

OUR ESSAY COMPETITION: We are often asked why we, as an historical Society are conducting an essay competition amongst the children. The reasons are many, and paramount amongst those is the fact that less each year is being written ~~written~~ to carry Australia's message to the world. There are very few Australian writers who can depend on their pens for a living. In short they are part - time writers. So if we can do anything to give our youngsters some incentive to write about their own country we will feel that something worthwhile has been achieved.

Let us face the facts, and it will be seen that Australian writers are losing ground too fast for the country's well-being. 25 years ago we had a population of some 7 million people, and about 250 books were published by Australian authors. Last year, with a population of 10½ million, less than 100 such books were published.

As reported in the October issue of the newsletter, there was a quick response to a call for sponsors for a children's essay competition by a well-known citizen, Mrs. H.G. Shipston, and by Mr. H.G. Fowler, who is the headmaster of the Cheltenham High School. Their prizes are for the senior pupils of State Schools and the Junior pupils of High Schools. That is, however, not the end of the scheme, and we are pleased to say that Mr. Don Chipp, M.H.R. has offered to assist the society in conducting a Junior Citizens Scheme with prizes designed to let the winners see a little of their own country and its development. We will tell you more about this later.

LET US READ THE FILES.

About place names within the City of Moorabbin.

ORMOND: Named after Captain Ormond of the ship "John Bull" which brought immigrants to Port Philip in 1840. Two years later Captain Ormond settled in the Port Philip District. His son, Francis carried on the name by becoming a well-known pastoralist, and then by giving liberally to the cause of education in this state. He gave £100,000 to the University College named after him and £20,000 to endow the chair of music at the University and £11,000 to the Working Men's College (now the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology).

Mc Kinnon: Mr. McKinnon was a farmer in Oakleigh, 1868.

Bentleigh: Named after Sir Thomas Bent (see previous issues).

Patterson: The man who diverted the Patterson River.

Moorabbin: An aboriginal name meaning "mother's milk" (see previous issue for item by Professor Browne, of Professor Browne's Studies).

HIGHETT: Highett's Road, which was named after the man to whose property the road ran (near Hampton) also previous issue.

Cheltenham: Previously known as Two Acre Village, because a Mr. Josiah Holloway divided into two acre allotments some land divided by Chesterville, Warrigal and Centre Dandenong Roads and Bernard Street. Later it was re-named after the Cheltenham in England.

Clayton: An abbreviation of Clayton's Road, after John Hughes Clayton, a solicitor and sporting resident of the district.

Beaumaris: After Beaumaris Bay or town on the North East coast of Anglesey, a large island off the coast of Wales.

Heatherton: First called Kingston, later changed to Heatherton because of the prevalence of heather in the area.

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