged by Mr Hunter and Mr Thomson from the High School. As well as class displays there was an exhibition of Dressed Dolls.



Form I 1940

Back row: Pam Berg, Phyllis Trim, Val Tregoweth, Joyce Kelson, Barbara Trask, Lillian Allen, Avril Pope.
 Fourth row: Marjory Beale, Joan Thomas, Janet Parker, Muriel Johnson, Doris Veale, Cecily Stokes, Margaret Haytor, Betty Mancer, Ngaire Bell, Alison Murch.
 Third row: Zoe Lippingwell, Jocelyn Lovell, Clare Tugwell, Mavis Brown, Daphne Matson, Shirley Hatcher, Shirley Henderson, Lynette Grieg, Betty Tait, Joan Thomlinson.
 Second row: Ken Collier, Bob Thompson, Angus Dunlop, Des Wilson, Peter Laurent, Alan Rolf, Peter McFaddeon, Sid Reynolds, Don Sharp, Smeaton Craigie, Harry Coombe.
 Front row: Reg Ellison, Wi Kurangi, Ross Marking, Russell Todd, Rod Reynolds, Jim Wills, Alex Crichton, Torrie Leece, Jim Ross, Des Hannah.
 (The Reynold's boys were identical twins)



Dixon Banner Team 1940

Back row: S. Craigie, P. McFaddeon, B. Haytor, E. Johnson, G. Davidson, I. Peters, — Moore, — Bayly, C. Harwood, M. Hartmann.
 Fifth row: P. Woodhead, O. Goodwin, B. Hine, G. Hannah, B. Gilmore, D. Veale, N. Bell, P. Berg.
 Fourth row: L. Greig, B. Holloway, V. Ward, — Warner, B. Pearson, J. Hitchcock, C. Tugwell, N. Goldsmith.
 Third row: V. Coutts, B. Clement, B. Trask, A. Pope, T. Trask, A. Harding, D. Fraser.
 Second row: L. Dodd, A. Plant, A. Trotter, P. Mather.
 Front row: B. Murch, B. Mann, Stevenson, P. McWilliam, G. Purser, M. Cockerill, D. Sutherland, R. Laurence, B. Zinzli.

By 1942 the war in the Pacific had made people very much aware of possible danger. At the Householders' meeting questions were asked about what plans had been made for trenches at school. The Mayor, Mr Clapham, told the meeting that digging trenches was a personal responsibility. He felt sure there would be ample warning of an enemy attack, but in the unlikely event of a surprise attack while children were at school, the senior children would be evacuated to the shelter of the Dives' Avenue trees and the infants would be taken under the trees behind their classrooms. The school was chosen as an E.R.P. Casualty Clearing Station and it was decided that if the school had to be blacked-out, the E.R.P. should do it. A great many old pupils were in the armed forces and at one time, a large number of pupils from the same class met in London. A "Hawera Star" photo showed three Hawera brothers, George, Evan and Arthur Evans who met by chance on active service in Egypt. The log book almost mentions the war when it notes, "Mr Johnson who was appointed P.A. did not report. He appears to have gone into military camp".

The new Governor General, Sir Cyril Newall and Lady Newall met the local school children at King Edward Park early in the year. The first assistant Mr Finlay left for Turakina in May and was replaced by Mr J. H. (Harry) Thomas. Miss Blake also left for a position in Feilding. The roll was climbing again and reached 503 by mid 1942.

Dr Thompson, Chairman of the School committee and one who had done a great deal for our school died on 13 September, 1942 and the school was closed as a mark of respect and affection.

On Armistice Day the ceremony of "Honouring the Flag" was observed in the hall to mark the anniversary of the end of World War One. A similar ceremony was held the following February to mark the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi Anniversary.

1943 Swimming: Royce Barclay and Mavis Hitchcock (senior); Barry Aston and Moira Young (junior).

Miss Burgess was away from school for some time as her father was ill and she was unable to get help. Mr Burgess died in September. For Arbor Day, once more native trees were planted in the circle by the front gate. This time it was kowhais, Lacebarks, Kahikateas, Akeake, Hinau and Totara.

A class was formed at the hospital and a teacher appointed for it (Mrs Black). A Vocational Guidance Officer, Mr G. C. Burton, made an exploratory visit to the school and spoke to the Form 1 and 2 pupils on choosing careers when they left school and he answered many questions. The roll continued to rise reaching 523 which made the school a Grade 6 E/F for 1944.

At the end of 1943 three boys, Royce Barclay, Graeme Claridge and Donald St John tied to win the Campbell Scholar-

ship for Standard 6 children going to Hawera Technical High School from the Hawera Town area.

Funds towards Baths for the school were now being raised in earnest. A Parents' Day effort raised £30 and Miss Webster and Miss Clayton collaborated to write and produce an operetta "Robin Hood" which really inaugurated the Baths Appeal. There was a great deal of competition for leading roles in the operetta and the title role was played by Ian Galloway with Marie Spragg as "Maid Marion" and Purvis McCulloch as Friar Tuck.

The 1944 Householders' meeting was told that school baths were now in sight. Mr Revell had kindly dug two wells and working bees had done some excavating. The £1 for £1 subsidy was available for learner pools up to £200 and it was confidently expected that work would go ahead. Unfortunately the Health Department condemned the water supply and that was that.

The war in Europe was over just before the end of this decade and Inspectors Merrington and Johnson visited just before the Peace holiday was granted. Mr Webster urged the 1944 incoming school committee to press on and work for a NEW SCHOOL.

Teachers who taught at Hawera during the decade include:

Mr J. W. Thomas '28-'38; Mr G. H. Percy '32-'38; Mr A. E. Gilliver '32-'36; Mr A. W. "Paddy" Lawn, Miss E. M. Burgess, Miss "Katy" Robertson, Miss R. MacAlister, Miss Garvey, Mrs E. V. Lee, Miss L. Campbell, Miss F. Campbell, Miss Simpson, Miss M. Murray, Miss S. Pickett (R), Miss Walker (R), Miss M. C. Morris (R), Miss Wylkin (R), Miss D. Patterson, Miss O'Donnell '36-; Miss M. Morrison, Miss D. M. Hamblett, Miss M. Traynor (R), Miss O. Wernham, Mr Chas Mountford '36-'38; Mrs K. Fox (R), Mr C. Guilford, Mr A. I. Begg, Miss A. Thompson, Miss Gannon '37-'38; Mr F. Bush (R), Mr G. H. Mills '37-'41; Miss A. L. Burton, Mr D. Kirkby, Miss F. L. Walsdorf, Miss McLean, Miss A. Craig (R), Mr I. Finlay '38-'42; Mrs C. F. Marsh (R), Mrs M. Whittaker (R), Mr R. C. Forbes (R), Mr H. E. Webster '39-'51; Miss F. Wills, Miss Murray, Mr G. Knox, Miss M. D. Webster '39-; Mr H. Webster '39-; Miss A. Murdoch, Miss I. M. Baldwin, Miss M. H. Blake '39-'42; Miss M. S. Clayton '39-'51; Mr L. Keedwell '39-'43; Mr Goodwin, Miss R. M. Veale (R), Miss G. Civil '39-; Miss Z. Tocker, Mr A. J. Crawford, Mr W. Tocker (R), Miss M. W. Jennins, Mr Rex Head, Mr J. Murphy, Mrs M. Benjamin (R), Mrs M. Milner (R), Miss E. Jones, Miss M. Collins (R), Mr J. H. Thomas '42-; Mrs J. Stacey (R), Mrs B. McCarty (R), Miss P. C. York '42-; Miss Cato (R), Miss R. Scott, Miss M. Oppenheim, Miss McElroy, Miss M. M. Helvig, Mrs E. J. Black, Miss M. Murdoch, Miss Mary Parker, Miss Marion Jamieson, Miss Dawson (Hospital class), Miss T. W. McCulloch (R), Miss Wells, Miss Colson (R), Miss Weller (R), Miss O'Donnell (I.M.).

NOTES AND REMINISCENCES

Mr Alf Gilliver, a teacher of this decade, recalls that his first class at Hawera was Standard 5 in a room on the south east front corner. There was very little heating and occasionally a very disagreeable smell pervaded the room. He was not sure whether it came from the great turtle which hung on the wall at the back or from local farmers feeding out bad ensilage. He wonders what became of that turtle. There was a rock garden and sundial in front of the school, which was the work of first assistant, Mr Percy.

One of the more unusual characters who came to the school was Rev. Curran, a tall stooped retired Methodist minister (probably in his eighties) who took Bible-in-School lessons. To teach us that Salvation is a free and quite unmerited gift, he held up an attractive little new testament and announced, "This book is for whosoever will come and take it . . . for WHOSOEVER WILL . . ." We looked blankly at him. Did he mean what we thought he might mean? He kept repeating his message until someone took him at his word and went up and accepted the gift from his hand. Most of us saw his meaning.

Sometimes he gave away copies of a medical book which I think he had written. Parents were apt to regard this as unsuitable reading for children.

After a period of ill health Miss E. M. Burgess retired in the middle of this decade, the actual date unfortunately is not in the log book. She had been associated with the school for two decades. She had a heart of gold but in moments of stress her voice rose in pitch alarmingly. As she took the class in the centre front room teachers in neighbouring rooms would quietly close their doors when they heard the familiar cry, "GIRLS, GIRLS!"

One year Miss Frances Wills trained our choir. We sang:

"O hush thee, my baby
Thy sire was a knight"

and we polished it until we could draw out every possible shade of meaning, and were rewarded with first prize. Miss Burgess sent along a large box of chocolates which we polished off while we were waiting to go on stage for the winners' concert in the evening.

Pupils of this decade remember well, the hot dusty marches to the town baths only to find swimming almost impossible because of the crowd, the Maypole dancing, marching in to the hall simultaneously from four entrances and marching out again to either "Sussex by the Sea" on the loudspeaker or to Don Sharp's piano music. The Barnardo Helpers' League box-opening parties, usually in Mrs Fyson's garden, were great affairs. Generous box-holders (or ones with generous fathers) were rewarded with long service awards.

Pupils from this decade seem to have gone far and wide and done many interesting things. Some found very interesting niches for themselves.



The cast of the Operetta "Robin Hood" written and produced by Miss Clayton and Miss Webster about 1943.



Of the family of Mr and Mrs P. O. Veale, Arthur is professor of Human Genetics at Auckland (formerly at Otago). He is Director of the Medical Research Council of N.Z.'s Human Genetics Research Unit and a member of the W.H.O. Advisory panel. John is also a doctor and is now Professor of Human Physiology and Pharmacology at the University of Adelaide. Doris (Mrs Rivalland) won two awards to the Royal Academy of Music in London, and later a scholarship to Paris. Then her interests turned to Child Psychology and she took her degree from London University and now lectures at Stockwell College of Education, Bromley, Kent.

Geoff Wynn Jones served in Korea as a medical officer for some time and after a four year post-graduate course in England he is now Consultant Surgeon at the Waikato Hospital.

Phyllis Trim has been based in the West Indies for many years. She manages the bookroom for a Christian Literature Crusade and is their area organiser for a chain of Islands serviced by aircraft.

Ron Eustace is an engine driver for the Mount Newman Mining Co. in Western Australia.

Ralph Aldridge is an Associate Professor of Music at the West Ontario University in Canada.

Robin Holloway is Army Chief-of-Staff and is a Major General, and W. J. Stratton an Air-Vice Marshal. Maurice Cockerill became an "All Black".

Popular teacher Mr A. W. (Paddy) Lawn did not return from the war. He was drowned on active service.

Eighth Decade 1945-1955

This, the post war decade, began with peace in Europe already a reality and hopes high for a swift end to war with Japan. The Japanese sufferings with the "BOMB" at Hiroshima and Ngasaki jolted us into the realisation that we were alive in the era of "Atomic Warfare". Peace came just in time for a holiday to be granted before the end of term. There was growing uneasiness about living in a world where further atomic warfare was a possibility as its consequences began to be spelled out to the general public. On 6 September the primary school children of the district who probably had not worried unduly about things like radio-active fallout, celebrated peace with a monster fancy dress parade through the town. It proceeded to the Hawera School grounds where everyone was entertained with games and refreshments. Separate senior and junior Parents' Days featured marching competitions, and folk dancing. In spite of heavy rain for the senior function, Mr S. M. Pope, committee chairman, presented the Form 2 certificates. During the year Miss Pope became Mrs Burton and Miss York married Mr Walker.

There were twelve new teachers at the start of 1946. Mr Cowan had been appointed shortly after the war but as he was still in the armed forces his senior class was taken by Mr J. H. Ward until his arrival. At the biennial Householders' meeting were 5 committeemen and only ONE householder, Mr W. A. Sheat. Arbor Day was again celebrated by a representative of each class, together with Mr Pope of the committee, planting macrocarpas along the back fence line. (Looking back over the years one cannot fail to notice the continuing pattern of Arbor Day plantings and subsequent committee working bees to fell the trees and cut up the firewood.) In the third term, the teachers attended a welcome at Eltham to Mr C. A. Cumming, the new inspector. The daily roll average for the month was 553.

The condition of the old school was still giving concern. In November all the Education Board members had a critical look around the school and met with the staff and committee. The absolute necessity for a new school was pointed out to the board members but the headmaster wryly confided to his log book, "The probable result will be that the school will be repainted inside and out and that a new school MAY be built in about four years time."

An N.B.S. broadcasting unit spent some time at the school recording songs by the school choir, verse speaking from Form 2 and a talk on the early days by the headmaster Mr Webster.

The log books of this decade do not record many of the day to day details. They mainly concern the arrival and departure of teachers which were all too frequent. There were four relieving teachers by the end of 1946. During the summer holidays, the

headmaster became very concerned about the lack of evidence that the caretaker had been active. He spoke to him about it and was assured that a man was expected shortly to come and scythe the infant school lawns.

Mr John Lobb began his long association with the school when he was appointed an assistant in 1947. The year began with two relieving teachers going off to university, one teacher catching the mumps and another having to stay home and care for her mother who was attacked by an early morning burglar. Miss M. Webster was transferred from the hospital class to the main school. Mr Rod Syme continued to be a well known visiting teacher on agriculture and Boys' and Girls' Club business.

During 1947, because of the enthusiasm of Mr Webster, the Parents' and Wellwishers' Association was revived under the name of "Parents Association". The headmaster agreed to act as president and Mr Fendall to be secretary and the other twenty-three people at the first meeting found themselves on the committee. Parental support was again a disappointment but the enthusiastic few went ahead and planned a Fancy Dress Ball and a Gala Day. The £17 left in the "Wellwishers" account was augmented by these functions and the school benefited by a motor mower, shrubs for the infant school, two sewing machines at £13 each, some tumbling mats and later a duplicator and an office typewriter. Due to their enthusiasm the popular picnics of former years were revived too. Infantile paralysis again forced the early closing of schools in December though the staff attended until the 12th. Correspondence lessons were again resorted to at the start of 1948 until it was deemed safe to allow children to congregate again. Miss Brodie and Mr Campbell conducted art refresher courses for the teachers. In May, a pupil of the "Big" school contracted infantile paralysis (or polio as it was being called), and the "Big school" was closed while the Infants' school remained open.

Mr. Webster took ill and was away most of the middle term, Mr Cowan acting in his place. At this time Miss Alberta Mangin began her long association with the school. Mr Max Strawbridge assistant area organiser for Physical Education began to visit the school regularly. Mr Doug Geeves and several pupils were excluded from school as polio contacts. Sports teams paid their annual visit to Stratford during the winter. In June the Board phoned to say that a Standard 4 pupil Donald Hennessy had contracted polio and that the school must remain closed until July 7th. The school baths project was held up indefinitely pending duplication of the town water mains. £338.5 was in hand for the project.

CALF JUDGING

The 1948 results have been recorded and the winners were: Rearing: Rita Pitcher (senior), Maurice French (junior). Leading: Janet Pease. Dairy Type: Elizabeth Vernon (senior), Monica Jones (junior). The judges were Mr W. Mortlock and Mr P. Clements.



Cyril Murch photo

Mr Bill Sheat (M.P.), former pupil and teacher, addresses the 75th Jubilee visitors at the opening ceremony.



The Children's Fancy Dress Parade 75th Jubilee 1950.

The Parents' Day saw the success of an appeal to raise £227 for a movie projector. (It was currently fashionable for schools to feel that they really **must** have a movie projector, and for P.T.A.'s to rise to the occasion.)

Mr P. H. Trim and Mr G. E. Scott retired in 1948 after long service on the School committee.

Mr Webster was ill again during 1949 and Mr Cowan was in charge.

Shortly after the 75th birthday of the school, Mr Webster suffered the loss of his wife.

75th JUBILEE

The celebrations began with an "Old Time Dance" and a window dressing competition which produced many historical displays. The Friday afternoon was devoted to a Parade through town of the children in fancy dress followed by a function for the infant pupils and an evening ball for the older children. Meanwhile old pupils were chinwagging over afternoon tea.

Saturday morning saw a grand procession of decorated vehicles led by two bands, which culminated in a "Roll-call" and an official welcome at the school by the Jubilee Chairman, Mr T. J. Dowdle. Following the luncheon there were sports events and band items.

There was a Grand Old Time Concert on Saturday evening. Les Haycock and Mrs Clive Walsh conducted a community sing, and past and present pupils contributed items. Eddie Sargent sang "Songs at the piano" and Eric Pacey and Mrs Noeline Blackman sang solos with Miss Lynette Pacey and Inez Corrigan as accompanists. The Fox family (Louis, Margaret and Olga) gave an instrumental trio and Mrs Gower (Joan Tonks) gave a 1927 vintage recitation, "The Goblins will get you if you don't watch out".

Probably the most appreciated item was a humorous sketch entitled, "Miss Ecclesfield's Class (anytime during the first week of the 20th Century)".

Cast: Headmaster, C. A. Strack: Joe Sheat; His wife, Mrs Strack: Muriel Broderick (Mrs Winks); Miss Ecclesfield: Dora Sheat. Pupils (playing themselves): Doris Swadling, Elsie Hurrell, Dorothy Clement, Dorothy Bates, Dorothy Corrigan, Jack Robertson, Alf Walker, Les Walker, Fred Bone, Alec Corrigan, Eric Hunter, Horrie Robinson and Awatapu Teari. It was a resounding success. It was all faithfully portrayed . . . the inevitable geography lesson, the gifts for the teacher, the Headmaster's whistle and smoking cap and his strap in the pocket.

Past Maori pupils, the school orchestra, the school choir, the Technical High School choir, all contributed to a grand evening which was arranged by Earl Coxon and Mrs D. Atmore (Dorothy Corrigan).



1950 Morning Milk (which began in 1938 but is now discontinued)



Infant School Staff 1950

Miss J. Cathie, Miss C. Colson, Miss A. Mangin, Mrs M. Matthews, Miss C. O'Donnell and Mr Colin Smith (who took the photograph).

At the roll call, names of scholars who attended before 1890 were called individually. Mr A. V. Tait, and Mrs E. Oughton had attended at the Blockhouse (where Mrs Oughton's father, Mr Harkness was a teacher). Mr Tait lit the jubilee cake candles and the two newest pupils Enfys Hey and Janet Black blew them out. Mrs Oughton, Mrs M. Trott, Mrs J. Henson and Mrs Riti Strack-Torrie then cut the cake.

The celebrations concluded with a church service conducted by the Ministers who regularly took the Friday morning Bible lesson at school, Rev. L. Gordon Hanna, Rev. L. N. Watkins and the soloist was Rev. Rex Goldsmith, M.A. Local church choirs provided the anthem and the organist was Mr Len Rowe. The guest preacher was also an old boy, Rev. E. S. Hoddinott of Christchurch.

MR WEBSTER RETIRES

At the end of the first term in 1951 Mr H. E. Webster retired and wrote in the log book, "Today I retire after being at the school for just over twelve years. A most enjoyable farewell ceremony in the hall at which everyone was most kind". His family was strongly associated with the school. His son, Mr W. J. Webster, was on the staff at the time as was his daughter, Miss Marjory Webster. During the holidays Mr Webster married Miss Clayton who had also been on the staff for about twelve years.

When Mr Cowan again became acting headmaster he asked the P.T.A. to plan evenings centred round the educational topics of the day. A meeting was advertised at which the full staff of twenty and Mr Wards our member of the Education Board would answer questions on any educational topic. The organisers were gratified to find a hundred and twenty parents there. Although only forty families paid the subscription of 2/6 in 1950, there was an equally large attendance to hear a similar panel of parents answer questions put by the staff. At this time the school committee was led by Mr N. Laird and P.T.A. presidents were Rev. Gordon Hanna, Mr Dowdle, Mr B. E. Conway and Mr Kilgarrieff.

Mrs Webster (formerly Miss Clayton) resigned at the end of the second term. Unfortunately Mr Webster was not well and died on December 5th. On Arbor Day three hundred pohutukawa trees were planted around the school boundaries, Disraeli Street Extension, South Road and the Pata Street area.

King George VI died at the beginning of 1952 and a few days later the senior pupils were taken to the Borough Council Chambers to hear Princess Elizabeth proclaimed Queen. The Schools' Picnic was again at Ngamotu Beach.

Swimming 1952: Kay Dymond and Graeme Dowdle (senior). Kath Vernon and Ron McLean (junior).

In May the seniors had a social, and in June a concert in aid of the Hawera War Memorial Community Centre Fund was staged. Two performances for both seniors and primers raised

£14.10 towards the school contribution to the appeal. Five teachers caught mumps between July and the end of August.

The Campbell Scholarship award was won by Erica Wyatt. Parents' Day: Award of the Bhana Cups given in memory of a young Indian pupil, Mohan Bhana. Best All-round Boy: Graeme Dowdle.

Miss Mangin became Mrs Chapman and later resigned.

Polio again threatened N.Z. children at the start of 1953. The Department instructed that children must bring individual hand-towels. By March, the new Hawera school of Ramanui, named after a famous pre-European Maori Pa was ready to open. A meeting of local school committeemen was held to define the boundaries of the Hawera primary schools. Miss Marjory Webster was advised that she had been appointed Infant Mistress at Ramanui. The Householders' meeting for Hawera Main was held on 4 May, and the following night, Ramanui Householders met in the same hall. With the zoning for the new school many parents found that they were closer to Ramanui and that their ties with Hawera Main would have to be broken. Members of the P.T.A. in this position were able to offer themselves as a nucleus for the Ramanui P.T.A. and a donation of £10 went with them from Hawera P.T.A. The End of Term social was in the nature of a "Goodbye" to the two hundred and sixty one pupils transferred and to Miss Webster after many years of service. Miss McDonogh, Miss Rakena and Mr Clarke were also transferred and Mr Wilf Webster left to become an education officer in the Air Force.

A much smaller Hawera Main gathered after the holidays. Their first big function was a combined welcome to the two new headmasters, Mr R. H. Sinclair for Hawera and Mr Bradley for Ramanui. The following week Mr Ward and Mr Lobb organised a Form 2 social and "school" was back in business. Mr Lobb left at the end of the second term. At the end of the year the school lost two more long service teachers, Miss C. T. O'Donnell after seventeen years as infant mistress and Mr Cowan after seven years as first assistant. Board members interviewed Mr Sinclair about clearing the trees from the "Glebe" round the school house which had become overgrown. (Mr Strack's kauri must have been spared the axe at this time.) Post Office officials visited and persuaded children to save their money. Eighty-eight new accounts were opened in a fortnight.

Mr Ward became first assistant in 1954 and Mr B. Macpherson took his position. Miss A. Christie was appointed to the hospital class but as it was fairly small she was to help with girls' sewing. Miss J. Murphy was the new dental nurse. During this year Miss Lois Hinton established the Speech clinic in one end of the school library. She spent three days at Hawera and two at Stratford each week and her area stretched from Mokoia to Midhirst.

Mr Sinclair issued the first of his bulletins to parents in March, which were much appreciated and good public relations.

PLANS

Planning was well under way for the building of a new block of classrooms behind the infant school. The two blocks were to be connected and lie in such a way that both got the sun and formed a leg of a swastika. Mr Philip of the committee and Mr Sinclair met the Board's architect on the site and discussed where to have the dental clinic, new baths and hopefully, an assembly hall. It was hard to imagine a Hawera Main School without an assembly hall. There were pine trees that would have to come down and a covered way they would like to be closed in.

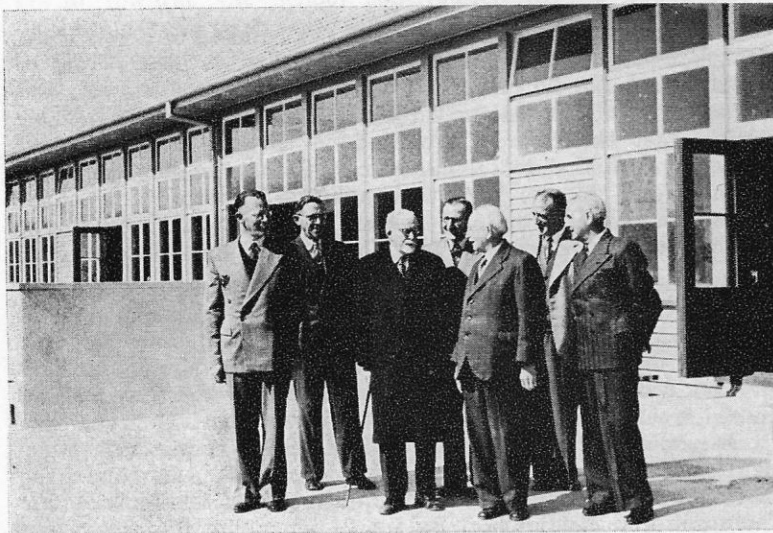
In the holidays two prefabricated rooms were shifted to Ramanui which retained very strong ties with Hawera. A combined schools social was held for senior pupils. The old hall was becoming unsafe and parts of the flooring had to be replaced and the back wall had to be braced. Committeemen were busy making the old dream of our own school baths come true. The first working bee was held on June 12th, 1954 under the supervision of Mr T. H. Reader. Also present were Mr A. MacRae, committee chairman and his deputy Mr Jim Philip, Mr B. Conway, Mr Thompson and Mr Sinclair. By the 21st of June the excavation was completed. Talks were still going on about the Intermediate school planned on the site of the old school which was the next stage in the local education master plan.

The children held a penny concert and raised £118.1 for plastic library book covers. In August Christina Eccleshall was in the basketball "rep" trials. A parent, Mr K. Hingston came and shot some movie film of Mr Strawbridge's demonstration Phys. Ed. class in action, to be shown later at a P.T.A. meeting. An organisation was set up to make plans for erecting an assembly hall for the school and consider ways of raising the money.

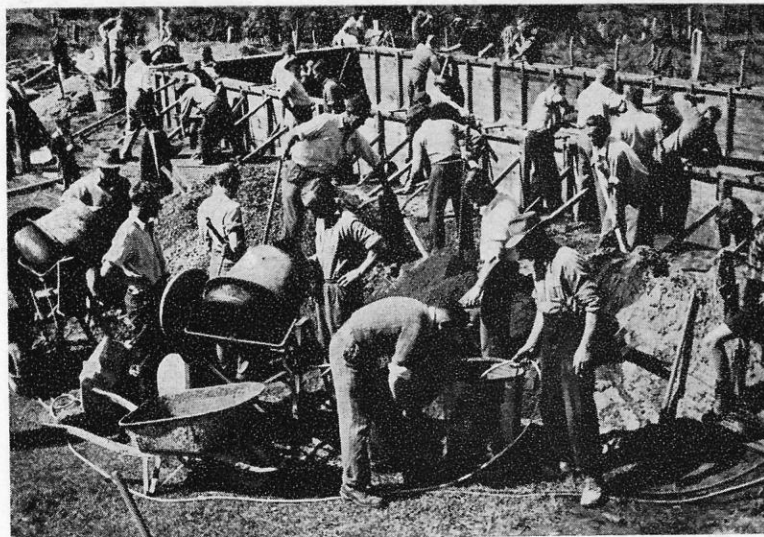
LIGHTNING APPEAL

A very nasty shock hit this organisation—and indeed the whole district, when it was learned on August 17th that the hoped for Government £2 for £1 subsidy for school committees wishing to build their own assembly halls would no longer be available after August 31st. An extra-urgent meeting was called. It was estimated that £6 000 would be needed if Hawera Main were to have an assembly hall. That meant that £2 000 must be raised in thirteen days (before the 31st) to qualify for the £4 000 subsidy. Circulars went out the next day to all parents, well-wishers and old pupils. This was no time for raffles. Straight out gifts were solicited, and loans too, urgently. The holidays were just beginning but two teachers, Colin Smith and B. Macpherson were at school every day for the first week to receive donations and to act as joint secretaries.

The response from the public was most gratifying. The economics of the situation were quickly grasped and the money flowed in. The target was reached in only NINE DAYS.



1954—Mr. A. G. MacRae, Committee Chairman and Mr. H. Sinclair (Headmaster) showing the school to former Committee Chairmen (from left) Mr J. N. Laird (1949-53), Mr Sinclair, Mr Edwin Dixon (about 1906) Mr MacRae, Mr L. A. Bone (1907-12), Mr J. Philip (deputy chairman) and Mr L. Storm (1948-49).



The Big Pour. Construction School Baths 1953

INFANTS MOVE AGAIN

As the third term began in 1954 the infants moved out of their "Sunshine school" of 1928 into the new block built for them behind the old one. Carpenters began to remodel the front block and make it suitable for senior classes.

BATHS AT LAST

At long last in October the baths became a reality. Two thirty-man gangs of volunteers operated pouring concrete for the learners' pool. The first gang began at 7.30 a.m. and Bennett's Bakery supported them with free morning and afternoon tea. By 3.30 p.m. it was finished. The pupils actively supported the fund raising with a copper trail, a Cowboy and Indian social, and 1d. a vote Doll Show.

LAST BREAK UP

An Extra-Special display was arranged to mark the last one in central hall. Every class contributed to a fantastic nature display. There were aquariums, pumice gardens, a birds' egg and nest display, sea shore collections, timber and foliage projects as well as Hornby Trains and a "Punch and Judy Show".

The newly donated Lines Cups for improvement in Rugby and Basketball went to Roy Candy and Wendy Tippet. The General Excellence cups went to Bruce Grummitt, Lois Cole and Heather Cambie. Meanwhile for the infants, Santa arrived at the school on Mr Dowdle's fire engine.

ANOTHER MOVE

By March 1955 the front block was remodelled and ready for its occupants. Hawera Main pupils were once again to move. As the school moved in from the Blockhouse almost eighty years before, they now moved out.

On 30th March, three hundred senior pupils carrying everything from books and maps to fish bowls and nature collections, left their double desks and winged blackboards and made their way down through the playing field to their new home. The mast (flagpole) and Bell from the barque "Lizzie Bell" were not left behind. They have an honoured place still, though electric bells are now in use. (The old bell will be rung at the Centennial Celebrations.) At their last assembly before the move, Mr Sinclair had asked who would be sorry to leave the old school. Only senior hands were raised.

Old pupils however were more sentimental. They had a special "Farewell" church service before the wreckers could move in. (It is interesting to find that the teachers got homesick for their old blackboards and surreptitiously removed the new ones and replaced them with the ones from the old school.)

The grounds were a hive of activity. The Arthur Brown Construction Company began to build the assembly hall, carpenters were working on a detached room for a speech clinic

and equipment and furniture continued to arrive. Many people expressed their concern that the new block was not going to be big enough. Fears were expressed that before the Intermediate school could be built Hawera Main could be very overcrowded.

TEACHERS OF THIS DECADE

Mr H. E. Webster, Miss C. T. O'Donnell, Mr Cowan, Mr J. H. Ward, Miss C. G. Robertson, Miss York, Miss Pope, Mrs Matthews, Miss Burgess, Miss E. Kirk, Mr R. G. Watson, Mr J. Lobb, Miss M. Webster, Miss M. Clayton, '39-'51 Miss J. McGregor, Miss A. Mangin (Mrs Chapman), Mr W. J. Webster, Mr Doug Geeves, Mr Worthington, Miss B. Auld, Miss C. D. Colson, Mrs T. Canavan, Mr Colin Smith, Mrs Barbara Howatson, Mr G. W. Willis, Mr R. Sinclair, Mr I. Gosnell, Miss Preece, Mrs S. J. Powell, Miss M. Bush, Mr E. McEwan (Nature study), Mr K. Clarke, Miss McDonogh, Miss M. Hart, Miss Sowry, Mr R. H. Sinclair (Head), Mr B. Macpherson, Mr H. Bownes, Mr Downs.

PROBATIONARY ASSISTANTS (One Year)

Miss V. Fairweather, Miss M. Kavanagh, Miss J. Barker, Miss Conaglen, Miss M. A. Fletcher, Miss B. Mancer, Miss L. Robertson, Mr M. Clare, Miss A. N. Pope, Miss L. Castle, Miss J. Cathie, Mr S. B. Ritter, Miss J. Rangiwahia, Miss Rakena, Miss H. Smith, Miss W. Pollock.

RELIEVING AND SUPERNUMERARIES

Mr P. V. Brophy, Miss Joan Finlay, Miss J. W. Aitken, Miss M. Jamieson, Miss M. Werren, Mr T. J. Nicholls, Mrs M. V. Maule, Mr W. W. Eade, Miss P. Hutchings, Miss King, Mr Max Strawbridge, Mrs Milner, Mr Mail, Mrs Mail, Mrs Metcalf, Mr A. Cargo, Miss Charteris, Miss Kitchingman, Mrs D. Hanna, Mrs Goldsmith, Mrs J. F. Woolford.

Ninth Decade 1955-1965

The decade began with classes moved into the new school and building activity still going on. After the May holidays the Speech Clinic was finished and the Assembly Hall was coming along nicely. It was ready for use just 14 months after the urgent appeal was launched!

Meanwhile, the familiar "Old School" lay empty waiting for demolition to make way for the long discussed Intermediate School.

On September 16th the Hall had its first ever use when Mr Roystan gave a ventriloquist show for school funds. The first Official function was shortly afterwards when the Hawera School P.T.A. hosted a South Taranaki gathering for the exchange of P.T.A. ideas. The movement was truly at its peak at this time. The following day the School first used it for assembly.

At the end of 1955 Miss E. Kirk who had a long association with the school both as pupil and teacher retired on superannuation after a ten year appointment. However Miss Kirk was still often called on to relieve. Mr Harold Akroyd also retired at this time after twenty years as manual training instructor. The speech Therapist Miss L. Hinton left too, and Mr MacPherson went into business and Mrs Stevenson went after four years at the school.

The 1955 staff had included Mr Sinclair (Head), Mr J. H. Ward (First Asst.), Miss Aburn (Infant M.), Mr Colin Smith, Mr Hugh Bownes, Mr T. Downs, Miss J. Henderson, Miss H. Smith (P.A.), Miss W. Pollock (P.A.), Mrs T. Canavan. Dental Nurses around this time were, Nurses Scott, Fenwick, Evans and Wiltshire. The Caretaker was Mr Savage and the Office Secretary was Mrs Kenning.

At the Break-up Ceremony the following "rep" players were congratulated. Football: Bruce Dingle, Gordon Hall (Taranaki Pr. Schools' Team). Basketball: Kathleen Joll, Robyn Mills, Wendy Tippet. Swimming Champions: W. Gulliver and Robyn Mills (seniors); L. Goldsmith and Helen Grummitt (juniors). The school council girls presented sprays to those ladies leaving, Mr MacRae of the Committee made the presentations and Gay Cook and Shirley Johns entertained with piano items.

1956, the first complete year in the new surroundings began well. The long awaited school baths were ready for use and the committee were very busy tidying up the area. The Pata Street Playground area was ploughed and levelled and the area round the pool sown down in lawn. Bathing sheds were erected and everything began to look very attractive.

The Official Opening Ceremony of the Classroom Block, the Assembly Hall, and the Baths, took place on 14 April, 1956

before a very distinguished group of visitors representing the Inspectorate, the Government, the Department, the Board, the Borough and the County. Guests of Honour included Hon. R. M. Algie, Minister of Education, Hon. E. B. Corbett, Minister of Lands, Mr T. T. Murray, M.P. and Mr R. J. Nairn, former first assistant for very many years and many ex-pupils.

Then life went back to normal with the steady stream of visitors which schools had by then come to accept as normal.

Visitors included Mr Scholes, School Traffic Officer, who came about new crossings. Mr R. Syme and Mr Capon to advise on nature study. Senior Sergeant Groves who talked to the little ones. Mr R. Kirkby of Ararata who brought the children of his sole-charge school on a visit. The Fire Brigade Superintendent who inspected school equipment. Mr Brian Pinder of the Education Department who came to see the Hospital Class. Mr Rillstone, building supervisor who popped in for something or other. Inspectors A. H. Hoskins, O. E. Johnson and E. R. Duncan who came officially. The Phys. Ed. Specialist, Mrs Russell, the Art Specialist Mr D. Campbell and the Agriculture Instructor, Rod Syme. Then the District Nurse came to examine the Std 2—Form 2 children and Mr Ballantyne of the Public Works came about the road frontage. Mr Olliver and Miss Harding, Phys. Ed. Specialists dropped by with some new equipment and Mr. Foggin and Mr White and Mr Les Haycock (all of the Education Board) came on a visit.

The new school was none too large and until the new Intermediate School opened numbers would continue to rise. Local school committeemen met at the end of the year to define school boundaries.

In October one of the school's first pupils Mr Jim Winks died, and the headmaster and first assistant represented the school at the funeral.

During the year two teachers, Mrs Canavan and Mrs Laman suffered the loss of their husbands.

A presentation was made to Mr and Mrs Dowdle, who left for Auckland, in recognition of their work for the school and at Jubilee time. Boys and Girls Club work had dropped to a low level but Mr Smith took responsibility for it and enthusiasm began to return. Eight calves were reared and there were 41 gladioli, 6 potato, 20 early vegetables, 15 late vegetables, and 2 flower plots entered.

In 1957 Miss H. Nicholl, Mr Walden, Mrs Jones and Miss J. Burns joined the staff.

Murray Patchett was elected chairman of school council.

The school had a visit from the Olympic Gold Medallist Norman Read.

The Swimming Championships were won by: Ian Stockwell and Barry Philip, Judith Sinclair (senior); Richard Bassett and Cheryl Burns (junior).

R. Bassett also won the Spragg Banner Champion of Champions.

In April, the newly installed "intercom" system was put into operation and the Speech Therapist, Miss Pyner began regular speech training exercises over it.

The committee removed the old hedge and levelled the ground at the front of the school. The traffic patrols were operating regularly at the crossings outside the school and more than once an erring motorist who drove through against the flags was reported to the Transport Department.

Heather Conway won a third prize in a Rupert Painting contest for children living outside the British Isles.

In the winter, Mrs Jones' Form 1 class and three parents went on a day trip to Wanganui by bus. Mr Smith was selected as a Taranaki Hockey Rep and was absent when games were on. Judith Sinclair was in the Taranaki B School Basketball Reps.

The P.T.A. had an attendance of two hundred at its meeting when pupils provided musical and verse speaking items. Mr Sorrenson and Mr Stewart joined the staff during the year.

The school frontage began to take on its new look. Lovells gave 50 dozen plants and Mr Syme arrived with a whole lot more.

In November a curtain was acquired for the stage in the Hall just in time for the highlight of the year. A Concert presentation of Aladdin, A Maori Tableau and an Operetta, were so eagerly awaited that tickets for both performances were sold out, and a third evening also saw a full house. Pantomime Characters were: Aladdin, Judith Sinclair; The Emperor, Murray Patchett; Princess, Wendy Aim; Widow Twanky, Barry Philip; The Magician, Ian Stockwell.

The first half of the programme included a cornet solo by Graeme Kennedy, a violin solo by Verneice Smith, Maori songs by Joyce Hennessy and a piano duet by Marie Latimer and Gillian Gibson.

The second half began with a selection of Maori items, hakas, action songs, a double poi dance, a fishing song and a stick game. The forty or so genuine Maoris (and would-be Maoris) gave a convincing performance.

The evening concluded with a short operetta set in a Village Square in Holland. Bergemeester "Grumpy Growl" was played by Paul Neale, The Gardener was Alistair Gow, The Fisherman, Neil Smith, and the Cheeseman, Barry Tippet. The children were, Judith Sinclair, Carol Hocken, Mary McIndoe, Cynthia Hancock, Brian Grant-Mackie and Neil Taylor, and dancers, Heather Lester and Sonia Rodgers.

Press reports were glowing and praised Mr Walden for the Maori items, Miss Aburn for the music and Mr Stewart and Mr Ward for the production. Ticket sales realised over £60 and half the proceeds of the third night went to the Cancer Campaign.



Mr Rod Syme
Agriculture Instructor and Boys'
and Girls' Club Organiser for
many years.



Mr Jack Cowan
Acting Principal and First
Assistant (1950s)



Mr Henry Sinclair, Principal
1953-1958



Mr Jim Graham,
Principal (1963-68)

The end of year function was again held in two parts, because of the size of the school. A Farewell social was held for Form 1 and 2 pupils and was much enjoyed. After nine years Mr Ward left the school and everyone was sorry to see him go.

In the first few weeks of 1958 two important visitors came to the district. The first was the Queen Mother who charmed everyone and the second, the new Governor General, Lord Cobham and his Lady. He granted the usual holiday.

Miss E. Green and Miss J. Emmerton were the P.A.s for the year and Miss J. Rose was a new teacher. The Chairman of the School Council was Hillary Stenning.

Red House won the 1958 Swimming with 134 points. Champions were Robert Low and Cherilyn Burns (senior) and Donald Stockwell and Marilyn Taylor (juniors).

At the end of the first term, Mr Sinclair received word that he was to serve as a temporary inspector. Mr Smith was away playing hockey for Taranaki against Pakistan. Then Miss Rose and Mr Green left to go overseas.

They were replaced by Miss J. Auton and Mr I. J. Doyle and Mr John Allen was acting Headmaster until the end of the year.

Dr Barnardo Homes representative, Mrs Bowland came and told the children about the work of the Homes. Thirty-six new helpers were enrolled.

Mr Colin Smith was appointed first assistant at Ramanui. The local Headmasters held their regular meetings and the topic most on their minds at this time was the Government's "Free Text Book Scheme" soon to come into operation. Another subject of interest was whether or not there were enough children about who would benefit if a "Special Class" were to be set up.

Towards the end of the year, it became known that Mr Sinclair would not be returning but would continue as an inspector. Accordingly a special assembly was held to give pupils and council the opportunity to say "Goodbye".

Inspector Johnson made a suggestion that if the library was used as a classroom there would be room for a "Special Class". The committee had been very busy building a bike-shed for the school but when space was allocated, it was found to be too small.

There was a general teacher shortage in the last term. The board asked for a volunteer to go to Manaia as Infant Mistress as Mrs Woolford was available to replace her at Hawera, so Mrs T. Canavan went to Manaia.

In October the infants held their Fancy Dress Ball.

Ramanui School borrowed our Hall for Festival Plays and the door charge was to go to their Hall appeal.

High School careers advisors Miss Sargeant and Mr Saunders came to enrol pupils and forty parents took the opportunity

to talk with them. Mrs Jones and Miss Pyner left at the end of the term.

The new Headmaster, Mr N. M. Hislop arrived at the beginning of 1959.

The new P.A.s were Misses Hoskins and Wilmshurst. Misses Haddy and Humphrey were relieving and Miss McErlain was the new Speech Therapist. Mrs Ross was in the school office.

The much talked about "Free Text Book Scheme" came into operation and the first books to arrive were dictionaries and atlases for the seniors. The "Special Class" became a reality and furniture for it arrived. All children from Standard 3 upwards were given an I.Q. Test and then grouped into composite classes in three ability streams.

DIPHTHERIA BEATEN

To the satisfaction of the whole world it became possible to prevent children catching diphtheria. Infants were immunised and the young children at school were given booster shots.

Swimming: Marilyn Taylor became the Girls' District Champion.

The rules of basketball were changed, and Ramanui girls came along and demonstrated the game as it had become. The school Drama Club coached by Mr Stewart and Miss Hoskins performed two plays in the Junior Drama League Festival in May and Miss Aburn's school choir was invited to perform too.

Mr A. Taylor became the new School Committee Chairman at the biennial householders' meeting.

It was not until the second term that the "special class" actually began lessons with Mrs Woolford. Mrs Howden and Mrs Walters came to relieve for a while.

During the middle term, Chief Fire Officer Anderson came along on the fire engine, conducted fire drill evacuation and gave the winners of the Poster competition a ride on the engine.

After the August holidays the roll was up to 486 and 489 by October. The Board asked for a survey on the number of pre-schoolers about. Mrs Mail joined the staff as senior woman.

The famous Sir Edmund Hilary came and spoke to the scholars and possibly due to the interest this aroused, the "Special" class had a day at Mt. Egmont and another up at Stratford.

The Operetta, "Gypsy Gay" and the play "The Crimson Coconut" were performed for the parents and again for the children.

The schools were told they could order their "Free Text Books" through their local retailers.

During 1959 the "Old School" just disappeared and the Intermediate was on the way to becoming a reality, on the site.

The library was made into a classroom at the end of the year. Shelves had to be put up along the corridor next to the Headmaster's office for a temporary library.

At the End of Year function a nativity play "A Christmas Journey" was performed and other items given. The DUX award went to Shirley Dingle. The Head boy, Paul Neal and Head girl, Josephine Walker spoke briefly. Mr R. Sorrenson was farewelled after four years at Hawera School.

The opening roll for 1960 was 459, Mr Hugh Bownes resigned to visit Great Britain and the U.S.A. Miss Wilmshurst came and Misses Page and Russell were the new P.A.s. In May the school lost Mrs Canavan, Mr Stewart, Miss Nicholls, Miss Aburn and Miss Auton who went to England.

The committee had a busy time and working bees laid paths from the road gate to both sides of the bicycle sheds.

The roll was 496 after the May holidays and Miss M. Webster began as Infant Mistress and Mr D. Morgan and Mr M. Stevenson were also appointed. An Australian exchange teacher, Mr Sinclair came to relieve as did Miss Kirk and Mrs Walden.

In winter the Rugby boys won the Linkhorn Cup. This was a popular win and only our second since 1934. The newspaper commented that in 1934 K. Milne was half back, and this time it was his son. Everyone felt very satisfied with the win as it was to be Hawera's last chance (with the Intermediate due to open soon). David Jones was selected a Rugby rep. Hawera also won the Ten-a-side Knockout competition for the Bhana Cup.

At the Competitions in August the school choir won several prizes and brought home the banner for the class open to both primary and secondary schools.

The P.T.A. continued to enjoy substantial support from the parents. They ran a "Father and Son" evening and also a "Mother and Daughter" evening and were very gratified with the attendance on these nights.

The roll got as far as 520 by the end of December but at the Break up, three classes were farewelled—one for High School and two for Intermediate. The Dux award was won by Michael Taylor and head pupils, Paul Veitch and Helen Walker spoke. Each member of the school council received the customary council photograph.

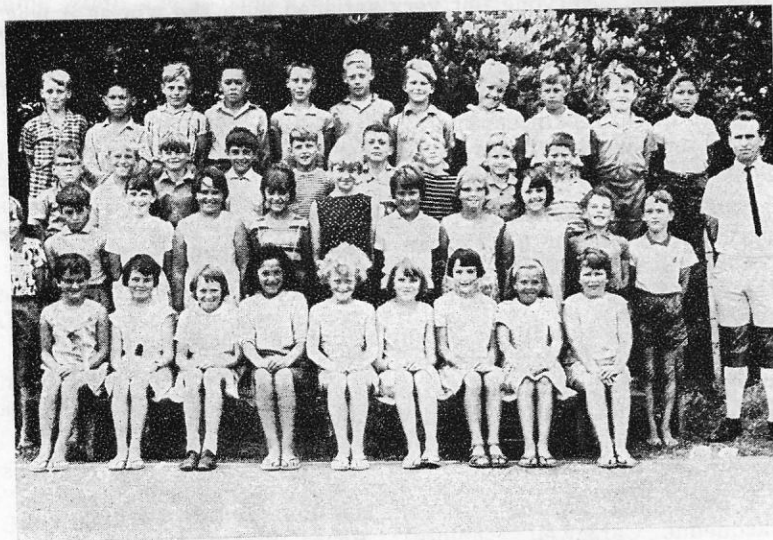
Swimming awards: Gordon MacRae, Judith Perkins and Jacqueline Careswell (seniors); Bruce Stockwell and Helen Walker (juniors). Dixon Banner: Champion of Champions, Raewyn Robinson. Tennis: Rose Milne and Margaret Taylor.

The Intermediate school was finished and a headmaster, Mr Tunnicliffe had been appointed. He was invited to come to the Hawera Break-up and when he spoke he extended a welcome to the 117 children who would be first day pupils of the new school. The 73 off to High School must have felt a little cheated.



Staff in Mr. Hislop's Time: 1961

Back row: Mr M. Stevenson, Miss J. Metcalfe, Mr D. Morgan, Mrs J. Woolford, Mr K. Peters, Miss J. Hoskins, Mr W. Mail, Miss A. Evans.
Front row: Mrs Rowlands, Mrs J. McCallum, Miss M. Webster, Mr N. Hislop (Headmaster), Mrs A. Mail, Mr I. Doyle, Miss M. Wilmshurst, Miss N. McGuinness.



Class Group 1968. Teacher Mr Nicholson

Back row: Peter Broesma, Neville Robinson, Ross Craigie, Leslie Sole, Trevor Emeny, Carl Stent, Stephen Hurrell, Gary Davison, Wayne Darbyshire, Glenn Gray, Rajesh Govind.
Second row: Robert Metcalf, Michael Johnston, Chris Barclay, Steven Robinson, Rauol Lealand, Robert Taylor, Martin Stevens, Michael Stockley, Grant Peters.
Third row: Brett Goldup, Kevin Cochrane, Heather Learmonth, Judith Watson, Gail Thompson, Linda Boon, Carol Hill, Anita Foreman, Michelle Scott, Steven Beauchamp, Peter Hughes.
Front row: Jan Smith, Ruth Casey, Carol Telford, Agnes Ropiha, Pam McKenzie, Susan Murfitt, Robyn Jones, Robyn Butler, Janice Bowers. Teacher: Mr. A. Nicholson.

INTERMEDIATE OPENS

Well, there was a lot more room about the place in 1961. With only 355 pupils they could afford to shift all the library books out of the corridor and back where they belonged. To the surprise of everyone, the Standard 3 children of the previous year realised they were now the "Big kids" and rose to the occasion nobly. They assumed a new maturity, took on duties as traffic wardens and councillors and did them very well. Head pupils were Robert Filbee and Jennifer West.

The new P.A.s were Mr K. Peters and Miss J. Metcalf, and Miss B. McGuinness was the new speech therapist. During the year, Miss Webster, the Infant mistress conducted a series of experiments in Language Development and this attracted a steady stream of visitors from Taranaki and Wanganui.

There were eight new faces in the staffroom at the start of 1962. Mr John Lobb took up duties as First assistant, and Mrs A. Fryer as senior woman. Other assistants were Mrs A. Chapman (formerly Miss Mangin) (Infant Mistress), Mr C. Hedley, Mrs J. Barton, and the P.A.s Misses R. Dormer and J. Lawrence.

There was a bad 'flu epidemic in the winter. Up to a hundred children away each day and four teachers. Nurse Matthews gave each child born in 1956 an Audiometer test, and the Psychologist, Mr Callender tested children too.

POLIO DEFEATED

In April and May 1962 the school children received their first and second doses of the "Sabin" anti-polio vaccine. At last it seemed as though this enemy of children had been defeated.

The committeemen enlarged the rear entrance paths with concrete slabs. In August the Standard 1 and Standard 2 held a real "Hangi" and were able to feed themselves and give everyone else a taste. Of course they had expert advice from Rev. Darville, Mr Whiti and Mr Davis. At the end of the second term four teachers left as also did the Headmaster, Mr Hislop who went to a position at Devon Intermediate.

MR JIM GRAHAM

Mr Jim Graham came to Hawera at the start of the third term in 1963. He has been described as a patriotic returned soldier, a rugby enthusiast, an innovator and an inspiration to his fellow teachers. He did not believe in administering the school from the office and was frequently to be found around the classrooms.

In Mr Graham's time school concerts were organised usually about August and each class had to arrange an item. So there would not be any time lag between items the programme was arranged with front-of-curtain items on, while any scene shift took place. Children were timed with split second precision as they made their way from changing rooms, down the covered way to the stage for their items. He was enthusiastic about about reading, and every child was "Burt Tested" to determine

his reading age. Children were then grouped according to this reading age and special "Reading Rooms" set up. On three days a week children went to their reading rooms. Mrs Ihle took the 5½-7 year level with phonics, reading aloud and graded reader with special attention for weaker readers. Mr Graham took the 12 plus group.

At this time Hawera School helped as a pilot school on the "New Maths". Mr Graham offered the school and he organised a Maths Trolley with all the new equipment so that it could go to different classes. The authors of the new handbook, Mr J. J. Lee and Mr McFarland came and spoke on it. The staff experimented with the Grossnickle Mathematics books.

The new infant readers were analysed and evaluated in the Hawera infant classes by Mrs A. Chapman and her staff. (The N.Z. Readers written by Myrtle Simpson and now being published and used in England.)

The log records the death of a pupil, Robert Richard Moffat who drowned in the lake at the showgrounds. Mr Graham and the Committee Chairman visited Mrs Moffat to convey the message of sympathy from the school.

At the Break-up Mr Graham spoke to the parents about the pressures of modern life and how they affect children. He made a plea to parents, never to be "too busy" to make a stable happy background for each child. He deplored the all too frequent changes of teacher from which children often suffer, and he spoke of the resulting stress and setback.

Awards presented: Academic: Ainsley Johnson. Bhana Cup: Brian Drake and Patricia Clatworthy. Swimming: Jasper Buttress and Ainsley Johnson (senior); Neil Billington and Debbie Boon (junior). Athletics: Raymond Nairn and Karen Coulton. Padder Tennis: Chris Berry and Clarice Boylan. Lines Cups: Bronwyn Hoskin and Gregory Billington.

1963. The Shell Traffic Trainer was stationed at the school. The new school council was elected with G. Cambie as Head Boy and K. Butler as Head Girl. New staff were Mrs J. Henman (nee Metcalf) (Special class), Mr E. Betts and two relieving teachers, Mr Riley and Miss Garvey.

The Parent Teacher Association published a printed programme of the seven meetings planned for the year all on topics related to school work. These meetings were directed towards explaining the work of the school in each subject area. The President was Mr D. M. Harris with Rev. J. R. Battersby as secretary. The New committee chairman was Mr E. Terrill.

September. Secondary pupils came on a visit to see Education in action.

Parent evening. It was decided to go ahead with Filtration of Baths. Target £350 and to have a direct appeal to parents and a school concert. Parents supported this appeal very well and the following month a Wilkie Filter was ordered.

The planned concert took place at the end of year and was well received.

1964 began well and smoothly. Teachers attended one day before the children arrived and sorted out many things peacefully. The children knew their classrooms as this had been arranged before Xmas. The baths were filled and the new filter put into operation.

A new jungle gym replaced the broken one and was very popular.

Swimming: N. Billington, Debbie Boon (senior); D. Donaldson, Janice Powell (junior).

2-6 March. Head attended Headteachers' conference at Wallis House, Lower Hutt. April. Mr Savage, caretaker for 14 years moving to a position at Girls' College Tauranga. Committee short-listed eight applicants for the position. A special assembly later held to say goodbye to Mr Savage.

The June P.T.A. meeting was addressed by Inspector O. E. Johnson, who said it was the first opportunity he had had to do this. He discussed changes over the years and said "size of classes" was still the greatest impediment to education.

July. Parent interviews about reports arranged at fifteen minute intervals in school time. Most successful. 71% of parents were able to come. Education Board called tenders for alteration old block and enlarging. This work began in October.

Mr Betts represented Taranaki at Hockey.

In December parents arranged a roster so that school baths could be used and supervised over the holidays.

"The Smilie Construction Co. have been most co-operative. Buildings nearly ready". The end of year function had a decidedly "Scandinavian" flavour.

Awards: Academic, Margaret Thomson and John Hamer (equal). Bhana Cups: Neil Billington and Jeanne Wallis. Lines Cups: Shona Wilmshurst and Peter Colban. Athletics: Bronwyn Coulton, Graeme West. Padder Tennis: Janice Spalding and Graeme West. School Council: Neil Billington, Jeanne Wallis, D. McClenaghan, M. Williams, D. Donaldson, J. Hamer, D. Drake, Pam Cockerill, Christine Rowlands, Julie Jensen, Adele Wilton, Janine Collett.

1965 saw a smooth move into the improved classrooms. The staff day prior to the arrival of children was again carefully planned and put to the best use. The height of blackboards and their position was a great improvement. Staff very pleased indeed.

The swimming sports and Dixon Banner went off well.

In March the Minister of Health and Dr Blake Palmer visited concerning an I.H.C. Hostel.

The decade closed with over seventy parents turning out for the biennial householders' meeting and election which was taken as a fairly healthy sign.

Tenth Decade 1965-1975

Many improvements fervently hoped for by parents and teachers of previous years had by the beginning of this decade, become a reality. Polio (Infantile paralysis) and Diphtheria which for so long played havoc with school life, were at last preventable and during this decade Rubella joined their ranks. Regular hearing and vision checks are carried out and children who are specially gifted or are emotionally disturbed now get the attention they need. This is the decade when class sizes have been reduced to thirty-five and may some day go lower. Teachers now spend three years in training college. No longer do children feel the need to play truant. In recent years a "Basic Equipment Grant" has largely replaced the parents' fund-raising ventures which were once so vitally necessary. The "New Maths" and the new Infant Readers which were introduced as pilot schemes at Hawera in the previous decade are now part of the school scene everywhere.

The School Donation Scheme which Mr Graham began, continues in operation today. This scheme guarantees the school an income for things not covered by basic equipment grants and most parents find it much easier than bazaars and stalls. Most families donate around \$2.50 a year, though larger gifts are not uncommon and one of \$50 was received.

The "Reading Rooms" operating to suit children of different reading ages did much to stimulate interest in reading which has continued at Hawera. The report interviews which Mr Graham began also proved very worthwhile. More than three quarters of the children had a parent who was able to come and talk over his progress. A steady stream of specialists continues to come into the schools as advisors. For the first few years of this decade regular courses on "New Maths" were held for the teachers.

LOG NOTES

DECEMBER 1965. End of year Guest Speaker was Inspector Henry Sinclair, former Hawera Main Headmaster.

FEBRUARY 1966. The discovery of a large wasp nest in the back paddock resulted in a double burn operation by Mr Rodie which freed the school of a long felt nuisance. Anzac Day: Mrs Jean Drake again made a wreath for the school.

JUNE: Dulux Colour Consultants came about a new colour scheme for the school.

5 JULY: Special morning tea to mark the last official visit of Mr Sinclair.

AUGUST: A prototype infant blackboard was made and tried out and with two minor alterations it proved successful.

SEPTEMBER: The roll rose to 404. Committee donated twelve padder-tennis bats and nets and £25 for shrubs for the school frontage. Mr Blyth will supervise the choice and the planting of them.

OCTOBER: School concert.

NOVEMBER: Mrs Miles, an ex-librarian, is to advise on purchases and give some help with the school library.

1967. Swimming sports held separately for Infants and seniors. The sealing of the playground progresses slowly as the contractor works alone.

MARCH: Further parent working bees on the library, sorting, re-carding, plastic covering and accessioning new books. Head Boy and Girl and Mr Graham represented the school at the opening of the new Hawera Post Office.

MAY: Rooms 1-6 are to be painted over the holidays. It will mean a tremendous upheaval but the staff have tackled it willingly.

SEPTEMBER: We are disappointed that the grading roll is only 399. Speech therapist Miss Kinsella who married Mr Colin Hedley (also on the staff) has resigned. She will not be replaced this year.

OCTOBER: Staff disappointed that the Board decided not to paint the assembly hall as part of the routine maintenance.

DECEMBER: Unpredictably the roll is up to 415.

1968. STAFF: Mr J. Graham, Mrs Ihle, Mrs A. Chapman, Mrs Riley, Mrs Birrell, Mrs Campbell, Mr Baunton, (relieving) Miss Fryer, Miss Smith, Mrs Hagen, Miss Bell, Miss Davis, Mr Nicholson, Miss Minton, Miss Sanderson, Mrs Bleakley (relieving) and Mrs S. Powell.

Early in 1968 Mr Graham was notified of his appointment to Greerton School in Tauranga and he left after five years at Hawera.

MR COLIN SMITH

The new headmaster was Mr Colin Smith, previously first assistant at Hawera Intermediate School. Mr Smith spent his early years at Opunake but was later Head Boy at Hawera Technical High School. His wife is a second generation Hawera School pupil. He taught at Hawera in 1950, 1954 and had been relieving First assistant in 1958. He had been a Taranaki Hockey representative.

1968 Notes: Mr Smith took up his duties in May. During the winter Hawera played Eltham at Soccer, Rugby, Hockey and Basketball. On Arbor Day golden Pohutukawa trees were planted along the South Road frontage and gaps filled in other pohutukawa hedges.

SEPTEMBER: Children took part in the Primary Schools' music festival and had a visit from the Childrens' Art Theatre.

NOVEMBER: Mr Watson's class paid a visit to the Wanganui Museum, the Putiki Pa and the Putiki Church. Ramanui School shared in the visit. About fifty parents of new entrants in Rooms 1 and 2 came along to hear the new-entrant work programmes explained and have any queries answered. Mr George Hill came to test pupils for intermediate school. Over a hundred parents came along for the athletic sports which were changed from February to November, in 1967. The recorder group trained by Mr Alan Tozer, performed for the November P.T.A. meeting.

As the warmer weather arrived parents organised themselves to supervise swimming out of school hours. Four Saturday "Learn to Swim" classes were arranged by the Hawera Swimming Club. A hundred and forty-four school pupils were accepted for the course and eighty had to be refused.

DECEMBER: Mr Watson absent to attend the Graduation Ceremony for Probationary Assistants. (Young teachers previously received their certificates in the post.) The Ministers' Association held a pre-Christmas Carol Service.

1969. A very expensive reshuffle was completed. We were thinking in dollars and cents by then and at a cost of \$18,000 the "special" classroom was converted into a new library which was to be carpeted, the library then in use was converted to a "Special" classroom and another new "Special" Classroom was built.

The roll stood at 414 and the staff was as follows: Mr C. Smith, Mr John Lobb, Mrs A. Chapman, Mrs A. Ihle, Mrs S. Powell, Mrs N. O'Donnell, Mrs Ann Fryer, Mrs Jo Campbell, Miss Lynn Roberts (P.A.), Miss Raewyn Campbell (P.A.), Miss M. Wright, Miss Cheryl Hall, Miss Brenda Shaw, Miss Joan Mills (Speech Therapy), Mr Andrew Nicholson, Mr B. McKenzie. and Mrs Eileen Dormer (hospital class).

The 1969 Swimming sports were held at the Town Baths.

FEBRUARY: A "Two-Hour Gala" arranged to defray the cost of the carpet for the new library. (It was held on 22 March and raised over \$500.) Inspectors Martin and Olson visited to see Year One teachers. Members of a team of Australian Gymnasts visited the school.

JUNE: Mrs J. Young who is organising librarian, Schools Library Service was at school for a week. A team of twenty-one mothers volunteered to help her with typing and sorting and the school library was changed over to New Dewey system of cataloguing for schools. The team of mothers had their photo in the "Hawera Star".

JULY: Two small children, William Jones (5) and Peter Lind (6) were run down while crossing the road outside the school. The crossing was being patrolled by the safety wardens at the time. The Headmaster, the committee chairman, Mr Stevens and Traffic Officer Watson inspected the area to see if visibility could be improved. This accident led to the development of the back entrance to the school for safety.

OCTOBER: The Cook Bi-centenary celebrations at Gisborne

were shown on Television and due to the kindness of J. B. MacEwan's Machinery staff it was made possible for children to view this long and memorable programme and join in the singing.

Seven staff members left at the end of 1969. Mrs Fryer, Miss Roberts, Miss Campbell, Mrs O'Donnell, Miss Hall, Miss Mills (speech therapist, now an N.A.C. air hostess) and Miss J. Lines, Senior Dental Nurse.

During the holidays the wall between the library and Room 8 was sound-proofed and louvres fitted over the top windows in the front block. Mr Smith's Newsletter at the start of 1970 appealed for help from any parents willing to type labels for journal boxes or varnish library shelves. It also asked for chocolate boxes for individual maths equipment boxes and spare underwear in case of infant room "accidents".

After nine years at Hawera, Mrs Ihle was farewelled early in March. The Log Book records that the School librarians have been appointed and are shaping well. They are named as: HEAD LIBRARIAN, Janice Rowlands; SENIOR LIBRARIANS: Karen Smith, Debbie Johnston, Anne Thomas, Alison Pepperell, Gordon Griffin; LIBRARIANS: Raewyn West, Leonie Boyd, Stuart Glass, Lyn Beauchamp, Cheryl Dombroski, Whaiora Savage, Robynne Lambert, Sandra Warner, Fiona Petherick, Kerry McClenaghan, Leslie Huffam, Steven Stockley, Barbara Knapman, Gaye Waters, and Jill Walker.

MARCH 1970: The "Special" Classes of Hawera and Stratford combined for a most ambitious Camp-Out in the Hawera School Grounds. Mrs Riley and Mrs J. Campbell of Hawera and Mrs Coull of Stratford were helped by specialist teachers Mr Lonsdale, Mr Capon and Mr Guild. Twenty-nine children took part in what was described as "an experiment in living and working together". Most of them slept in tents and the rest at their homes. They swam and had Sing-alongs and visited the "Lakes" and the Observatory at the Park.

Easter Saturday: The Fire Brigade summoned to a fire in the Pohutukawa trees. (It seems three boys from Primer 4, Standard 1 and Standard 2 were having an illicit smoko and were unable to put out the fire they caused.)

APRIL: Te Roti pupils visited for one day to see what it was like to work with a large class in a large school.

JUNE: Sickness struck the school affecting up to a hundred children and four teachers at a time.

JULY: Rooms 2 and 3 visited Wilson's Farm at Mokoia. Some Jaycees came to interest the children in their Milk Biscuit Scheme for children in under-developed countries. An excellent response from the pupils. Many petty burglaries at the school. (Keys and a few cents taken.)

AUGUST: Concert very successful. Over four hundred people crowded into the hall.

SEPTEMBER: We marked International Education Year, by having an Open Day at the school and an Evening Function. Parents were invited to join us for tea or coffee and then wander through the school observing the classes at work. (Visitors were asked NOT to strike up a conversation with teachers who would be carrying on as though no one was watching.) Second round of the Rubella (German measles) vaccinations. Several school trips made. One to Wanganui Museum and two to Ohawe.

NOVEMBER: Dixon Banner won by our team of T. Thomas, C. Thomas, M. Croad, M. Withers, S. Young, and A. Gibson.

1971. New staff, Miss T. Hurley, Mrs M. Glover, Miss J. Penney, Miss A. Tombs, Mrs J. McCallum, Miss J. Murray, Mrs G. Hunt, Mr T. Ryan, Miss M. Clough, Mr A. Drake, Mrs Bleakley, Miss Crutchley (speech), Mrs Hagen (teacher aid).

FEBRUARY: Headmaster attended an advisory committee meeting on "Gifted Children". A party of pupils were taken to the opening of the new Hawera Police Station. Room 10 held a camp. Swimming sports again held at King Edward Park Pool. Champions: Greg Parsons and Kerry Barclay (senior); David McCallum and Janine Cruden (junior).

MARCH: Rooms 13 and 14 held a blackberrying expedition to Te Kiri and Rooms 4 and 5 had a trip to Ohawe. Mr Lobb's class had a camp at the Eltham Presbyterian Camp site. Four mothers helped. The new library proves a popular venue for courses. Used for a Child Development course at which Mr Don McAlpine of Massey University was guest speaker.

APRIL: Biennial election results: Chairman, Mr R. Stevens; Secretary, Mr D. Lind. Forty-six attended the meeting. Heaters installed in Room 14 to boost the heating system. Miss Clough's class, Room 9 visited New Plymouth Museum and the Waitara Pa.

JULY: Parent interviews spread over a week of afternoon and evening sessions. School closed for a MID-TERM BREAK on July 12th. More class trips. Rooms 13 and 14 went to Mt. Egmont and the Plateau, Rooms 1 and 2 took a short railcar journey from Normanby to Hawera and Rooms 4 and 5 visited Te Roti School. Music course and a science course held in the library.

AUGUST: A Social held for combined staff, committee and P.T.A. Executive. The hall was absolutely packed with supporters when another "Two-Hour" Gala was held one morning. It was hoped to raise \$250 towards erecting a shelter at the rear entrance but twice this amount was raised in less than the two hours.

SEPTEMBER: The school recorder group and the choir performed at the Festival in the Little Theatre.

OCTOBER: A large tree fell across the baths. Mr Chittendon and his son removed it with a chain saw.

Over two hundred parents and friends visited on the "Open Afternoon to see the special displays set up on language, mathematics and writing, each showing how a pupil's work develops from year to year. Some teachers from New Guinea spoke in assembly. A music group from N.P. Boys' High gave a musical programme.

NOVEMBER: P.T.A. meeting took "Drugs" as its topic. Hawera won the Dixon Banner third time in succession. Rev. Len Willing was end of year guest speaker.

1972. New Staff: Miss Strauchon, Miss Melville (Scotland), Mr D. De Maine, Mrs E. Cairns, Miss J. Homer (speech), Mrs S. Tobin (dental nurse). On the staff day at the beginning of term, before the pupils returned, teachers heard about a positive approach to behaviour problems and the ways in which the school psychological service deals with the cases referred to it.

MARCH: Ninety at the P.T.A. annual meeting heard Mr Smith stress the need for varied pre-school experience and good oral language. Mr A. Dietschin replaced Mr B. Harding as president and Mrs J. Langford became secretary.

APRIL: Mr Menzies took an excellent workshop for parents on the school music syllabus but only forty attended. Mr Lobb's and Mrs Powell's rooms and the two special classes, entertained parents of their pupils at special afternoon teas at the end of term.

JUNE: Mrs Powell took a party out to entertain senior citizens. An Inservice course on audio-visual aids. Individual colour photos taken of the school children by Fotochrome Studios. Many teachers ill over the winter months. Relieving help given by Mrs Jean Smith, Mrs K. Wright, Miss Latimer and Mrs Cairns. The first unit classroom occupied.

1973. Cleaning of the school building was taken over by commercial cleaners. The dream of thousands of teachers became a reality. Smaller classes of not more than thirty-five children to a teacher became official. A second unit classroom arrived and the pupils using the hall as a temporary classroom moved in to it.

APRIL: Thirty at the Householders' Meeting. Mr A. Hughson became committee Chairman. Mr Lobb ill and in hospital for a time. A three day course on Gifted Children held.

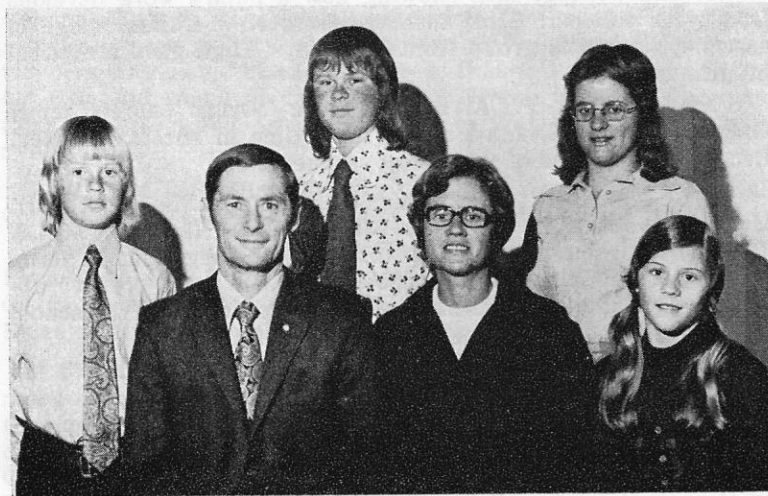
JUNE: Mrs Margaret Young, local ward member on the Education Board visited the school.

JULY: Messrs Davis and Phillips of the Egmont Power Board came and presented prizes to the placegetters in the recent Electrical Safety Competition.

NOVEMBER: Four student teachers from Palmerston North Teachers' College came for a weeks observation.

DECEMBER: A senior and a junior Fancy Dress Ball held.

During 1974 the third unit room arrived, the prefab was taken to Ohawe and work began in the new Speech Clinic on a quieter site. In April 1974 twenty people attended a meeting to



The Principal, Mr Colin Smith, Mrs. Smith (Jean Murch 1937-1944) and family from left Robert, Geoffrey, Jan and Barbara.



Centennial Year Staff

Back row: Miss S. Dryden, Mrs J. Smith, Mr W. Huffam, Mr D. Murphy, Mr R. Forsberg, Mr G. Hill, Mrs O. Bringans, Miss J. Clague.
 Centre row: Mrs H. Moore, Mrs A. Chapman, Mrs J. Schurr, Miss C. Hall, Miss A. Matthews, Miss J. Averill, Mrs D. Christiansen, Miss S. Whitehead, Mrs D. Hagan, Mrs M. Bacon.
 Front row: Mrs J. Walls, Mrs J. Sawers, Mrs J. McCallum, Mr C. Smith (Principal), Mr J. Lobb, Mrs J. Hughson, Mrs S. Powell, Miss M. Riley.

elect a 100th Jubilee Committee to plan celebrations. The Social Evening for staff, committee and PTA Executive was held in October.

As this decade finished and the school completed its first hundred years Hawera was beginning work on a pilot scheme, stage one, of a new music unit for infant classes. A great deal of planning work has been done for the jubilee celebrations and committeemen are working hard to ensure that the school will look its best. Three staff members, Mr Smith, Mr Lobb and Mrs Chapman were also on the staff when the last jubilee was celebrated in 1950.

Several families in Hawera have been associated with the school for three generations (the Headmaster's family are third generation) and the Chadwick family has had four generations attend Hawera Main School.

STAFFING 1975

Principal	—	—	Mr Colin Smith
Deputy Principal	—	—	Mr John Lobb
S.T.J.C.	—	—	Mrs Jalna McCallum (acting)
S.T.B.2	—	—	Mrs Shirley Powell
S.T.B.1	—	—	Mrs Jan Sawers
S.T.B.1 Special Class	—	—	Mrs Jan Hughson

Room	Teacher	Class	No. of Pupils
1	Mrs Alberta Chapman	N.E.	21
2	Miss Catherine Hall	J.1	17
3	Miss Anne Matthews	J.1	16
4	Mrs Jalna McCallum	J.1	22
5	Mrs Julie Schurr	J.2	26
6	Miss Amanda Riley	J.2	21
16	Miss Suzanne Whitehead	S.1	32
17	Mrs Jan Sawers	S.1-S.2	35
9	Mrs Olive Bringans	S.2	35
12	Mrs Shirley Powell	S.2-S.3	35
10	Mr Russell Forsberg	S.3	35
11	Mr Dan Murphy	S.3	27
8	Mr John Lobb	S.4	36
15	Mr George Hill	S.4	37
13	Mrs Jan Hughson	Junior Spec.	12
14	Mrs Judy Walls	Senior Spec.	11
	Speech Therapist	—	Miss Joy Averill
	Hospital Class	—	Mrs Margaret Bacon



School Council 1975

Back Row: J. Kazubiernis, R. Smith, A. Chapman, V. Jones.
 Middle row: M. Young, J. Porteous, S. Clancy, K. Savage, R. Armond, G. English.
 Front row: C. Devadhar, L. Potts, B. Murch, Mr J. Lobb, Mr C. M. Smith, J. Stevenson,
 J. Ranford, V. Westwood.



A 1975 Class Group

Back row: B. Burnett, M. Gudopp, D. Murray, K. Sandford, J. Savage, B. Cottle.
 Third row: J. Kazubiernis, S. Batchelor, P. Bennett, R. Smith, G. Barnett, G. Ross,
 M. Young, A. Dietschin, R. Sklenars, Mr G. Hill.
 Second row: V. Jones, C. Kay, A. Keene, K. Savage, J. Hogarth, C. Jenkins, T.
 Remihana, B. Murch, M. Toohill.
 Front row: C. Chapman, J. Kelsen, V. Westwood, J. Berry, D. Kemsley, C. McColl,
 G. Langford, S. Moore, P. Shortland, V. Patel.

Ancillary Staff	—	—	Mrs Dorothy Christiansen
			Dora Hagan
			Mrs Jean Smith
Dental Clinic Staff	—		Miss Shona Dryden
			Miss Janice Clague
Caretaker	—	—	Mr Bill Huffam
Cleaners	—	—	Crothalls

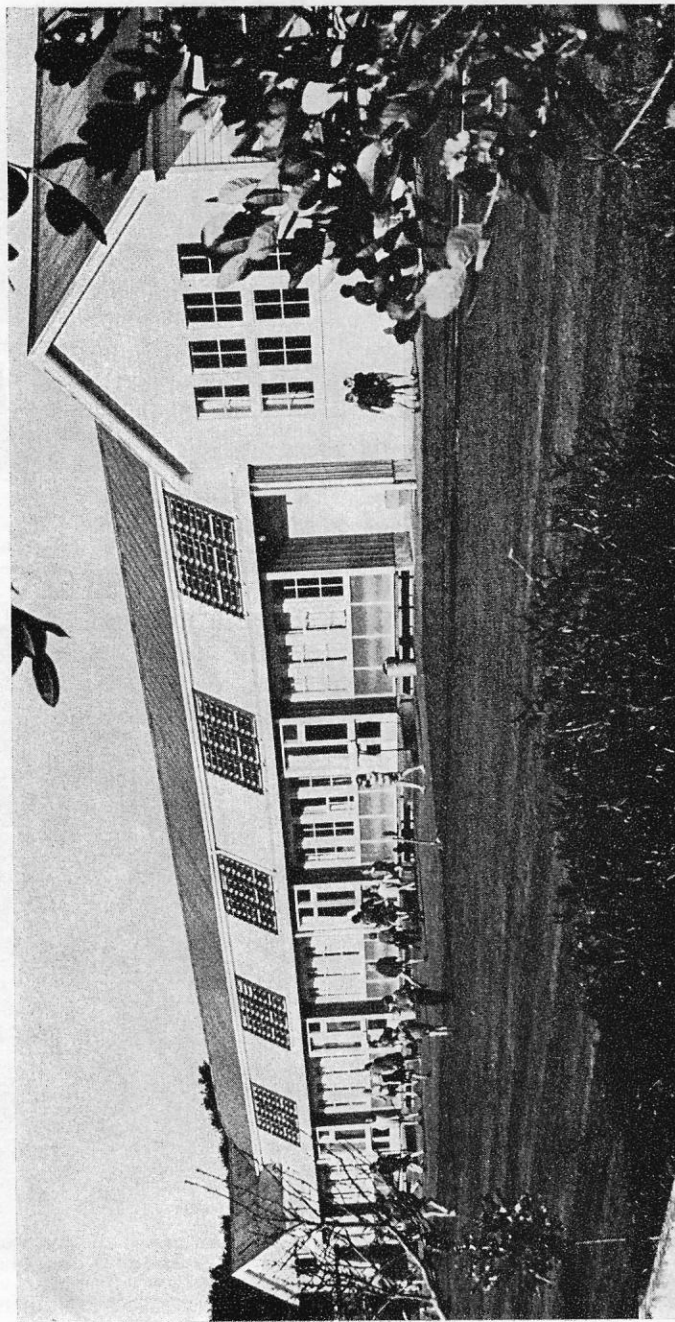
SCHOOL COMMITTEE 1975

Chairman	—	—	Mr A. Hughson
Deputy Chairman	—	—	Mr J. McKnight
Secretary/Treasurer	—		Mr T. Kilmister
Mr S. Chowdhury, Mr A. Dietschin, Mr R. Murch,			
Mr A. Nicoll, Mrs S. Spearman, Mrs E. Rayner, Mr R.			
Neale, Mr R. Allan, Mr D. Lind, Mr B. Duffy.			

P.T.A. COMMITTEE 1975

President	—	—	Mr A. Dietschin
Vice-President	—	—	Mrs J. Walsh
Secretary/Treasurer	—		Mrs J. Langford
Mr C. Ekdahl, Mr R. Chadwick, Mr W. Jones, Mr M.			
Willan, Mr I. Ross, Mr D. Dewar, Mr I. Robinson, Mr			
J. Martin, Mr A. Nicoll, Mrs K. English, Mrs S. Watson,			
Mrs P. Hutchinson, Mrs B. Robinson, Mrs J. Thomas,			
Mrs M. Counsell, Mrs D. Capewell, Mrs G. Parker.			

The School Today



THE SCHOOL TODAY

Jubilee visitors who, like me have been away from Hawera for several years, will be astonished at the state of the old school today. It is now a Grade 7 school again and when I paid a visit soon after the 100th birthday I was shown the school by Mr Colin Smith, the Principal.

Colin began at the old school as a P.A. in 1950, the jubilee year, as the first male to teach in the primers. He was assistant again in 1954, and 1958, and since 1968 he has been in charge. He is obviously very proud of the wonderful school it is today.

The school entrance from South Road is on a wide sealed drive which at one time was part of Disraeli Street. On the right of the entrance is the dental clinic, and to the left is the senior classroom block which many will remember as the original "Infants' School" of 1928 while straight ahead is the new Infant Block.

We entered the older block on our left from a door opening off the car park which leads into a modern large staff room, centrally heated and decorated in gold and brown, with comfortable chairs and a large notice board. It has an adjoining kitchenette, and just down the corridor are offices for the Principal, the secretary and an interview room. A sick-bay and a storeroom complete what is called the "Administration Block".

This part is newer and where it joins the old "Infant School" hangs the old faded brown and gold Dixon Banner we knew so well.

We turned right at the banner and proceeded down a covered way towards the new block at the rear, but turned aside to have a look at the assembly hall. It is a most useful sized hall with a good stage and supper and changing rooms. We found someone busy working there and it proved to be Mr Jim Philip, now in retirement. Jim was president of the appeal committee when funds were raised to build the hall back in the 1950s but it is grand to find he is still as interested in the school as ever. He was replacing wall panelling with chip board to make a sturdier hall for sports activities.

He told us that many volunteers are currently working on the hall, rewiring it and installing heaters all by voluntary labour and putting a dark-room cum storeroom on one corner and a new roof over the renovated side rooms.

Near the hall is a detached room which was formerly the speech clinic. (This was "swapped" with the Education Board for a "Prefab room" which they needed for Ohawe.) Now decorated in pale blue it is equipped as a film room. This useful room also doubles as a practice room for after-school music groups. Behind it is a large sealed playground sheltered by mature pohutukawas and behind that again is the school baths. Here we found a 30ft

EDUCATION NOW



BEYOND BOOKS



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

x 15ft learner pool under construction. It is to have its own filtration plant. The playing field which stretches between the baths and the intermediate school is a little larger than it was, and a very happy arrangement for sharing it seems to exist between the two schools.

At the back of the school grounds is an area planted in shrubs and natives. The old karo hedge may be nearing the end of its life as a fungus disease has attacked its roots.

The third row of buildings is four individual rooms. Three are what are known as "Remountable" rooms, each with its own heated fold-away coat cupboards just inside the door. Two of these were acquired when the new 1:35 teacher:pupil staffing schedule came into force in 1973.

The fourth of these detached rooms is the Speech Clinic, where Miss Joy Averill has a roll of forty-two children drawn from the twenty-two local schools. As I was looking at her tape-recorders and telephones, a lad named Richard arrived from Turuturu School.

Behind the Speech Clinic is the new back entrance which reduces the dangerous traffic congestion on South Road. The observant will notice that this too was at one time part of Disraeli Street. It is now a wide entrance road with eighteen parking spaces and a double sided shelter or bus shed. It opens on to Manawapou Road where on each side of the gate a new concrete footpath runs to join up with the older footpaths further along.

The new Infant Block has six rooms and when I saw them each was gaily decorated with art and craft work and quite free from the old smell of chalk dust. The children were sitting in groups at six-man tables. In Miss Mandy Riley's room a display on "Winter" was most attractive. Toilet and cloakroom facilities open off a corridor which features display panels along its length. Right at the end of the corridor is a staff office and a storeroom made by using the old library shelves.

Back in the front block we found the rooms have been altered quite a bit to suit senior children. What used to be the hall for the infants is now a comfortable well-equipped library all carpeted, with lounge chairs placed in groups and even a rack of paperbacks. The library is frequently used for teachers' in-service course, in fact Mrs Jean Smith was moving chairs in readiness for one the following day. Above the bookshelves are two fine examples of Mrs Ngaere Riley's pottery classes and an ancient Maori canoe paddle. The classrooms open off an interior corridor along which are store rooms filled with the most interesting equipment . . . tape-recorders, listening posts with car-phones, class sets of percussion instruments and overhead projectors. When I expressed astonishment at so much equipment I learned that parent effort and generosity has provided much of it and the basic equipment grants the rest.

At the end of the corridor (the front left of the school), are two "Special" classrooms (Rooms 13 and 14). One of them

is the first of its kind specially built in Taranaki. Here the children drawn from twenty-two neighbouring schools have a rich and varied experience. Their interests range from woodwork to art and craft, from home cooking to the "Mona Blades Murder Enquiry". It surprised me to find both rooms equipped with modern electric ranges and plans were afoot to make soup and pikelets the following day.

Outside again I saw what a large playing field now exists on the right hand side of the school. Here a hundred dollars worth of hockey goals went up just recently. A newish Road called Kauri Crescent, formerly Pata Street cuts off the point of the triangle in the original education reserve section. In the front are golden pohutukawas which I am told are lovely at Christmas time.

THE END OF A CENTURY

As we close our first century the Director General of Education is on the eve of his retirement as is Mr Glen Olson, staff inspector. Mr Olson commented recently:

"School leavers of today may not be able to recite the great list of facts their predecessors could, but they are certainly better equipped to handle the pressures of modern day society . . . Teachers today place more emphasis on the pupil than on trying to cram information into him. They strive for self-discipline rather than imposed discipline."

And that being the case we look with confidence toward the coming century.

ALISON ROBINSON



Newest pupils, on School's 100th Birthday. Left to right, Wayne Loveridge, Teena Pescini, Craig Bloor.

